



# Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for January 31, 2020

## Coronavirus updates: The latest news on the outbreak and the global response

(NBC) Chinese officials say 213 people have died in the outbreak so far, with almost 10,000 people infected.

- The United Kingdom confirms the first two cases of coronavirus in the country.
- Thailand has joined France, U.S. in reporting person-to-person transmission of the virus.
- State Department advises against all travel to China and advises all Americans in the country to leave.
- The World Health Organization declares the outbreak a global health emergency.
- Facebook bans corona virus misinformation
- Nations fly citizens out of virus-hit China

Full story: <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/coronavirus-updates-latest-news-outbreak-global-response-n1127226>

- In Canada, pharmacies and even paint stores are running out of face masks. ([Ottawa Citizen](#))
- **Just out... nCoV Transmission before illness documented!** ([Medpage Today](#))

### CDC: 2019-nCoV Situation Summary & Info for Healthcare Professionals

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/summary.html>

*[CDC Clinician Call 2 PM today. Details below.]*

### CDC: Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/infection-control.html>

## Face Masks: What Doctors Say About Their Role in Containing Coronavirus

*"While N95 respirators are available for the public to purchase, there's no recommendation from health agencies for the general public to wear them."*

(NPR 3-minute podcast and story: <https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2020/01/29/800531753/face-masks-what-doctors-say-about-their-role-in-containing-coronavirus>)

## 21 People Under Investigation for Coronavirus in Illinois: Health Officials

- The latest patient, who is in his 60s, had "close contact" and recently reported symptoms, health officials said
- It is the second person in Illinois to be diagnosed and the sixth confirmed case in the U.S.
- The man's wife first contracted the virus after she traveled to Wuhan, China - the epicenter of a recent outbreak. She returned to the U.S. on Jan. 13 and later started experiencing symptoms

Full story: <https://www.nbchicago.com/news/local/21-people-under-investigation-for-coronavirus-in-illinois-health-officials/2210342/>

## Waiting continues at Miami (OH) University after 2 students tested for coronavirus

(WLWT) The waiting continues tonight in Oxford after two Miami University students who recently returned from China were tested for the coronavirus. Health officials said they took blood and respiratory samples from the students Tuesday morning and sent the samples to the Centers for Disease Control. Miami University officials said Tuesday afternoon, they are still waiting on results from the CDC and hope to have them by Saturday. The CDC is the only place that can test for the virus, and it's backed up due to the number of people across the country being tested, health officials said.

Story link: <https://www.wlwt.com/article/waiting-continues-at-miami-university-after-2-students-tested-for-coronavirus/30719046#>

[CDC: Clinician Call: Outbreak of 2019 Novel Coronavirus \(2019-nCoV\)—Interim Guidance for Clinicians](#)

**Date:** Friday, January 31, 2020

**Time:** 2:00pm–3:00pm (ET)

**Summary:** During this call clinicians will learn about the current epidemiology, infection control and prevention recommendations, specimen collection and testing, and clinical management for patients with 2019-nCoV infection.

**Special Request:** Due to the high demand we anticipate for this COCA Call, we kindly ask participants to access it in a group format, if at all possible, to allow for the maximum number of participants to attend.

Please note, there will be only a few introductory slides for this presentation. The subject matter covered during this webinar will not have an accompanying slide deck. Continuing Education will not be offered for this COCA Call.

A few minutes before the webinar begins, please click the link below to join: <https://zoom.us/j/915683484>

Or iPhone one-tap: US: +16468769923,,887744874# or +16699006833,,915683484#

Or Telephone: US: +1 646 876 9923 or +1 669 900 6833 Webinar ID: 915 683 484

International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/u/anixAVglV>

-----

**Medicare Penalizes Top U.S. Hospitals That Have High Injury and Infection Rates**

(NPR) Hundreds of hospitals across the U.S., including a number with sterling reputations for cutting-edge care, will be paid less by Medicare after the federal government pronounced that they had higher rates of infections and patient injuries than others. Under the law, Medicare is mandated each year to punish the 25% of general care hospitals that have the highest rates of patient safety issues.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services on Wednesday identified 786 hospitals that will receive lower payments for a year under the [Hospital-Acquired Condition Reduction Program](#), a creation of the Affordable Care Act. The penalties are designed to encourage better care without taking the extreme step of tossing a hospital out of the Medicare and Medicaid programs, which would drive most hospitals out of business. Since the program's onset, 1,865 of the nation's 5,276 hospitals have been penalized for at least one year, according to a Kaiser Health News analysis.

This year, Medicare penalized seven of the 21 hospitals on U.S. News' [Best Hospitals Honor Roll](#), an annual ranking often used as a proxy for identifying the most prestigious facilities. Those penalized "honor roll" hospitals were UPMC Shadyside in Pittsburgh; Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center in Los Angeles; Keck Hospital of USC; Stanford Health Care's main hospital in Northern California; UCSF Medical Center in San Francisco; NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center in Manhattan; and the Mayo Clinic's hospital in Phoenix.

The federal Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality last year estimated that there were about 2.5 million hospital-acquired conditions in 2017. Rates have been dropping by about 4.5% a year, the agency calculated, with the biggest decreases since 2014 in infections from *Clostridioides difficile*, known as C. diff; bad reactions to medications; and postoperative blood clots.

The Association of American Medical Colleges says 45% of its members were penalized this year — nearly double the rate of other hospitals.

Look up your state or hospital: <https://khn.org/news/hospital-penalties/?penalty=hac>

NPR story: <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2020/01/31/801350993/several-best-u-s-hospitals-penalized-over-too-high-rates-of-infection-injury>

-----

**Real ID compliance may leave up to 85,000 stranded the first day  
Senators aren't having it**

(USA Today) The Real ID Act deadline is fast approaching, and Sen. Gary Peters, D-Mich., is not convinced Americans are ready. On Jan. 24, Peters co-authored a letter to the Department of Homeland Security to raise concerns about travel interruptions that could arise if travelers fail to present Real ID Act-compliant identification after the Oct. 1 deadline, according to a news release.

The Real ID Act requires all travelers over age 18 to present Real ID-compliant identification to fly. The main concern of Peters and his colleagues stems from their belief that travelers are not well informed regarding the Real ID deadline, and that DHS does not plan on extending it.

According to the letter, only 27% of Americans have been issued compliant IDs, and 43% don't know about the deadline. This puts as many as 85,000 travelers at risk of being blocked when flying the first day the requirement is in effect if DHS does not take steps to improve public knowledge and preparedness, the letter

says. Full story: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/travel/news/2020/01/30/real-id-act-requirement-may-leave-85000-stranded-oct-1/2859859001/>

-----  
**Drivers beware: Kentucky traffic deaths on Super Bowl Sunday rank No. 2 in U.S.**  
Read more here: <https://www.kentucky.com/news/nation-world/national/article239797223.html>

-----  
**Small Steps Toward Long-Term Power Outage Preparedness**

([Domestic Preparedness Journal](#)) Although a long-term, widespread power outage may not be a top priority in community preparedness plans, many communities have considered the devastating effects of such a scenario. A long-term power outage, for the purpose of this article, is defined as one that lasts from the time regular and emergency resources are depleted to a year – or even longer.

The cause of the power outage could be any of the following: an electromagnetic pulse (EMP) from any source, a cascading event after a smaller area is affected by some type of power system intrusion or attack, or any other threat or hazard that could cause a power outage.

Emergency managers can and should have a role in moving communities forward toward resilience with regard to long-term power outages, similar to their efforts in increasing resilience for other emergency and disaster scenarios.

Read this article, and more, on topics like: ***A Triggered Collapse; Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attacks; Family Child Care Emergency Preparedness***, and more... [Complimentary Download](#)  
(Adobe Reader Required)

-----  
**ED Visits for Suicidal Ideation and Self-Harm on the Rise**  
***Younger age groups saw the biggest increases in 2018, CDC reports***

(MedPage Today) Emergency department (ED) visits for suicidal ideation and/or self-directed harm increased by 25.5% in 2018 over the prior year, according to a CDC report.

The most significant increases occurred among young men and women, Marissa Zwald, PhD, of the CDC's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control in Atlanta, and colleagues reported in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. ED visits for suicidal ideation, self-harm, or both increased by 33.7% among girls ages 10-19, and by 62.3% among boys in this age group.

The researchers also noted a seasonal pattern of ED visits for both boys and girls in this age group, with the lowest proportion of visits occurring during summer months.

Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States, and was [responsible for around 47,000 deaths in 2017](#), according to other CDC statistics.

Full story: <https://www.medpagetoday.com/publichealthpolicy/publichealth/84633>

-----  
**Follow-up to last week's Baby Box story**  
**A Teen Raised \$10K to Install that Baby Box. It Paid Off Last Week**



(Newser) Less than a year after an Indiana teen raised \$10,000 to install a [Safe Haven Baby Box](#) in his town, a newborn was left inside the box. It took Hunter Wart, 19, more than a year to raise the funds; he mowed lawns and collected scrap metal, which he then turned in to a scrap yard for cash. "It was a lot of hard work," his mom tells CNN. And on Thursday afternoon, it paid off in a big way: Alarms immediately alerted firefighters a baby was inside the box, which was installed at the Seymour Fire Department in June of last year, and she was retrieved within one minute.

Wart, who came up with the idea as a junior in high school and worked on it as his senior project, is now raising money for a second box. He asked that the baby be called Mia, and said he hopes she will reach out to him when she's older and hears her story. Full story: <https://www.newser.com/story/286192/teen-raised-10k-to-install-baby-box-it-paid-off-last-week.html>

-----  
**One more feel good:**  
**Just identified - The hero of the El Paso Walmart mass shooting last August was a homeless man!**  
Read more: <https://www.newser.com/story/286223/hero-who-rescued-infant-in-el-paso-shooting-emerges.html>

The KHEREF Emergency Preparedness Update is assembled several times a week. When events make it necessary, the Update may be sent out several times a day to keep our hospital and the healthcare community advised on preparedness news and information. Most of this information is compiled from open sources, and where possible reference links will be provided. There is an archive of [Emergency Preparedness Updates available here](#). If you would like to added or deleted, or have something you would like to contribute to a future edition of the Emergency Preparedness Update, please contact [rbartlett@kyha.com](mailto:rbartlett@kyha.com) (include your current email address). The preparedness program for the Kentucky Hospital Association (KHA) and KHEREF are supported by US DHHS ASPR HPP funds through a contract with Kentucky Public Health.