



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for April 28, 2020

Beshear Shares 10 Rules to Reopening as Businesses

(Frankfort) As Kentuckians take the first steps toward restarting our economy, Gov. Andy Beshear on Tuesday shared new guidelines to help businesses reopen safely as we fight the novel coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19). The Governor unveiled a new, 10-point plan that aims to guide businesses as they prepare for a gradual reopening while continuing to keep all workers and patrons safe. He said the guidelines apply to most employers.

Case information: As of 5 p.m. April 28, Gov. Beshear said there were at least 4,375 coronavirus cases in Kentucky, 230 of which were newly confirmed. Unfortunately, Gov. Beshear also reported 12 new deaths Tuesday, raising the state's toll to 225 deaths related to the virus. At least 1,617 Kentuckians have recovered from the virus

Full press release: <https://kentucky.gov/Pages/Activity-stream.aspx?n=GovernorBeshear&prId=146>

46% of Kentucky's COVID-19 deaths in long-term care facilities

(Lane Report) With 46% of Kentucky's COVID-19 deaths occurring in long-term-care facilities, up from 32% just a week ago, nursing homes continue to be a tinderbox for the coronavirus. That has prompted state officials to ramp up testing and to create a Long-Term Care Task Force charged with finding ways to slow down the spread of the virus inside these facilities.

As of Sunday, Kentucky [reported](#) that 610 residents and 280 employees in 60 long-term-care facilities had tested positive for the virus. Ninety-five residents and one employee have died of COVID-19. In Kentucky overall, there have been 4,074 confirmed cases and 208 deaths.

Kentucky's higher rate could partly result from differences in how states define a COVID-19 death. In Kentucky, any person who dies having tested positive is counted, regardless of other conditions. Some states have narrower definitions.

Read full story: <https://www.lanereport.com/124982/2020/04/46-of-kentuckys-covid-19-deaths-in-long-term-care-facilities/>

US hits 1 million COVID-19 cases as states take on testing

(CIDRAP) The US case count for COVID-19 topped 1 million cases today, meaning the country has accounts for a third of all reported cases of the novel coronavirus in the world. In total, a tracker maintained by [Johns Hopkins University](#) shows 1,002,498 cases, including 57,533 fatalities.

The milestone comes a day after the world surpassed 3 million cases in the 4 months since the virus was first detected in Wuhan, China. Less than 1 month ago—[on Apr 2](#)—the global total hit 1 million cases.

In New York, 295,106 cases have been identified, including [17,638 deaths](#). [New Jersey](#) is the second hardest-hit state in the nation, and announced 402 new fatalities today, bringing state total to 113,856 cases and 6,442 deaths.

Today [Bloomberg News](#) reports Trump will evoke the Defense Protection Act (DPA) to keep all meat processing plants open, in an effort to limit food-supply chain issues that have occurred as several plants in the nation's heartland have suffered major COVID-19 outbreaks. Under the DPA, Trump will consider the plants part of the country's critical infrastructure.

Full story: <https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2020/04/us-hits-1-million-covid-19-cases-states-take-testing>

One Dead, More Than 200 Infected As Coronavirus Hits KY Meatpackers

Read more: <https://wfpl.org/one-worker-dead-more-than-200-infected-as-coronavirus-hits-ky-meatpackers/>

Crisis Standards of Care-We have the Plan, Now What? Project ECHO – Burn and Soft Tissue Injury education session Wednesday, April 29th 12 PM MST/1 PM CT/2 PM ET

This session will discuss provision of care when requests for healthcare services sharply rises and places overwhelming demand on resources and medical staff. This may be helpful to those who are in contingency or crisis mode, and those who are now faced with the challenge of caring for a patient population they would not normally care for due to limited beds in specialty facilities.

REGISTER on the [CSC website](#) select the ECHO tab, then choose the viewing option that will work best for you. **Preferred: If you have a webcam** please use either Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox Internet Browsers and you will be able to ask questions and interact real time. Please mute your mic unless asking a question.

Alternative: If you do not have a webcam please click the live-stream option as you will be able to ask

questions and interact using instant message. Please state your name, and then your question/comment.
CME, CEU available.

Louisville Slugger manufacturer will make masks and donate part of the sales to food banks

(NY Daily News) Renown bat company Hillerich and Bradsby Co. has joined the battle against the coronavirus pandemic. The manufacturer, which produces the Louisville Slugger bat, announced Tuesday it will produce antibacterial masks — a reusable model that is reusable and treated with a bacteria-killing substance that lasts for up to 10 washes.

The Maskonic face masks can be purchased at maskonic.com and bionicgloves.com. Portions of the funds from the sale will be donated to Feeding America food banks, which provides food for more than 46 million Americans in need, according to a news release.

Read more: <https://news360.com/article/526900546>

Pneumonia More Deadly Than Hip Fractures for Hospitalized Seniors

Learn more: <https://news360.com/article/526635393>

UK says some children have died from syndrome linked to COVID-19

(Reuters) - Some children in the United Kingdom with no underlying health conditions have died from a rare inflammatory syndrome which researchers believe to be linked to COVID-19. Italian and British medical experts are investigating a possible link between the coronavirus pandemic and clusters of severe inflammatory disease among infants who are arriving in hospital with high fevers and swollen arteries.

Doctors in northern Italy, one of the world's hardest-hit areas during the pandemic, have reported extraordinarily large numbers of children under age 9 with severe cases of what appears to be Kawasaki disease, more common in parts of Asia.

"It's a new disease that we think may be caused by coronavirus and the COVID-19 virus, we're not 100% sure because some of the people who got it hadn't tested positive, so we're doing a lot of research now but it is something that we're worried about."

Full story: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-britain-children/uk-says-some-children-have-died-from-syndrome-linked-to-covid-19-idUSKCN22A0XW>

----- AHA Today from [April 28, 2020](#) -----

OSHA issues COVID-19 respirator decontamination guidance. The Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration Friday [issued interim guidance](#) on the reuse and decontamination of N95 and other filtering-facepiece respirators during the COVID-19 pandemic. The agency, via this enforcement memorandum, outlined a host of methods for decontaminating respirators, including vaporous hydrogen peroxide, ultraviolet germicidal irradiation and moist heat (e.g., using water heated in an oven). Alternately, if such methods are not available, OSHA said that microwave-generated steam and liquid hydrogen peroxide are suitable decontamination options. The guidance indicates that OSHA will, on a case-by-case basis, exercise enforcement discretion related to the reuse of decontaminated respirators consistent with the conditions outlined in this interim enforcement guidance.

FDA issues updated EUA, FAQ on non-surgical face mask use. The Food and Drug Administration has updated and reissued its April 18 emergency use authorization on [face masks for the general public](#) to clarify that non-surgical face masks are not intended for use by health care personnel as personal protective equipment, meaning they are not a substitute for respirator or surgical masks. For more information, see FDA's [FAQs on the EUA](#).

Myocardial Injury Common in COVID-19

Troponin elevations largely mild, but still linked to death in NYC hospitals

(MedPage Today) Myocardial injury was common but mild and likely non-ischemic among hospitalized COVID-19 patients in New York City, researchers said. Troponin elevations were observed in approximately 40% of 2,736 patients with lab-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection who had been admitted to one of five hospitals in the Mount Sinai Health System.

Fewer than 20% of hospitalized COVID-19 patients had troponin over 0.09 ng/mL, but even people with such elevations had significantly higher mortality risk compared with those whose troponin results were within the reference range (adjusted HR 3.23, 95% CI 2.59-4.02). Only 2% of patients showed troponin levels exceeding 2 ng/mL, indicating severe injury. The paper was released as a [preprint on medRxiv](#) and therefore has not undergone peer review.

Full story: <https://www.medpagetoday.com/infectiousdisease/covid19/86177>

Transported Asset Protection Association (TAPA) Webinars

Digital Enablers for a More Resilient Supply Chain

Wednesday, Apr 29, 2:00 pm ET

[Click here for registration and connect information](#)

Digitalization is revolutionizing many industries. One field of exceptional transformation is the supply chain. Across the globe, industries have changed rapidly due to multiple factors. But especially under this unprecedented crisis due to COVID-19, several lessons can be learned. The current disruptions show how relevant is the agility and resilience of the supply chains to be able to cope with all derived challenges. This webinar will analyze the digital enablers that facilitate the development of key supply chain resilient capabilities, such as visibility, agility, collaboration, or omnichannel. And will show the balance between digital technologies, supply chain processes, and organizations, and how these dimensions have to be intertwined according to the idiosyncrasies of each supply chain.

Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines

Extracts from April 28, 2020

[The Pandemic Creates New Challenges for Crisis Counselors](#) (*Wired*) Therapists and hotline workers who work with abuse victims now must take calls from home, increasing their risk for isolation and emotional burnout.

[Whose Coronavirus Strategy Worked best? Scientists Hunt Most Effective Policies](#) (*Nature*) Working out the effectiveness of the unprecedented measures implemented worldwide to limit the spread of the coronavirus is now one of scientists' most pressing questions. Researchers hope that, ultimately, they will be able to accurately predict how adding and removing control measures affects transmission rates and infection numbers.

[FDA Pushed Through Scores of Inaccurate Antibody Tests Without Agency Review](#) (*Politico*) The Food and Drug Administration is dealing with a flood of inaccurate coronavirus antibody tests after it allowed more than 120 manufacturers and labs to bring the tests to market without an agency review.

AHA Today

Extracts from April 27, 2020

CMS updates infection control guidance for home health agencies. CMS last week updated its [infection control guidance](#) for home health agencies participating in Medicare and Medicaid and for religious non-medical health care institutions participating in Medicare. The home health updates include additional information about CMS waivers and regulations; Centers for Disease and Control guidance for optimizing personal protective equipment; CDC return-to-work criteria for health care personnel with confirmed or suspected COVID-19; and recommendations for home health personnel who care for patients in assisted and independent living facilities.

Postal Service revises mailing standards for certain substances. The U.S. Postal Service today released a [temporary final rule](#) updating its Hazardous, Restricted and Perishable Mail regulations for Category B infectious substances "to support the rapid deployment" of COVID-19 diagnostic tests through the mail during the public health emergency. In addition to updated packaging instructions, all shippers of COVID-19-related Infectious Substances Category B UN3373 must obtain authorization from the Postal Service prior to mailing, the rule states. "These measures are necessary to ensure that diagnostic kits potentially containing Category B Infectious Substances are packaged, marked and labelled properly to ensure safety and containment throughout transport."

CDC unveils surge-capacity tool for hospital administrators, public health officials. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention last week released a new tool for estimating surges in demand for hospital-based services related to COVID-19. CDC said the [spreadsheet-based tool](#) can help hospital administrators and public health officials "produce estimates of the number of COVID-19 patients that need to be hospitalized, the number requiring ICU care, and the number requiring ventilator support."

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.