



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for March 3, 2020



To conduct a tornado drill at home or work:

1. Announce the start of the drill.
 2. Participants should act as though a tornado warning has been issued for the immediate area or a tornado has been sighted nearby.
- They should move as quickly as possible to the pre-designated tornado shelter.
 - Once people reach a pre-designated safe area, they should crouch as low as possible to the floor, facing down, covering their heads with their hands.
 - Once everyone has reached safe shelter, announce the mock tornado has passed and the drill is complete.
 - After the drill, perform an assessment. Determine if the designated shelter was large enough for everyone, easy to get access and uncluttered.
 - Help emergency managers and weather officials improve weather notifications and awareness campaigns by completing a short online survey, available at <http://kyem.ky.gov/Preparedness/Pages/Tornado.aspx>.

KY Proclamation & Press release: <https://kentucky.gov/Pages/Activity-stream.aspx?n=KentuckyEmergencyManagement&prId=78>

Tornado Safety & Shelter tips from National Weather Service

<https://www.spc.noaa.gov/faq/tornado/safety.html>

COVID-19 Latest

WHO chief warns 'we are in uncharted territory' **as number of coronavirus cases worldwide passes 90,000**

(CNN - 8:30 AM Mar 3) The head of the World Health Organization (WHO) said that public health officials are operating in "uncharted territory" as they combat the spread of the novel coronavirus, which has infected more than 90,000 people across 73 countries and territories as of Monday evening.

The virus has spread to every continent except Antarctica since it was first identified in December last year in the central Chinese city of Wuhan. Medical workers are now battling deadly outbreak clusters in South Korea, Iran and Italy, while other countries are working furiously to avoid a similar fate by readying public health authorities, alerting their citizens and enacting travel restrictions to affected areas.

To date, there have been 172 deaths reported outside mainland China, raising the global death toll to 3,115.

The WHO has so far held off on classifying the incident as a global pandemic, but has warned it is a possibility in the near future.

Full CNN story: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/03/03/asia/novel-coronavirus-covid-19-intl-hnk/index.html>

U.S. preps for a pandemic as coronavirus claims 6 lives in Washington state

(CBS) The number of coronavirus cases continues to climb in the U.S. The new disease has killed six people in the country, four from one nursing home near Seattle and two others in the same county. The cluster of

deaths at the nursing facility in King County highlights the serious threat the disease poses to the elderly and infirm. There were just over 100 cases in 15 states as of Tuesday morning, with New Hampshire and Georgia being the most recent to join the battle against the virus.

One of the [nation's top virus experts told CBS News](#) Monday that the COVID-19 disease, which can be transmitted by people who don't even show symptoms, could spread to 70% of the world's population. Schools and hospitals across the U.S. have begun preparing for a potential pandemic.

Other COVID-19 updates in the headlines:

- Fed slashes interest rates to inoculate economy from coronavirus
- DHS employee ill after visiting Wash. state nursing home, going back to work
- "Hostage in a petri dish": Fear mounts over outbreak in Seattle area nursing home
- Nursing homes brace for coronavirus
- 2nd coronavirus case confirmed in New York
- Planning to fly in these coronavirus times? Watch this first.
- U.S. Defense Intelligence Agency bans all but "essential" travel, even in U.S.
- G7 finance chiefs vow to "use all appropriate policy tools" to avert virus "risks"
- Doctor says U.S. likely only seeing "tip of the iceberg" with virus cases
- South Korea declares "war" on coronavirus
- Twitter asks employees worldwide to work from home due to virus

Full story link: <https://www.cbsnews.com/live-updates/coronavirus-outbreak-death-toll-us-infections-latest-news-updates-2020-03-03/>

KY Chamber of Commerce offers guidance to businesses on 2019-Coronavirus

What can employers do now?

(KY Chamber of Commerce) It is important for employers to maintain open lines of communication with their employees. To that end, employers should update contact information for employees if necessary and stay informed of the latest news. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has also issued "Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus Disease." The CDC recommends that employers begin implementing the following steps now:

- Encourage employees with acute respiratory illnesses to stay home;
- Separate sick employees;
- Emphasize cough and sneeze etiquette and hand hygiene;
- Perform routine environmental cleaning;
- Advise employees about the risks prior to travel to countries that have had a significant outbreak; and
- Consider informing employees in the case of possible exposure in the workplace.

MORE from KY Chamber of Commerce: <https://www.kychamber.com/coronavirus>

Australia to use biosecurity law to restrict movements of coronavirus patients

Learn more: [Australia to use biosecurity law to restrict movements of coronavirus patients](#)

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 add or delete, 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.