



# Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for April 9, 2020

**KY COVID-19 Update:**  
**134 new cases as of 5 PM ET; Total now 1,452**  
**Six new deaths reported**

Check here later tonight for the Governor's press releases: <https://governor.ky.gov/news>

## **Baptist Health, UK Health announce furloughs, workforce changes due to COVID-19**

(Herald-Leader) Baptist Health announced furloughs, pay cuts and more staff changes Thursday across its Kentucky system because of the unprecedented effects of the coronavirus. The University of Kentucky Chandler Hospital also has told workers it will redeploy some employees while others will have to apply for unemployment. Suspensions of elective surgeries and diagnostic tests helped force the temporary layoffs.

Full story: <https://www.kentucky.com/news/health-and-medicine/article241884016.html>

## **Governor says the Easter Bunny is an "Essential Worker"**



(WKYT) Kentucky children concerned that the Easter Bunny may have to stay at home can be assured that they won't have to go a year without chocolate bunnies and Cadbury eggs. Fear not! Governor Andy Beshear announced during his Wednesday briefing that the Easter Bunny is exempt from his travel ban.

Story link: <https://www.wkyt.com/content/news/Gov-Beshear-Easter-Bunny-is-essential-employee-569486961.html>

## **3 in 4 U.S. Hospitals Treating COVID-19 Patients: Report**

(WebMD) -- Three of every four U.S. hospitals now have [COVID-19](#) patients and they expect to be overwhelmed as the crisis worsens and they struggle with a wide range of problems, a U.S. inspector general's report warns.

It's based on a telephone survey of 323 hospitals nationwide conducted *March 23-27*. Three-quarters of the hospitals said they already had patients with confirmed or suspected [COVID-19](#), the *Associated Press* reported.

Hospitals also said they're grappling with numerous challenges, including too few tests, slow test results, shortages of protective gear, lack of breaking machines for seriously-ill patients and exhausted, anxious staff, according to the report. Full story: <https://www.medicinenet.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=229885>

**HHS OIG report link:** <https://oig.hhs.gov/oei/reports/oei-06-20-00300.pdf>

### **HERE ARE THE KEY HHS OIG REPORT FINDINGS AT A GLANCE:**

- There are severe shortages of testing supplies, and extended waits for results
- Widespread shortages of PPE
- Difficulty maintaining adequate staffing and supporting staff
- Difficulty maintaining and expanding hospital capacity to treat patients
- Shortages of critical supplies, materials, and logistical support
- Anticipated shortages of ventilators
- Increased costs and decreased revenue
- Changing, and sometimes inconsistent, guidance

### **Still got questions on CMS 1135 Blanket Waivers for Health Care Providers?**

<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/summary-covid-19-emergency-declaration-waivers.pdf>

## **Detroit hospital workers say people are dying in the ER hallways before help can arrive**

(CNN) A Detroit hospital has been so overwhelmed by the influx of Covid-19 patients that at least 2 people have died in its emergency room hallways before help can arrive, health care workers there told CNN.

Conditions are so drastic at Sinai-Grace Hospital, part of the Detroit Medical Center system, that on Sunday night, all of the emergency room's night shift nursing staff --seven in total -- staged a sit-in, where they refused to work and demanded that more nurses be sent in to help.

Patients at Sinai-Grace aren't just two-to-a-room -- they have been lining many of the hallways in the emergency room, according to the four health care workers. Two workers said critically ill patients, including ventilated

patients, have been at times kept in the hallways. At least two patients in the ER have died in hallway beds, according to a physician at the facility.

Full story: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/09/us/detroit-hospital-workers-sinai-grace-coronavirus/index.html>

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**ER Workers' Stress May Affect Patient Care: Study**  
<https://news360.com/article/525106493>

**'We're being put at risk unnecessarily'**  
**Doctors fume at government response to coronavirus pandemic**  
<https://www.statnews.com/2020/04/09/doctors-fume-at-government-response-to-coronavirus-pandemic/>

**COVID-19 Shows Gaps in PPE Training, Effectiveness**  
<https://news360.com/article/525303312>

**With Coronavirus a Threat, Stop Wearing Contact Lenses**  
<https://news360.com/article/525203200>

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**FDA creates COVID-19 consumer FAQs**

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**NIH clinical trial of hydroxychloroquine, a potential therapy for COVID-19, begins**

News release: <https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/nih-clinical-trial-hydroxychloroquine-potential-therapy-covid-19-begins>

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*Extract from Johns Hopkins: [Health Security Headlines for April 9, 2020](#)*

[Novavax Identifies Coronavirus Vaccine Candidate; Accelerates Initiation of First-in-Human Trial to Mid-May](#) (Novavax) Novavax, Inc., a late-stage biotechnology company developing next-generation vaccines for serious infectious diseases, today announced it has identified a coronavirus vaccine candidate, NVX-CoV2373, a stable, prefusion protein made using Novavax' proprietary nanoparticle technology, and will initiate a first-in-human trial in mid-May.

[SARS-CoV-2 Vaccines: Status Report](#) - SARS-CoV-2, the causal agent of COVID-19, first emerged in late 2019 in China. It has since infected more than 870,000 individuals and caused more than 43,000 deaths globally. Here, we discuss therapeutic and prophylactic interventions for SARS-CoV-2 with a focus on vaccine development and its challenges.

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**Walgreens expanding drive-thru COVID-19 testing in 7 states**

(WLEX) Walgreens says it's expanding its drive-thru COVID-19 testing to 15 new sites in seven states: Arizona, Florida, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Tennessee and Texas.

The [pharmacy company says](#) new testing sites will utilize Abbott's new ID NOW COVID-19 test, which delivers positive results in as little as five minutes and negative results within 13 minutes.

The 15 locations are being finalized in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The testing sites will be placed in hot spot markets, where there are escalating rates of COVID-19 cases.

Full story: <https://www.lex18.com/news/national/coronavirus/walgreens-expanding-drive-thru-covid-19-testing-to-hot-spots-in-7-states>

**HHS Guidance for Licensed Pharmacists on COVID-19 Testing:** <https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/authorizing-licensed-pharmacists-to-order-and-administer-covid-19-tests.pdf>

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**FCC urged not to limit COVID-19 telehealth program to certain providers.**

([AHA Today for April 9](#)) AHA has urged the Federal Communications Commission to reconsider immediately its decision to limit participation in the COVID-19 Telehealth Program to certain nonprofit or public health care providers, noting that the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act included "no such restriction" on the program's \$200 million in funding. Eligibility "should be extended to all types of hospitals and other direct patient care facilities regardless of their size, location or for-profit or not-for-profit status, including but not limited to rural and urban short-term acute-care, long-term acute care, critical access hospitals and skilled nursing facilities," AHA [wrote](#), noting that COVID-19 "does not discriminate" on the basis of income or geography. "Simply put, anyone can be exposed to COVID-19, and the entire healthcare system — from the largest hospitals to individual caregivers — is engaged in the fight against this virus."

**CDC releases updated guidance on post-COVID-19 exposure  
Return-to-Work & Clinical Specimen Swabs.**

([AHA Today for April 9](#)) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has [updated guidance](#) for critical infrastructure workers' return to work following exposure to COVID-19. The interim guidance, which applies to personnel in 16 different sectors, permits continued work following potential COVID-19 exposure "provided they remain asymptomatic and additional precautions are implemented to protect them and the community." It also details practices workers and employers should follow prior to and during work shifts, including pre-screening, regular monitoring, the use of a face mask for 14 days following last exposure, social distancing, and disinfecting and cleaning work spaces and shared equipment.

CDC also [clarified](#) allowances for other swab types using new data and to align with Food and Drug Administration guidance by designating the following as acceptable alternatives to nasopharyngeal swabs:

- oropharyngeal specimen collected by a health care professional;
- nasal mid-turbinate swab collected by a health care professional or by onsite self-collection (using a flocked tapered swab); or
- anterior nares (nasal swab) specimen collected by a health care professional or by onsite self-collection (using a flocked or spun polyester swab).

>> **CDC Updated Guidance on Critical Workers: (April 8)** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/critical-workers/implementing-safety-practices.html>

>> **Guidelines for Clinical Specimens: (April 8):** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/lab/guidelines-clinical-specimens.html>

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**FEMA bans export of some respirators and PPE**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency issued a [temporary rule](#) to bar the exportation of some personal protective equipment, including some respirators and surgical masks and gloves. For the duration of the COVID-19 crisis. Read more: <https://s3.amazonaws.com/public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2020-07659.pdf>

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**FDA changes course and allows China's KN95 mask to be used in US**

(CNN) The US Food and Drug Administration on Friday changed its position on a sought-after type of respirator from China, the KN95, announcing that the agency will authorize the mask for use in healthcare settings if it meets certain criteria.

In response to continued respirator shortages, the [FDA issued new guidance](#), authorizing KN95 respirators if certain criteria are met, including evidence demonstrating that the respirator is authentic.

The move comes after conflicting government guidance that caused confusion over how these masks should be used and whether they could be imported into the US.

The FDA did not include these masks on its initial guidance for emergency use issued last month, but the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) said the KN95 masks are "expected to be suitable alternatives" to the N95 masks during the coronavirus pandemic when supplies are short.

The differing guidance left suppliers hesitant to ship masks and US buyers wary of purchasing them.

Full article: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/03/politics/fda-china-kn95-us-certain-criteria/index.html>

FDA Q&A: <https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/personal-protective-equipment-infection-control/faqs-shortages-surgical-masks-and-gowns>

**>> FDA EUA valid Chinese companies and masks <<**  
<https://www.fda.gov/media/136663/download>

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**Kentucky Public Health issues new guidance on ordering supplies**

(Frankfort - April 9) - Kentucky Public Health has released new guidance on how to request Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) through the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) in support of health and medical operations during the response to COVID-19. This guidance is specific to the following PPE:

- N95 Masks
- Isolation Gowns
- Face Shields
- Surgical (Droplet Masks)
- Examination Gloves
- Coveralls

Please review the attached guidance ([shown below](#)) noting the reporting requirements and request process, to include stipulations related to the review, approval allocation and distribution of PPE.

### **HHS: Federal stocks of protective equipment nearly depleted**

(AP & WKYT) The Strategic National Stockpile is nearly out of the N95 respirators, surgical masks, face, shields, gowns and other medical supplies desperately needed to protect front-line medical workers treating coronavirus patients.

The Department of Health and Human Services told the Associated Press Wednesday that the federal stockpile was in the process of deploying all remaining personal protective equipment in its inventory.

The HHS statement confirms federal documents released Wednesday by the House Oversight and Reform Committee showing that about 90% of the personal protective equipment in the stockpile has been distributed to state and local governments.

Full story link: <https://www.wkyt.com/content/news/HHS-Federal-stocks-of-protective-equipment-nearly-depleted-569493391.html>

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### **FEMA Issues COVID-19 Supply Chain Stabilization Update**

(April 8) The Supply Chain Task Force continues executing a strategy maximizing the availability of critical protective and lifesaving resources through FEMA for a whole-of-America response. Efforts to date have focused on reducing the medical supply chain capacity gap to both satisfy and relieve demand pressure on medical supply capacity. The task force is applying a four-prong approach of Preservation, Acceleration, Expansion and Allocation to rapidly increase supply today and expand domestic production of critical resources to increase supply long-term.

Full document: [FEMA Advisory Supply Chain Task Force Supply Chain Stabilization FINAL 20200408.pdf](#)

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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](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.

# FACT SHEET

Requesting Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19)



## PURPOSE

The purpose of this fact sheet is to provide guidance for requesting PPE through the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) to support health and medical operations during the response to COVID-19.

## PPE SUPPLIES

This guidance applies to any agency, business or facility that is requesting the following types of PPE:

- N95 Masks
- Isolation Gowns
- Face Shields
- Surgical (Droplet) Masks
- Examination Gloves
- Coveralls

**NOTE:** The only way to request the above listed PPE is through the enclosed links. We are **unable** to process requests received via E-mail, telephone or text.

## DAILY REPORTS

Each agency requesting PPE **must** report the following data **daily** by 10:00A.M. (EDT) at: <https://tinyurl.com/kypppestatus>

- Current Amount on Hand
- Current Usage Rate
- Estimated Days Left in Supply

## TRIGGER POINTS

Requesting agencies should use the following triggers to determine **when** to request PPE from the SEOC:

- **7 days of inventory or greater:** No resource request should be submitted to the SEOC.
- **4-6 days of inventory:** Submit requests for needed PPE, not to exceed a 7-day supply.
- **3 days or less of inventory:** Coordinate with County EMA/LHD to check resource request status.

## RESOURCE REQUESTS

Upon submitting the daily “usage rate”, each agency will have the option to access a “resource request” link to request needed PPE, which will then populate in the WebEOC Resource Request Board, based upon the following stipulations:

- Requesting agencies **must** report their usage rates by 10:00 A.M. (EDT) daily. Agencies who do not report usage rates will not receive requested PPE.
- After reporting usage rates, agencies can request PPE at <https://tinyurl.com/kypperequest>  
The amount of PPE requested should not exceed a 7-day supply.
- Each request will be reviewed by a team of designated personnel who will use the prioritization list (See Page 2) and resource tracking boards to determine approval and quantity of PPE to be allocated.
- The quantity issued will be based upon a variety of factors including current inventory, usage rates and future inventory levels. Some agencies may not receive the amount of PPE requested.
- PPE will be distributed to the state’s Regional Distribution Sites. Each item will be marked with the requestor’s name, organization and contact information. The respective EMA/LHD will coordinate with the requesting agency to pick up the allocated PPE.
- Other types of PPE, medical supplies and/or durable medical equipment can be requested via the WebEOC Resource Request Board in coordination with the County EMA/LHD.

PPE Status Survey



PPE Request Form





# FACT SHEET

## Prioritization List for PPE Distribution



**Kentucky Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this fact sheet is to prioritize PPE distribution across the state to meet the needs of the public health response to COVID-19. PPE is a scarce resource and difficult to procure across the state, nationally and internationally. The prioritization list does not guarantee fulfillment of request or assure PPE availability. The Kentucky Department for Public Health may modify this criteria as the response develops.

#### TIER 1

- Hospitals/healthcare facilities with multiple confirmed cases;
- Long-Term Care/Skilled Nursing Facilities with multiple confirmed cases;
- EMS and/or public safety persons who are tasked to transport confirmed cases;
- Non-Congregate COVID-19 Shelters.

#### TIER 2

- Hospitals/Healthcare Facilities with a confirmed case or those that care for patients at a high risk of developing severe COVID-19 clinical outcomes (dialysis, cancer care, etc.);
- Long-Term Care/Skilled Nursing Facilities with a confirmed case;
- Home Health/In-Home Caregivers of a confirmed case;
- Congregate locations with a confirmed case (Shelter, Jail, Dorm);
- All other Public Safety Persons (Fire, Law Enforcement, EMS, EM).

#### TIER 3

- Other Long-Term Care/Skilled Nursing Facilities;
- Other Hospitals/Healthcare Facilities;
- Testing Sites;
- Outpatient Facilities.

#### TIER 4

- Other congregate locations (Shelter, Jail, Dorm);
- Families of confirmed cases who are at home;
- Other Home Health/In-Home Caregivers;
- Any company or individual who works in direct support of any agency identified in any tier.

### PPE Request Flowchart

