



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

**KY COVID-19 Update as of 5 PM ET 4/3/20:  
90 New Cases - Total 831. 9 new death - Total 37**

The Governor asked anyone who could make donations of gloves or other PPE supplies to call the National Guard Hotline at 502-607-6844 or go to [tinyurl.com/KYEMCOVID](https://tinyurl.com/KYEMCOVID).

Full Press Release: <https://kentucky.gov/Pages/Activity-stream.aspx?n=GovernorBeshear&prId=115>

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**CDC has updated guidance for CoVID-19 infection control for health care facilities**  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html>

## Key concepts

- Limit how germs can enter the facility. Cancel elective procedures, use telemedicine when possible, limit points of entry and manage visitors, screen patients for respiratory symptoms, encourage patient respiratory hygiene using alternatives to facemasks (e.g., tissues to cover cough).
- Isolate symptomatic patients as soon as possible. Set up separate, well-ventilated triage areas, place patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 in private rooms with door closed and private bathroom (as possible), prioritize AIIRs for patients undergoing aerosol-generating procedures.
- Protect healthcare personnel. Emphasize hand hygiene, install barriers to limit contact with patients at triage, cohort COVID-19 patients, limit the numbers of staff providing their care, prioritize respirators and AIIRs for aerosol-generating procedures, [implement PPE optimization strategies](#) to extend supplies.

CDC has also updated their PUI (Person Under Investigation) form  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/pui-form.pdf>

## [White House debates broad mask use for COVID-19](#)

(CIDRAP) The White House coronavirus task force has yet to make a definitive recommendation concerning the use of masks or face coverings for Americans as a COVID-19 response measure, despite back-and-forth recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and top health advisors.

Yesterday during the coronavirus task force briefing, Deborah Birx, MD, the task force coordinator, emphasized that masks, most likely homemade, cloth masks, should not offer a false sense of security to the public, and said Americans were still not doing enough physical (social) distancing.

As of this afternoon, the US officials have confirmed 258,611 cases, and 6,660 deaths. This represents an almost 25,000-case jump in 24 hours, according to the [tracker](#) maintained by the *New York Times*.

About 40% of those cases have been confirmed in New York state, which has seen 102,863 cases. The state also tracked nearly 600 more deaths in 24 hours, raising the death toll to 2,935 from 2,373, according to the governor's [press briefing](#).

Cuomo also announced he will seize and redistribute hospital materials, including ventilators, from parts of the state not experiencing a surge in COVID-19 cases, and lend them to hospitals that have an urgent need use for them.

New Jersey has the next most cases, with 29,895, followed by California (11,277), Michigan (10,791), and Louisiana (10,297).

Today Trump evoked the [Defense Protection Act](#) to halt the exportation of N95 respirators manufactured by Minnesota-based 3M. According to [Business Insider](#), 3M CEO Mike Roman said Trump's characterization of the company is false. He said 3M is working tirelessly to import N95s from China, and could not stop exporting the masks to Canada or Latin America without causing a humanitarian crisis.

Full story: <https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2020/04/white-house-debates-broad-mask-use-covid-19>

### **CDC - Crisis and Emergency Risk Communications (CERC) Webinar**

**April 6, 1 PM EDT**

Please click the link below to join the webinar: <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1602903524>  
Or iPhone one-tap: US: +16692545252,,1602903524# or +16468287666,,1602903524#  
Or Telephone: Dial:US: +1 669 254 5252 or +1 646 828 7666  
Webinar ID: 160 290 3524

## FDA Supports Effort to Develop COVID Treatment from Plasma of Recovered Patients

(NPR) The Food and Drug Administration announced Friday it was taking the lead on a national effort to facilitate the use of plasma from recovered patients to treat patients infected with the coronavirus.

The FDA program involves the [Mayo Clinic](#) and the [American Red Cross](#), with funding from the federal government's Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority.

The FDA's move complements an effort by a consortium of 50 hospitals and universities called the National COVID-19 Convalescent Plasma Project. This week, the Project launched a [website](#) for patients, healthcare providers and potential donors. The idea is to provide "one stop shopping" for people interested in getting information about using the approach.

The idea is fairly straightforward: patients who have recovered from the virus must have mounted a robust immune response to the infection. Sharing the antibodies from that immune response that linger in their plasma could help others recover.

Learn more: <https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/04/03/826638981/hospitals-universities-push-for-treatment-using-plasma-from-recovered-covid-pati>

Related: FDA: [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Update: FDA Coordinates National Effort to Develop Blood-Related Therapies for COVID-19](#) The FDA is taking the lead on a national effort to facilitate the development of, and access to, two investigational therapies derived from human blood. These are called convalescent plasma and hyperimmune globulin and are antibody-rich blood products made from blood donated by people who have recovered from the virus.

### FDA WEBINAR

#### Enforcement Policy for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) During COVID-19: Immediately in Effect Guidance

On April 6, 2020, the FDA will host a [webinar](#) for device manufacturers and industry to discuss and answer questions on the recently issued, immediately in effect guidance on enforcement policy for personal protective equipment (PPE) during COVID-19.

**Learn more:** <https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/workshops-conferences-medical-devices/webinar-enforcement-policy-personal-protective-equipment-ppe-during-covid-19-immediately-effect>

#### Webinar Details - *Registration is not necessary.*

Date: April 6, 2020

Time: 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM, ET

To ensure you are connected, please dial-in 15 minutes prior to the start of the webinar.

#### U.S. Callers Dial:

- 888-233-1204
- Conference Number: PWXW1179161
- Passcode: 6110103

#### International Callers Dial:

- 1-773-799-3794
- Conference Number: PWXW1179161
- Passcode: 6110103

To view the slide presentation during the webinar:

<https://www.mymeetings.com/nc/join.php?i=PWXW1179161&p=6110103&t=cExternal Link Disclaimer>

Following the webinar a transcript, recording and slides will be available at:

<http://www.fda.gov/CDRHWebinar>

#### FDA Latest COVID-19 Updates

- [Enforcement Policy for Face Masks and Respirators During the Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\) Public Health Emergency \(Revised\)](#) (April 2, 2020)
- [Enforcement Policy for Gowns, Other Apparel, and Gloves During the Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\) Public Health Emergency](#) (March 30, 2020)

#### CDC Latest COVID-19 Updates

- [Strategies to Optimize the Supply of PPE and Equipment](#) (Updated April 2)  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/index.html>

**CDC Roundup for Healthcare Professionals**

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

**CMS Newsroom**

- **Trump Administration Issues Key Recommendations to Nursing Homes, State and Local Governments** (April 2)

<https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/trump-administration-issues-key-recommendations-nursing-homes-state-and-local-governments>

**CMS Guidance:** <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/4220-covid-19-long-term-care-facility-guidance.pdf>

**FCC establishes new telehealth programs**

(AHA Today) The Federal Communications Commission last night released an order establishing a telehealth program to support health care providers responding to the pandemic, and adopted final rules for the longer-term Connected Care Pilot Program.

The COVID-19 Telehealth Program will quickly distribute \$200 million that Congress appropriated in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act for connected care services and devices to treat COVID-19 and other health conditions during the pandemic. As recommended by the AHA, FCC will offer a streamlined application process for these funds.

"With the adoption of the \$200 million COVID-19 Telehealth Program, the FCC can now take immediate steps to provide funding so that more patients can be treated at home, freeing up valuable hospital beds for those who most need them and reducing the risk of exposure to the virus," said FCC Chairman Ajit Pai.

The Connected Care Pilot Program, proposed last year, will distribute \$100 million over three years for telemedicine projects to improve health outcomes for low-income patients, including veterans and individuals living in rural areas.

**CMS issues Medicaid telehealth guidance for states.**

(AHA Today) The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services yesterday released to states an informational bulletin identifying opportunities for using telehealth to increase rural and other access to Medicaid services and treatment for substance use disorders, including during the COVID-19 emergency.

CMS Bulletin: <https://www.medicaid.gov/sites/default/files/Federal-Policy-Guidance/Downloads/cib040220.pdf>

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](mailto: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.