



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for February 12, 2020

It's Official! 2019-Novel Coronavirus = COVID-19

(AP) — The disease caused by a new virus that emerged late last year in China and has since sickened tens of thousands of people now has an official name: COVID-19. The new name comes from “coronavirus,” the type of virus that causes the disease.

At a press briefing on Tuesday, the World Health Organization said it had decided on the name after consulting with the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Organization for Animal Health.

Full AP story: <https://apnews.com/32495d3df3a084fef729b700a0d849e9>

China's new virus cases fall again, deaths now exceed 1,100

(AP) — The number of new cases in China dropped for a second straight day in a virus outbreak that has [infected about 45,000 people](#) and killed more than 1,100, health officials said Wednesday.

While most of the infections have been in China, it has gradually rippled overseas. In Japan, [39 new cases](#) were confirmed on a cruise ship quarantined at Yokohama, bringing the total to 174 on the Diamond Princess.

A Chinese drug manufacturer announced it has begun producing a drug developed by U.S. company Gilead Sciences Ltd. for possible use against the new virus. Gilead said earlier it was working with U.S. and Chinese authorities to test remdesivir as a treatment for the virus. Xinhua reported last week that clinical trials were starting. Full story: <https://apnews.com/22857c9d3f31d3cea98bd793611e71aa>

Story of a 'Superspreader' linked to Coronavirus cases in 3 countries

(Newser) Through no fault of his own, a British businessman appears to have been a "superspreader" linked to at least 10 coronavirus infections in three countries, authorities say. Officials say the man was at a business conference in Singapore from Jan. 22 to Jan. 24, where he apparently caught the virus from an attendee from Wuhan, [Live Science](#) reports. After returning to his hometown in Hove, England, the man traveled to a ski resort in France with his family and flew home from Geneva, Switzerland, on Jan. 28. Officials say the man spread the virus to at least six people at the French resort, one of whom was diagnosed after returning home to Spain. Officials in Britain are investigating four coronavirus cases linked to the man, who is now in isolation in a London hospital, the [Guardian](#) reports.

Read the rest of the story: <https://www.newser.com/story/286789/superspreader-linked-to-coronavirus-cases-in-3-countries.html>

The coronavirus appears to be sparing one group of people: *kids!*



•The new coronavirus, named COVID-19, has sickened people worldwide, but **very few children appear to be among the confirmed cases.**

•About 80% of people who died from the virus in China were over the age of 60, and 75% had pre-existing conditions, according to a recent report from China's National Health Commission.

•A small study published Jan. 30 in the medical journal The Lancet found the average age of patients was roughly 55 years old.

Learn more: <https://www.cnbc.com/2020/02/11/the-coronavirus-appears-to-be-sparing-one-group-of-people-kids.html>

KHA Website Links to CDC COVID-19 Info

<http://www.kyha.com/toolbox-and-bookshelf>

Infant becomes Lexington's third flu-related death this season

(WKYT) Another flu-related death has been confirmed in Lexington. This time the victim was less than a year old. The Lexington-Fayette County Health Department says this is the first pediatric flu-related death in Lexington this season and the third flu-related death in Lexington overall. The previous two cases were in people older than 50 with underlying health issues. According to Hall, Fayette County still has over 340 confirmed cases of the flu. [The number of flu cases in Kentucky continues to go up.](#)

Story & video link: <https://www.wkyt.com/content/news/First-pediatric-flu-related-death-confirmed-in-Lexington-567758581.html>

Trial pours cold water on combo treatment for MRSA bacteremia

(CIDRAP - Feb 11) The addition of an antistaphylococcal beta-lactam to standard antibiotic therapy did not result in significant improvement for patients hospitalized with methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) bacteremia, an international team of researchers reported today in *JAMA*. The findings are from a randomized clinical trial conducted at 27 hospitals in four countries among patients hospitalized with MRSA bacteremia.

Read more: <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2020/02/trial-pours-cold-water-combo-treatment-mrsa-bacteremia>

Stanton KY Officer Down

[Supporting Heroes](#) has announced with deep regret we notify you of the line-of-duty death of Detective James Kirk of the Stanton (Kentucky) Police Department. Detective Kirk collapsed at the Powell County Courthouse Tuesday afternoon while obtaining an arrest warrant pursuant to an intensive investigation. He had been working very long hours related to the investigation for several days and had responded hours earlier to assist officers involved in a violent encounter. He was transported to an area hospital where he was pronounced dead from an apparent heart attack. Funeral arrangements are pending

Teacher unions: *Children terrified by active shooter drills*

(AP) — The nation's two largest teachers' unions want schools to revise or eliminate active shooter drills, asserting Tuesday that they can harm students' mental health and that there are better ways to prepare for the possibility of a school shooting.

The American Federation of Teachers and National Education Association joined with the advocacy group *Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund* in calling for an end to unannounced drills or drills that simulate gun violence. The [report](#) released Tuesday recommends schools concentrate on training teachers to respond to an active shooter incident rather than drilling students. It also issued guidelines for schools that decide to use drills.

Read full story: <https://apnews.com/2059df0c68f8a8764a02ae09c0cbe614>

Indiana EMS "Scope of Practice" Changing March 1st

Changes are coming for the Indiana EMS Scope of Practice (SOP) for all provider levels. The SOP for individual EMS providers is a mixture of state law and what is approved at the local level by the affiliated provider organization and the affiliated EMS medical director. It delineates the different certification licensure/certification and sets the minimum competencies for each level. The current Indiana SOP was developed on 2007 national standards. The National EMS Scope of Practice Model was updated by NHTSA in 2018.

Dr. Michael Kaufmann, the Indiana State EMS Medical Director, outlined the changes made at the Nov. 14, 2019, meeting of the Indiana EMS Commission in a letter distributed in December. He noted that they reviewed the recommendations of IDHS EMS staff and approved revisions to the Indiana EMS Scope of Practice, effective March 1, 2020. Some of these changes will require additional training at all EMS provider levels. Go to the link to see the details: <https://www.in.gov/dhs/files/Indiana-EMS-Scope-of-Practice-2020-12.17.19.pdf>

NWS Weather Update on Rain and Flooding

The National Weather Service is still looking for light to moderate rain by this afternoon, becoming heavy this evening, with flash flooding possible over virtually all of KY, southern Indiana, Eastern Missouri, and Northern Tennessee. Amounts in southcentral KY (Bowling Green to Lexington and Hazard) are up a little (see the graphics). Minor to moderate river flooding is still being predicted.

Latest Briefing Slides: <https://www.weather.gov/media/lmk/briefing/briefingslides.pdf>

Check here for the latest Watches, Warnings and Advisories in KY: <https://alerts.weather.gov/cap/ky.php?x=1>

The KHREF 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 (include your current email address). The preparedness program for the Kentucky Hospital Association (KHA) and KHREF are supported by US DHHS ASPR HPP funds through a contract with Kentucky Public Health.