



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for April 4, 2020

Kentucky adopts new CDC guidance recommending use of cloth masks

As of 5 p.m. April 4, Gov. Beshear said there were at least [917 cases of COVID-19](#) in Kentucky, 92 of which were newly confirmed. Officials have confirmed that more than 16,663 people have been tested, but the Governor said that the real number of tests likely was larger as there is some lag in reporting from different labs. There were three new deaths reported Saturday, raising the state's toll to 40 deaths related to the virus.

Gov. Beshear said Kentucky is adopting on a voluntary basis the new guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommending that people wear cloth masks in some situations.

"No one outside of a health care provider ought to be wearing an N95 mask. If you are doing that, it means that someone who desperately needs it doesn't have it," the Governor said. "Our same test of being a good neighbor when it comes to testing and hospital beds applies here now too. If you are wearing a surgical mask, we ought to really think about whether there is a health care provider that should have that." Gov. Beshear also stressed that wearing a cloth mask is a measure to be added to social distancing, not to replace it. The new CDC guidance on masks can be found [here](#).

A new hotline (1-833-GIVE PPE) and website (giveppe.ky.gov) streamline the entire donation process. In addition, PPE donations now will be accepted at all 16 Kentucky State Police posts across the commonwealth and at Transportation Cabinet offices in Louisville and Lexington.

Full Press Release: <https://kentucky.gov/Pages/Activity-stream.aspx?n=GovernorBeshear&prId=116>

US COVID-19 total tops 300,000; European nations eye longer lockdown

(CIDRAP) The CDC recommends face masks when it's hard to maintain physical distance, such as in grocery stores, as the US reported an all-time high 32,850 new cases yesterday and 1,320 more deaths.

Full story: <https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2020/04/us-covid-19-total-tops-300000-european-nations-eye-longer-lockdown>

NYC getting vents from China, Oregon

(Politico) The Chinese government is sending New York 1,000 ventilators and Oregon is shipping another 140 to help respond to the state's ballooning number of Covid-19 patients that has sent political leaders hustling for equipment, Gov. Andrew Cuomo said at a briefing Saturday.

New York has the most confirmed cases and deaths in the U.S. from the coronavirus pandemic. More than 600 people have died since Friday, bring the grim tally to 3,565 deaths. More than 113,000 have tested positive for the virus.

Full story: <https://www.politico.com/states/new-york/city-hall/story/2020/04/04/cuomo-says-more-ventilators-inbound-from-china-oregon-1271848>

U.S. May Get More Ventilators But Run Out Of Medicine For COVID-19 Patients

<https://www.npr.org/2020/04/04/826961777/u-s-may-get-more-ventilators-but-run-out-of-medicine-for-covid-19-patients>

Trump, 3M clash over order to produce more face masks for US

(AP) - President Donald Trump said Friday his administration will try to stop "profiteers" from exporting medical protective gear, shortly after picking a fight with manufacturing giant 3M, a major producer and exporter of face masks used to protect health care workers from the coronavirus. 3M argued that blocking exports will raise "significant humanitarian implications" abroad and lead other countries to retaliate by withholding much-needed medical supplies from the U.S.

Nearly all of 3M's exports of high-grade N95 masks go to Canada and Latin America, and Canadian officials led by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau took the company's side. They lobbied Trump administration officials not to cut off part of their supply.

That was not enough to persuade Trump. Late Friday, the president announced that he will direct the Federal Emergency Management Agency to prevent the export of N95 masks, surgical gloves and other medical protective gear. He said exceptions might be made to help Italy and Spain, which have been hit hard by the coronavirus outbreak.

Full story: <https://www.wkyt.com/content/news/Trump-3M-clash-over-order-to-produce-more-face-masks-for-US-569371541.html>

Some states receive masks with dry rot, broken ventilators

Read AP story: <https://apnews.com/f43781b64bacd6aa094d9404f4ab91a4>

Many home health care workers caring for COVID patients without PPE

Read more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/home-health-care-workers-are-taking-care-of-americas-most-vulnerable-and-theyre-doing-it-without-ppe/>

As coronavirus cases grow, hospitals adopt a system to rank patients for treatment

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/03/health/coronavirus-hospital-ethics-ventilators-invs/index.html>

UK Healthcare preparing to put 400 medical rooms inside on-campus sports complex

(WDRB) -- UK Healthcare is making plans to open a field hospital in Lexington. Officials announced Friday it would set up shop on the University of Kentucky campus at Nutter Fieldhouse, where the several Wildcats teams practice. They plan to add 400 medical rooms in the sports complex for a worst-case scenario as the hospital prepares for a possible surge in coronavirus cases.

Right now, UK is confident that it has plenty of beds since it had already canceled elective surgeries. If needed, the makeshift hospital will accommodate COVID-19 patients who have already moved through hospital care and are improving or transitioning to go home.

Read more: https://www.wdrb.com/news/uk-healthcare-preparing-to-put-400-medical-rooms-inside-on-campus-sports-complex/article_7b535f72-75bc-11ea-a1cb-fbec181ebc6f.html

**CDC recommends Americans wear face masks voluntarily in public
*but some officials say they felt 'pressured' to draft new guidelines***

Full story: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/03/health/us-coronavirus-friday/index.html>

How to make your own face mask to help stop the spread of the coronavirus

Read more: https://www.usatoday.com/in-depth/news/2020/04/04/coronavirus-face-mask-tips-how-make-fabric-instructions/2945209001/?build=native-web_i_p

Removing the Novel Coronavirus from the Water Cycle

<https://news360.com/article/524895870>

Characteristics of Patients with Fatal COVID-19 Discovered

<https://news360.com/article/524915992>

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.