



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for April 8, 2020

Kentucky sees record number of COVID-19 cases for second-straight day

(WDRB) Eight more Kentuckians who have tested positive for COVID-19 have died, Beshear said. Seventy-three deaths throughout the state have been linked to coronavirus so far. At least 339 people have fully recovered from the coronavirus so far, with 205 Kentuckians hospitalized and 93 in intensive care, Beshear said. Beshear also renewed his executive order allowing pharmacists to use telehealth services to renew prescriptions.

Full WDRB story- https://www.wdrb.com/news/kentucky-sees-record-number-of-covid-19-cases-for-second-straight-day-as-new-shopping/article_f1068fb4-79e0-11ea-a866-5bd438fc9f9b.html

KY Doctor arrested for attacking teen girls, choking one, apparently for not social distancing

(NBC) A Kentucky doctor who violently attacked a group of teen girls, choking one of them, apparently for failing to practice social distancing, was arrested after a video of the incident went viral over the weekend. The video, which was posted to Reddit and titled, "Man strangles teenage girl for failing to social distance," shows a man approach at least four girls who are on a picnic blanket. A woman near him appears to film on her phone as one of the girls tells them the group is leaving.

A statement from Baptist Health Louisville said Rademaker was a contract physician with the provider but "has been placed on administrative leave from his practice and is not providing services at a Baptist Health facility."

Full story: <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/doctor-arrested-attacking-teen-girls-choking-one-apparently-not-social-n1179251>

More than 10% of Kentuckians Who've Tested Positive For Coronavirus Are Health Care Workers In Jefferson County

(WFPL) A nationwide shortage of medical supplies has left Kentucky hospitals scrambling for every piece of protective equipment they can find as more than a hundred healthcare workers in Louisville test positive for COVID-19.

Without an influx of equipment, healthcare workers on the frontlines in cities including Louisville are stretching the masks, gowns and gloves that remain.

"We walk into the hospital. We get our temperatures taken and then we are given a mask that we have to wear for a 12 and a half hour shift," said one Norton employee who requested to remain anonymous.

At least 113 healthcare workers in Jefferson County have tested positive for COVID-19 as of Monday, according to information from the county's three major hospital systems.

There were 1,008 cases across the state on Monday — meaning about 11 percent of all those who have tested positive in Kentucky are healthcare workers in Jefferson County.

Learn more: <https://wfpl.org/more-than-10-of-kentuckians-whove-tested-positive-for-coronavirus-are-health-care-workers-in-jefferson-county/>

US coronavirus deaths pass 14,000, but new cases are trending down

CNN story link: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/08/health/us-coronavirus-wednesday/index.html>

Intelligence report warned of coronavirus crisis as early as November

Read more: <https://abcn.ws/2USI9Pm>

New York hospital sends some 'borderline' COVID-19 patients home with oxygen monitors

(Reuters) Some coronavirus patients who would have been admitted into the emergency department at a New York hospital are being sent home with an oxygen-monitoring device as the city's medical system struggles to reserve resources for only the sickest people.

Full story: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-usa-home/new-york-hospital-sends-some-borderline-covid-19-patients-home-with-oxygen-monitors-idUSKCN21Q3F0>

***Related* - Some doctors moving away from ventilators for virus patients**

(AP) As health officials around the world push to get more ventilators to treat coronavirus patients, some doctors are moving away from using the breathing machines when they can.

The reason: Some hospitals have reported unusually high death rates for coronavirus patients on ventilators, and some doctors worry that the machines could be harming certain patients.

The evolving treatments highlight the fact that doctors are still learning the best way to manage a virus that emerged only months ago. They are relying on anecdotal, real-time data amid a crush of patients and shortages of basic supplies.

Read more: <https://apnews.com/8ccd325c2be9bf454c2128dcb7bd616d>

Feds eye loosening rules to allow some to return to work

(AP) In a first, small step toward reopening the country, the Trump administration issued new guidelines Wednesday to make it easier for essential workers who have been exposed to COVID-19 to get back to work if they do not have symptoms of the coronavirus.

Dr. Robert Redfield, director of the the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, announced at the White House that essential employees, such as health care and food supply workers, who have been within 6 feet of a confirmed or suspected case of the virus can return to work under certain circumstances if they are not experiencing symptoms.

The new guidelines are being issued as the nation mourns some 13,000 deaths from the virus and grapples with a devastated economy and medical crises from coast to coast. Health experts continue to caution Americans to practice social distancing and to avoid returning to their normal activities. At the same time, though, they are planning for a time when the most serious threat from COVID-19 will be in the country's rear-view mirror.

Learn more: <https://apnews.com/fab319a90ead9aae057f7fab059c2ccb>

Related - Essential workers exposed to coronavirus should take precautions returning to jobs

Reuters Health story: <https://www.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-usa-cdc/essential-workers-exposed-to-coronavirus-should-take-precautions-returning-to-jobs-cdc-head-idUSW1N2B904Q>

(CIDRAP) The University of Minnesota is looking for volunteers nationwide for a [research study on hydroxychloroquine](#) for preventing or treating COVID-19. It involves household contacts with known exposure to a COVID-19 patient, exposed healthcare workers, and people with confirmed COVID-19 within the first days of symptoms. Read the specific criteria and enroll [here](#).

Second US study for COVID-19 vaccine uses skin-deep shots

AP Story: <https://apnews.com/9015b2282aa259ffa413a548d1a1b37c>

Louisville's UPS Hub Partners With FEMA To Distribute Medical Supplies

(WFPL) On Sunday night, a UPS 747 landed in Louisville from Shanghai, China, with more than a million masks, swabs and other critical medical supplies needed amid a countrywide shortage.

The flight is one of 25 in support of Project Airbridge, a coordinated effort between UPS, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and others to distribute supplies needed in U.S. hospitals.

At the same time, UPS's Healthcare division has opened a 450,000 square foot warehouse in Louisville that includes dedicated space for a FEMA distribution center.

FEMA Administrator Pete Gaynor [tweeted](#) that Sunday night's flight included 1.19 million masks, 682,400 surgical gowns and two million medical swabs.

A similar planeload of supplies landed in New York city on Sunday night, [according to NPR](#). That equipment is destined for New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and other high-risk areas.

In total, UPS says the partnership plans on moving more than three million pounds of supplies over the next two weeks, according to the press release.

Full story: <https://wfpl.org/louisvilles-ups-hub-partners-with-fema-to-distribute-medical-supplies/>

Librarian is using 3D printing to help protect health care workers in NYC

Read more: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/07/health/librarian-3d-printing-coronavirus-trnd/index.html>

What's New from CDC

- [Interim Guidance for Implementing Safety Practices for Critical Infrastructure Workers Who May Have Had Exposure to a Person with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19](#) Wednesday, April 8, 2020
- [Cases in U.S.](#) Wednesday, April 8, 2020
- [Interim Guidelines for Collecting, Handling, and Testing Clinical Specimens from Persons for Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#) Wednesday, April 8, 2020
- [Interim Considerations for Infection Prevention and Control of Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) in Inpatient Obstetric Healthcare Settings](#) Wednesday, April 8, 2020

- [Community Mitigation Guidance for COVID-19 Response in the United States: Nonpharmaceutical Interventions for Community Preparedness and Outbreak Response](#) Wednesday, April 8, 2020
- [Communication Resources](#) Wednesday, April 8, 2020

From OSHA:

- A new OSHA chart outlines safety steps to take based on [worker exposure risk](#) by industry.
- Workers have the [right to report an unsafe workplace](#) during the COVID-19 pandemic.

COVID-19 Quick Tips Videos

- Three new animated videos provide quick tips on [social distancing](#), [disinfecting workplaces](#), and [industry risk factors](#) to keep workers safe from COVID-19.

Strategies to Optimize the Supply of PPE and Equipment

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/index.html>

Specifics about optimizing various types of PPE, including decontamination and reuse guidelines are available.

The 3 key points of the overall guidance are:

1. All U.S. healthcare facilities should begin using PPE contingency strategies now and
2. U.S. healthcare facilities experiencing PPE shortages may need to consider crisis capacity strategies, which must be carefully planned before implementation.
3. As PPE becomes available, healthcare facilities should promptly resume standard practices.

ED and EMS

HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) is co-hosting with Project ECHO, two COVID-19 Clinical Rounds webinars this week. Register for Thursday's session on emergency department care and Friday's session featuring two leading EMS medical directors discussing prehospital clinical care and operations for COVID-19. And be sure to access the latest COVID-19 information for EMS at the updated [COVID-19 Resources for EMS](#).

**National COVID-19 Grand Rounds: Emergency Department
 Thursday, April 9, 2020 @ 12 PM ET/11 AM CT**

Speakers include:

Richard C. Hunt, MD, FACEP, HHS/ASPR National Healthcare Preparedness Programs
 Anna Quay Yaffee, MD, Emory University School of Medicine
 Susan Wilcox, MD, Massachusetts General Hospital

[Register Now](#)

**EMS: Patient Care and Operations
 Friday, April 10, 2020 @ 12:00 PM EDT / 9:00 AM PDT**

Speakers include:

Richard C. Hunt, MD, FACEP, HHS/ASPR National Healthcare Preparedness Programs
 Michael Sayre, MD, University of Washington & Seattle Fire Department
 Ed Racht, MD, Global Medical Response

[Register Now](#)

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.