



# Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for May 2, 2020

## **Governor Signs Phase II Executive Order on resumption of health care services.**

(Frankfort) Governor **Andy Beshear** signed an Executive Order on Friday enacting Phase II of the resumption of health care services. As of [May 6](#):

- Outpatient/ambulatory surgery and invasive procedures may resume;
- All patients must have a COVID-19 pre-procedure screening and/or testing;
- The type of timing of the cases must be determined by a facility-specific, multidisciplinary, procedure prioritization and oversight committee;
- Acute care hospitals must maintain at least 30% bed capacity, per their facility surge plan, in both ICU and total beds for COVID-19 patients;
- Each facility must maintain a 14-day supply of personal protective equipment (PPE);
- All providers must eliminate traditional waiting/common seating areas;
- Social distancing requirements must be strictly maintained in all settings;
- All health care workers, patients and others must be screened for temperature and COVID-19 symptoms on arrival and staff must stay home if sick;
- All providers must plan for and ensure enhanced workplace sanitizing and disinfecting;
- All providers must plan for and ensure enhanced hand hygiene compliance;
- All health care providers must wear surgical/procedural masks while in facility when in contact with patients and/or staff;
- All patients and other persons in a health care office/facility must wear either a surgical/procedural mask or cloth mask/face covering when in contact with patients and/or staff;
- All health care providers must be able to procure all necessary PPE for routine services via normal supply chains;
- No visitors are allowed to any health care facility/office except when necessary for end of life, assisting vulnerable populations and caring for minor children; and
- When clinically possible, use telephonic or video communication to provide telemedicine services.

View the [Executive Order](#) for further details.

**Full Friday May 1 Press Briefing:** <https://kentucky.gov/Pages/Activity-stream.aspx?n=GovernorBeshear&prId=150>

## **Health officials eyeing at least one of 14 potential coronavirus vaccines to fast-track**

(NBC) The hope is that one of the potential vaccines being tested under "Operation Warp Speed" will be available for use as early as January. Read more: <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/white-house/health-officials-eyeing-least-one-14-potential-coronavirus-vaccines-fast-n1198326>

## **Medical experts on the lookout for new symptoms among children with COVID-19**

**Kawasaki symptoms include fever, rash, eye irritation and swollen lymph nodes.**

Learn more: <https://abcnews.go.com/Health/children-covid-19-experiencing-symptoms-similar-kawasaki-disease/story?id=70393379>

## **Government orders 100,000 new body bags as President minimizes death toll**

Read more: <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/white-house/while-trump-minimizes-toll-government-orders-100-000-new-body-n1197316>

## **CMS Issues New COVID-19 Blanket waivers**

[CMS has issued](#) updated guidance on their blanket waivers, with a retroactive effective date of March 1, 2020 through the end of the emergency declaration. These waivers DO NOT require a request to be sent to the [1135waiver@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:1135waiver@cms.hhs.gov) mailbox or that notification be made to any of CMS's regional offices.

Here is a link to the entire document: <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/summary-covid-19-emergency-declaration-waivers.pdf>

Here is an EXTRACT, and not a full list of what is in this guidance document:

- Flexibility for Medicare Telehealth Services (**New since 4/21 Release**)

- Hospitals, Psychiatric Hospitals, and Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs), including Cancer Centers and Long-Term Care Hospitals (LTCHs)
- Emergency Medical Treatment & Labor Act (EMTALA).
- Verbal Orders
- Sterile Compounding
- Detailed Information Sharing for Discharge Planning for Hospitals and CAHs
- Limiting Detailed Discharge Planning for Hospitals
- Telemedicine
- Written Policies and Procedures for Appraisal of Emergencies at Off Campus Hospital Departments
- Emergency Preparedness Policies and Procedures

*[CMS is waiving 42 CFR §482.15(b) and §485.625(b), which requires the hospital and CAH to develop and implement emergency preparedness policies and procedures, and §482.15(c)(1)–(5) and §485.625(c)(1)–(5) which requires that the emergency preparedness communication plans for hospitals and CAHs to contain specified elements with respect to the surge site. The requirement under the communication plan requires hospitals and CAHs to have specific contact information for staff, entities providing services under arrangement, patients’ physicians, other hospitals and CAHs, and volunteers. This would not be an expectation for the surge site. This waiver applies to both hospitals and CAHs, and removes the burden on facilities to establish these policies and procedures for their surge facilities or surge sites.]*

#### Rural Health Clinics and FQHCs

- Certain Staffing Requirements. **(Revised since 4/21 Release)**

Housing Acute Care Patients in the IRF or Inpatient Psychiatric Facility (IPF) Excluded Distinct Part Units

Care for Excluded Inpatient Psychiatric Unit Patients in the Acute Care Unit of a Hospital

Long-Term Care Facilities and Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs) and/or Nursing Facilities (NFs)

- 3-Day Prior Hospitalization.

Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement (QAPI). **(New since 4/21 Release)**

In-Service Training: **(New since 4/21 Release)**

Detailed Information Sharing for Discharge Planning for Long-Term Care (LTC) Facilities. **(New since 4/21 Release)**

Clinical Records. **(New since 4/21 Release)**

12-hour Annual In-Service Training Requirement for Home Health Aides. **(New since 4/21 Release)**

Detailed Information Sharing for Discharge Planning for Home Health Agencies. **(New since 4/21 Release)**

Clinical Records: **(New since 4/21 Release)**

Home Health Agencies (HHAs) and Hospice •Training and Assessment of Aides: **(New since 4/21 Release)**

Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement (QAPI). **(New since 4/21 Release)**

HOSPICE - Annual Training. **(New since 4/21 Release)**

Physical Environment for Multiple Providers/Suppliers **(New since 4/21 Release)**

Ambulatory Surgical Centers (ASC) **(New since 4/21 Release)**

Community Mental Health Centers (CMHC) **(New since 4/21 Release)**

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#### CDC Coronavirus What's News?

- [Staffing Resources](#) Saturday, May 2, 2020
- [SPHERES](#) Saturday, May 2, 2020
- [Testing in the U.S.](#) Saturday, May 2, 2020
- [Interim Infection Prevention and Control Guidance for Veterinary Clinics During the COVID-19 Response](#) Saturday, May 2, 2020
- [Information for Laboratories](#) Saturday, May 2, 2020
- [COVID-19 Forecasts for the United States](#) Friday, May 1, 2020
- [Coronavirus and Travel in the United States](#) Friday, May 1, 2020
- [U.S. Clinical Laboratories Reporting SARS-CoV-2 Test Results to CDC](#) Friday, May 1, 2020
- [COVIDView Weekly Summary](#) Friday, May 1, 2020
- [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)-Associated Hospitalization Surveillance Network \(COVID-NET\)](#) Friday, May 1, 2020

- [COVID-19 Considerations for Cleaner Air Shelters and Cleaner Air Spaces to Protect the Public from Wildfire Smoke](#) Friday, May 1, 2020
- [Videos](#) Friday, May 1, 2020
- [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#) Friday, May 1, 2020
- [Resources for Community and Faith-Based Leaders](#) Friday, May 1, 2020
- [Downloadable Videos](#) Friday, May 1, 2020
- [Environmental Health Practitioners](#) Friday, May 1, 2020
- [Data Visualization](#) Friday, May 1, 2020
- [Frequently Asked Questions on COVID-19 Testing at Laboratories](#) Friday, May 1, 2020
- [Previous COVID-19 Forecasts](#) Friday, May 1, 2020
- [U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network \(ILINet\): Overall Percentage of Visits for ILI](#) Friday, May 1, 2020
- [NCHS Mortality Surveillance Data](#) Friday, May 1, 2020
- [Emergency Department Visits Percentage of Visits for COVID-19-Like Illness \(CLI\) or Influenza-like Illness \(ILI\)](#) Friday, May 1, 2020
- [Percentage of Visits for ILI by Age Group Reported by A Subset of ILINet Providers](#) Friday, May 1, 2020
- [U.S. State and Local Public Health Laboratories Reporting to CDC](#) Friday, May 1, 2020
- [Commercial Labs](#) Friday, May 1, 2020
- [Responder Stories](#) Friday, May 1, 2020
- [CDC shares 9 tons of protective gear with responders](#) Friday, May 1, 2020

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**More than 400 of Florida's COVID-19 deaths occurred in nursing homes**

(ABC) Among the 1,364 deaths in Florida during the [novel coronavirus](#) pandemic, more than 400 have occurred inside long-term care facilities, according to data released by the state's health department on Friday.

Those deaths inside the facilities included both residents and staff, according to the data. In three separate facilities, there have been 14 deaths -- 13 residents and one staff member.

Read more: <https://abcnews.go.com/US/400-floridas-covid-19-deaths-occurred-nursing-homes/story?id=70474376>

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**'No One Has Tested Us Before':  
EMTs Go Door-To-Door With Test Kits**

(NPR) Multiple cities have started door-to-door coronavirus screenings and testing in an effort to identify those who are infected and help severely ill people get treated.

It's a small part of a larger effort to test more Americans for coronavirus in order to get a handle on how widely it has spread and prevent another wave of infections as some parts of the economy slowly reopen.

Emergency medical technicians employed by the New Orleans-based company Ready Responders are working in New York City, New Orleans, Reno, Las Vegas and Washington, D.C., and plan to begin working in Los Angeles later this month. The goal is to make sure residents understand the symptoms of COVID-19, and that they have access to coronavirus testing quickly and easily even if they don't have access to a car or a regular

Full story: <https://www.npr.org/2020/05/02/848525576/no-one-has-tested-us-before-emts-go-door-to-door-with-test-kits>

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**Coronavirus Graffiti Sending a Message!**

(USA Today ran a feature that highlights a variety of coronavirus-inspired graffiti from across the world. As we get close to [National Hospital Week](#) (May 10-16), this one sends a loud "Thank You" to our nation's nurses on the front line.

**See more:** <https://www.usatoday.com/picture-gallery/news/world/2020/03/24/coronavirus-inspires-world-graffiti/2910639001/>



37 of 80 | A mural near a hospital pays tribute to nurses amid COVID-19 concerns in Dallas, Tuesday, April 7, 2020. (Photo: LM Otero, AP)

## KY Public Health shares info on availability of Battelle decon system for PPE

In an open letter to all healthcare providers, KY Public Health Commissioner Dr. Steven Stack notes that to protect our healthcare workers and address the PPE shortage across the U.S., they are pleased to announce the arrival of a Battelle CCDSTM Critical Care Decontamination System in Louisville.

The Battelle CCDSTM will provide healthcare facilities throughout the state a process to decontaminate N95 or N95-equivalent respirators for reuse up to 20 times without degrading the respirator's performance. The system can decontaminate up to 80,000 N95 respirators a day. Deployment includes a complete system, logistic planning, and an onsite Battelle CCDSTM team to operate the system.

For more information, and to register, please visit the website: [Battelle CCDS](#)

Healthcare facilities will be provided with a procedure to collect used masks, properly bag masks, and track masks in process. This process is available to hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, physician offices, dental offices, and others. Additionally, you may use this for healthcare facilities in your operational unit, even if across state lines.

Battelle CCDSTM, through a federally awarded contract, will provide N95 respirator decontamination at **no charge** to healthcare providers. It is essential that we maximize our use of this opportunity in Kentucky. Please enroll your facility immediately and begin using this service the week of May 4, 2020.

### **Battelle CCDS Critical Care Decontamination System™**

To enroll visit: [www.battelle.org/decon](http://www.battelle.org/decon)

Questions? Visit: [www.battelle.org/n95](http://www.battelle.org/n95)

Project ECHO Infection Control In-Service  
from University of Louisville & KY Nurses Assoc.  
**Nurses and COVID-19: Exposure, Returning to Work, and Immunity**  
**May 13, 11:30 AM to 1 PM ET**

Registration link: <https://redcap.id.louisville.edu/redcap/surveys/?s=H93NWTY7EW>.

The session is free and participation provides 1.8 hours of CNE.

Questions: [ruth.carrico@louisville.edu](mailto:ruth.carrico@louisville.edu)

### **“ThinkFirst to Prevent Falls”**

**Monday, May 4th @ 1-2:15 PM ET**

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, or mobile device: <https://uky.zoom.us/j/92822447074>

Or iPhone one-tap (US Toll): 13126266799,92822447074# or 16468769923,92822447074#

Meeting ID: **928 2244 7074**

Or Telephone Dial:

+1 312 626 6799 (US Toll)

+1 646 876 9923 (US Toll)

+1 346 248 7799 (US Toll)

+1 669 900 6833 (US Toll)

+1 253 215 8782 (US Toll)

+1 301 715 8592 (US Toll)

International numbers available: <https://uky.zoom.us/j/abclJTJXr>

Or Skype for Business (Lync): <SIP:92822447074@lync.zoom.us>

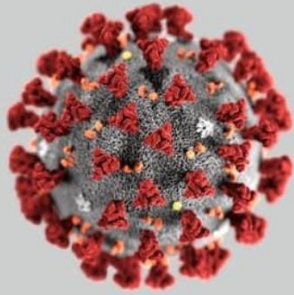
**ThinkFirst for Falls** is just one of the seven programs the ThinkFirst National Injury Prevention Foundation offers to its members. This program would be an excellent opportunity for organizations that are interested to see a program via ZOOM for FREE.

Amanda Rist at UK ([amanda.rist@uky.edu](mailto:amanda.rist@uky.edu)) encourages you consider becoming a ThinkFirst local chapter to help spread the message of injury prevention. And this is such an excellent deal for evidenced-based programming that is already put together. Reach out to her if you have questions.

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**EMS: Patient Care and Clinical Operations**  
**Monday, May 4, 2020 - 12:00 PM EDT / 9:00 AM PDT**

[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](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.



# COVID-19

## in Appalachia

*A regional discussion*



Jared Arnett



Scott Lockard



Dr. Margo Riggs

Join Jared Arnett, Executive Director of Shaping Our Appalachian Region (SOAR), Dr. Margo Riggs, CDC Liaison to SOAR, and Mr. Scott Lockard, Public Health Director for the Kentucky River District Health Dept for a discussion on the current situation of COVID-19 in Appalachia KY, what's worked to help us "flatten the curve" and what's needed to break chains of transmission, empower businesses, schools and organizations to protect the community, and extra precautions needed for those at most risk of severe illness.

**TUESDAY, MAY 5  
11 A.M.**

**REGISTER NOW**

[www.thereisafuture.org/businessasunusual](http://www.thereisafuture.org/businessasunusual)

Join Jared Arnett, Executive Director of Shaping Our Appalachian Region (SOAR), Dr. Margo Riggs, CDC Liaison to SOAR, and Scott Lockard, Public Health Director for the Kentucky River District Health Dept for a discussion on the current situation of COVID-19 in Appalachia KY, what's worked to help us "flatten the curve" and what's needed to break chains of transmission, empower businesses, schools and organizations to protect the community, and extra precautions needed for those at most risk of severe illness.

[REGISTER HERE](#)