



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for March 14, 2020

18 positive COVID-19 cases;

Childcare centers to prepare for closure; Hospitals to cease elective procedures

(Governor's Press Release) — Today, Gov. Andy Beshear held a briefing for Kentuckians and the media where he said the state has more positive cases of the coronavirus (COVID-19) and recommended childcare centers create plans for closure within 72 hours and that hospitals soon cease elective procedures.

Sixteen cases were confirmed at the 4 p.m. ET news conference, and as of 6 p.m. ET, more test results were received, bringing the state's total to 18 with two new in Fayette County. Fifteen negative tests were reported from across the state. The two additional positives in Fayette County were expected and related to an existing case. Gov. Beshear will provide more details on those cases Sunday at 4 p.m. ET at his scheduled press briefing.

Gov. Beshear said that while the state's first patient fully recovered from the virus, he continues to take aggressive action to protect Kentuckians, including recommending that childcare centers prepare plans so that they could close within 72 hours if it were to become necessary.

Gov. Beshear added that hospitals should end elective procedures by Wednesday. "We're going to rely a lot on their judgment for what is elective," said Gov. Beshear. "We need all the capacity we can to deal with the cases that we believe we are going to see. We are going to work with them to give them the flexibility to repurpose a lot of their staff."

NOTE: Ohio has 26 cases, and is also asking doctors and patients to postpone elective procedures.

Read more about Ohio's situation: <https://www.wcpo.com/news/coronavirussaturdaypresser>

Full Press Release: <https://kentucky.gov/Pages/Activity-stream.aspx?n=GovernorBeshear&prId=91>

Watch press conference: <https://www.facebook.com/lex18/videos/528087807841926/>

Kentucky forcibly quarantines COVID-19 patient who refused to self-isolate

(From WDRB story) A 53-year-old man in Nelson County who has a confirmed case of the novel coronavirus has refused to self-isolate, Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear said Saturday. Beshear said that the state has taken the steps to "force a self-isolation." Nelson County Sheriff Ramon Pineiroa said the man is now cooperating, but deputies will remain outside his house 24/7 for the foreseeable future. Pineiroa did not identify where in Nelson County the man lives.

Full story: https://www.wdrb.com/news/nelson-county-coronavirus-patient-refused-to-self-isolate-gov-beshear/article_c8646d32-6636-11ea-8827-e3cd47e6039e.html

Surgeon General advises hospitals to cancel elective surgeries

He warned that every elective surgery could spread coronavirus within a medical center.

(Politico) The nation's top doctor on Saturday urged a widespread halt of hospital elective procedures amid mounting concern that the health system doesn't have enough beds to manage a potential surge of coronavirus cases.

"Hospital & healthcare systems, PLEASE CONSIDER STOPPING ELECTIVE PROCEDURES until we can #FlattenTheCurve!" U.S. Surgeon General Jerome Adams tweeted this morning.

He warned that every elective surgery could spread coronavirus within the facility, use up protective medical gear as public officials worry about shortages and burden a hospital workforce who "may be needed" to respond to COVID-19.

Read full story: <https://www.politico.com/news/2020/03/14/surgeon-general-elective-surgeries-coronavirus-129405>

Patient in isolation at Baptist Health after testing positive for COVID-19

<https://www.lex18.com/news/patient-in-isolation-at-baptist-health-after-testing-positive-for-covid-19>

KDPH COVID-19 Website: KYCOVID19.ky.gov

KY COVID-19 Hotline (800) 722-5725

CMS call Monday, March 16 at 12 p.m. ET.

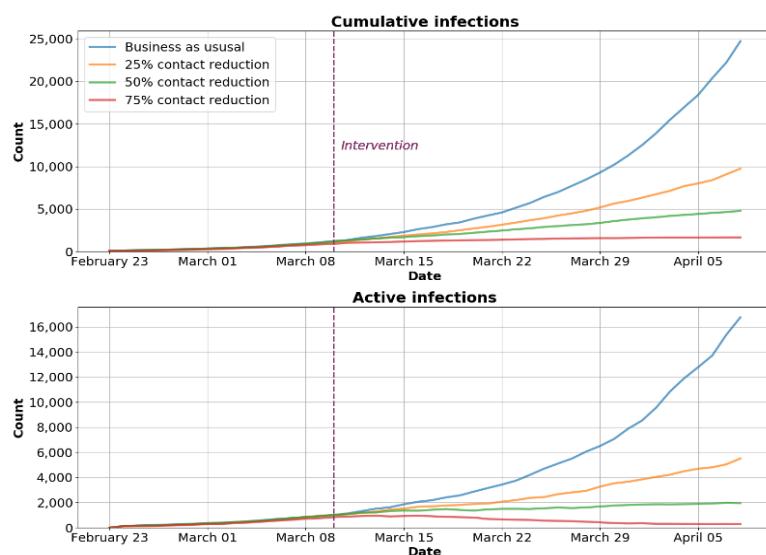
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services leaders will host a call for hospital and health systems Monday, March 16 from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. ET to discuss information on COVID-19. Please use this for the dial in number 888-455-1397 and participant passcode 5854574. CMS plans to hold these calls weekly as the situation evolves.

Overnight, CMS has posted a [Revised guidance document](#) (originally issued March 13) on their COVID-19 website related to Infection Control and Prevention of COVID-19 in Nursing Homes. The full document is attached. Here is the extracted Summary:

Memorandum Summary

- **CMS is committed** to taking critical steps to ensure America's health care facilities and clinical laboratories are prepared to respond to the threat of the COVID-19.
- **Guidance for Infection Control and Prevention of COVID-19** - CMS is providing additional guidance to nursing homes to help them improve their infection control and prevention practices to prevent the transmission of COVID-19, *including revised guidance for visitation*.
- **Coordination with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and local public health departments** - We encourage all nursing homes to monitor the CDC website for information and resources and contact their local health department when needed (CDC Resources for Health Care Facilities: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/healthcare-facilities/index.html>).

CMS COVID-19 Health Care Providers Fact Sheet: <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid19-emergency-declaration-health-care-providers-fact-sheet.pdf>



The Chart driving "Team Kentucky"

[Note from Dick Bartlett - When you watch the Governor's press conferences they frequently show this graph from a model out of the state of Washington used to predict the potential for COVID-19 progression.

The BLUE lines show the potential growth of Coronavirus cases if we continue to do "business as usual". The other lines show how the spread can be significantly reduced if actions are taken to reduce potential person-to-person contact.

This is an illustration of what is driving the Kentucky, and the nation's, efforts to break the chain of infection.

If you want to read the working paper

behind the model go to this site taken from the KYCOVID19.ky.gov website:
https://governor.ky.gov/attachments/Working-paper_model-based-estimates.pdf

Mouse Hunt: Lab Races To Grow Mice For COVID-19 Research

Coronavirus researchers need the right genetically engineered mice to test potential vaccines. But most of these mice have been on ice. One lab is breeding a new generation of mice to meet the demand.

<https://www.npr.org/2020/03/14/815624878/mouse-hunt-lab-races-to-grow-mice-for-covid-19-research>

CBS Coronavirus updates: Spain goes on lockdown, following Italy's example

(CBS) Every aspect of modern life is being hit as sweeping measures are rolled out in an effort to stem the coronavirus pandemic. [President Trump has declared a national emergency](#) and the House on Saturday [passed a bill](#) to provide Americans relief. [Voting in the Senate is not yet set, but senators were scheduled to return Monday. Senate Leader Mitch McConnell said he expects most senators will want to "act swiftly."]

A growing number of places are closing their doors and events across the globe are being canceled. On Saturday, Spain announced tight restrictions on movements and the closure of restaurants and similar establishments, following Italy's example.

The number of confirmed coronavirus cases worldwide topped 150,000 by mid-Saturday, according to Johns Hopkins University. More than 5,700 people have died, and more than 72,000 have recovered.

President Trump announced at a press conference Saturday that he himself took a coronavirus test on Friday night [A later update says he was "negative".] At the same press conference, Vice President Mike Pence said a European travel ban is being extended to Ireland and the U.K., effective at midnight on Monday.

- **Spain goes on Lockdown**
- **Archdioceses of New York, Boston and Washington D.C. cancel Mass until further notice**
- **George delays presidential primary**

There are additional updates in the CBS story link: <https://www.cbsnews.com/live-updates/coronavirus-updates-cases-fears-deaths-us-latest-2020-03-14/>

NPR Looks at the Strategic National Stockpile

Why Even a Huge Medical Stockpile Will Be of Limited Use Against COVID-19

(NPR) The United States government maintains an enormous [stockpile](#) of emergency medical supplies, and officials have already started dipping into it to help fight the novel coronavirus. But while having a stockpile is better than not having it, experts say, there's a limit to what a stockpile can do in this crisis.

Almost everything about the stockpile is secret, for security reasons, although the broad outlines of its holdings are known. About \$8 billion worth of vaccines, pharmaceuticals, protective gear, ventilators and other kinds of medical equipment are housed in [warehouses](#) that are strategically located around the United States.



From the outside, these warehouses look ordinary. Inside, however, armed guards stand watch over a vast collection of materials. Giant freezers keep certain products cold. Locked, caged-off sections of the warehouses store controlled substances like painkillers. Rows of ventilators, which can support people who are having trouble breathing, are kept charged-up and ready to roll at a moment's notice.

When the stockpile started, back in 1999, the goal was to get prepared for unusual, unprecedented national threats, says Tara O'Toole (a former homeland security official), who chaired an advisory [committee](#) on the stockpile for the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. That's why the stockpile contains vaccines against smallpox and anthrax, as well as antitoxins and drugs to treat radiation sickness.

Over time, the mission of the stockpile has expanded to include preparations for pandemic influenza and threats like hurricanes and earthquakes. It has anti-flu drugs, generic medical supplies like gloves and needles, and even quick-to-assemble medical centers complete with beds. The stockpile can fill gaps in supply chains or respond to sudden surges in demand caused by emergencies.

Take [masks](#), for example. Steven Adams, the acting director of the stockpile program, says it currently holds about 30 million simple surgical masks, and 12 million of the more protective N95 masks that are certified by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. But that's not much compared to what will be required to combat coronavirus. "The demand of 300 million would be anticipated in the initial response."

Read full story: <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2020/03/14/814121891/why-even-a-huge-medical-stockpile-will-be-of-limited-use-against-covid-19>

Related story: Not Enough Face Masks Are Made In America To Deal With Coronavirus

<https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2020/03/05/811387424/face-masks-not-enough-are-made-in-america-to-deal-with-coronavirus>

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 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.