



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

### U of L study claims Louisville's recent social distancing efforts have saved lives

(WDRB) -- A new study conducted by the University of Louisville claims the city's recent social distancing restrictions amid the COVID-19 pandemic have saved lives. The same study warns that 900 lives could be lost and 2,000 more individuals could be hospitalized if extensive testing, tracing and quarantining does not take place. The study, which is titled, "[Projecting the COVID-19 Weekly Deaths, Infections, and Hospitalizations for Jefferson County, Kentucky](#)," was announced Monday and conducted by the University of Louisville School of Public Health and Information Sciences and the Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness.

Full story: [https://www.wdrb.com/news/u-of-l-study-claims-louisvilles-recent-social-distancing-efforts-have-saved-lives/article\\_59e484b8-8e28-11ea-b507-2332f26b2aa9.html](https://www.wdrb.com/news/u-of-l-study-claims-louisvilles-recent-social-distancing-efforts-have-saved-lives/article_59e484b8-8e28-11ea-b507-2332f26b2aa9.html)

### Related - Latest Numbers ([WLKY](#))

[Kentucky](#) - 5,245 cases; 253 deaths | [Indiana](#) - 20,507 cases; 1,151 deaths

Kentucky reports 163 new cases and 8 additional deaths.

Indiana has 583 new positive cases and 19 new deaths

Interactive charts: [County-by-county breakdown of cases](#); [Tracking the curve](#)

- Louisville surpasses 100 covid-19 related deaths.
- Kentucky Chamber of Commerce providing one stop shop for small businesses in need of PPE.
- Dr. Steven Stack says state health officials can now decontaminate and reuse N95 masks by [clicking here](#).
- Gov. Beshear says there will be 17 drive-in testing sites including one in Oldham and Jefferson County.
  - UofL Health opens third testing site at Mary and Elizabeth Hospital.
- Kentucky Drive-thru testing across the state:  
<https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/Pages/COVID-19-Drive-Thru-Locations.aspx>
- Kroger and Costco are putting purchasing limits on pork and ground beef.

See more information: [KYCOVID19.KY.GOV](https://www.ky.gov/covid19)

### DHS report: China hid coronavirus' severity in order to hoard medical supplies

(AP) — U.S. officials believe China covered up the extent of [the coronavirus outbreak](#) — and how contagious the disease is — to stock up on medical supplies needed to respond to it, intelligence documents show.

Chinese leaders “intentionally concealed the severity” of the pandemic from the world in early January, according to a four-page Department of Homeland Security intelligence report dated May 1 and obtained by The Associated Press. The revelation comes as the Trump administration has intensified its criticism of China, with Secretary of State Mike Pompeo saying Sunday that that country was responsible for the spread of disease and must be held accountable.

Not classified but marked “for official use only,” the DHS analysis states that, while downplaying the severity of the coronavirus, China increased imports and decreased exports of medical supplies. It attempted to cover up doing so by “denying there were export restrictions and obfuscating and delaying provision of its trade data,” the analysis states. The report also says China held off informing the World Health Organization that the coronavirus “was a contagion” for much of January so it could order medical supplies from abroad — and that its imports of face masks and surgical gowns and gloves increased sharply.

Full story: <https://apnews.com/bf685dcf52125be54e030834ab7062a8>

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

*The hope is that one of the potential vaccines being tested under "Operation Warp Speed" will be available for use as early as January.*

(NBC) There are 14 potential [coronavirus](#) vaccines under development as part of President Donald Trump's administration's program to fast-track one for use as early as January, senior administration officials tell NBC News. That number was whittled down several weeks ago from 93 vaccines in development that were studied as part of the program, known as “Operation Warp Speed,” officials said.

Over the next two weeks, the 14 remaining vaccines will undergo additional testing and officials expect that anywhere from six to eight of them will make it to a subsequent round of clinical trials. Ultimately, the officials said, the goal is to have three or four vaccines make it through final testing and cleared for use early next year.

Learn more: <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/white-house/health-officials-eyeing-least-one-14-potential-coronavirus-vaccines-fast-n1198326>

**Related - World leaders pledge billions for virus vaccine research**

Story link: <https://apnews.com/23b052324d5da5126ecc842ca6cd1ea1>

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**US to rein in flood of virus blood tests after lax oversight**

(AP) — U.S. regulators Monday pulled back a decision that allowed scores of coronavirus blood tests to hit the market without first providing proof that they worked.

The Food and Drug Administration said it took the action because some sellers have made false claims about the tests and their accuracy. Companies will now have to show their tests work or risk having them pulled from the market.

Blood tests are different from the nasal swab tests currently used to diagnose active COVID-19 infections. Instead, the tests look for blood proteins called antibodies, which the body produces days or weeks after fighting an infection. Most use a finger-prick of blood on a test strip.

The revised policy follows weeks of criticism from doctors, lab specialists and members of Congress who said the FDA's lack of oversight created a Wild West of unregulated tests.

The agency acknowledged Monday that there have been problems with deceptive, false marketing among the 160 tests that have been launched in the U.S. Some companies have claimed their tests can be used at home, although FDA has not allowed that use. Others make unsubstantiated claims about their accuracy. Some U.S. hospitals and local governments have reported buying tests that turned out to be inaccurate or frauds.

Full AP story: <https://apnews.com/238af56283754cd19d1966ff1681f5ae>

FDA Statement: <https://www.fda.gov/media/135659/download>

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**Coronavirus mitigation "didn't work as well as we expected" in reducing cases**

(CBS) Dr. Scott Gottlieb, former head of the Food and Drug Administration under President Trump, said Sunday that the continued rise in cases of the [coronavirus](#) in many states indicates that measures implemented to mitigate the spread of the virus "didn't work as well as we expected."

In an interview with "Face the Nation," Gottlieb said the direction of the epidemic is a "mixed bag," with the New York tri-state region experiencing a drop in coronavirus cases and hospitalizations but the number of new cases rising daily in about 20 other states, including Illinois, Texas, Maryland, Indiana, Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee.

"While mitigation didn't fail, I think it's fair to say that it didn't work as well as we expected," Gottlieb said Sunday. "We expected that we would start seeing more significant declines in new cases and deaths around the nation at this point, and we're just not seeing that."

Full story: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/coronavirus-scott-gottlieb-mitigation-didnt-work-as-well-as-we-expected-face-the-nation/>

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**Cuomo announces 7-state coalition for purchasing medical equipment**

(CBS) New York Governor [Andrew Cuomo](#) on Sunday announced the creation of a coalition of seven neighboring states in the Northeast to purchase [medical equipment and personal protective equipment](#) (PPE) amid the [coronavirus pandemic](#). New York will join New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Massachusetts and Rhode Island to purchase the equipment as a block, eliminating competition between them to drive down prices, Cuomo said at a press briefing.

Learn more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/coronavirus-cuomo-7-state-coalition-purchasing-medical-equipment/>

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**Doctor, nurse practitioner dipping into own pockets to provide rural health care in Texas**  
*Texas' rural health care system may not have the budgets to survive the coronavirus pandemic.*

*[Note: listening to this story you could easily substitute rural KY!]*

Learn more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/texas-reopening-rural-covid-19-spread-60-minutes-2020-05-03/>

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**CIDRAP report says coronavirus pandemic could last for two years...  
and may not subside until 70% of the population has immunity**

(May 4) As [coronavirus restrictions](#) around the world are being lifted, a [new report](#) warns the pandemic that has already killed [more than 230,000 people](#) likely won't be contained for two years. The modeling study from the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy (CIDRAP) at the University of Minnesota also says that about 70% of people need to be immune in order to bring the virus to a halt.

For the study, experts looked at eight major influenza pandemics dating back to the 1700s, as well as data about the new coronavirus, to help forecast how [COVID-19](#) may spread over the coming months and years. Out of the eight past flu pandemics, scientists said seven had a second substantial peak about six months after the first one. Additionally, some had "smaller waves of cases over the course of 2 years" after the initial outbreak.

A key factor in their prediction for the current pandemic revolves around herd immunity, which refers to the community-wide resistance to the spread of a contagious disease that results when a high percentage of people are immune to it, either through vaccination or prior exposure.

Read more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/coronavirus-two-years-70-percent-immune/>

Report link: [https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/sites/default/files/public/downloads/cidrap-covid19-viewpoint-part1\\_0.pdf](https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/sites/default/files/public/downloads/cidrap-covid19-viewpoint-part1_0.pdf)

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**Contact Tracing could be coming to KY**

**Governor announces they have RFP out for group to start doing it in the Commonwealth**

KY Governor Andy Beshear said in his Monday afternoon briefing that they have a Request for Proposals out on the street at this time (closing May 8) for a group to do Contact Tracing. [\[RFP - 758 - 2000000454\]](#)

What are the CDC's **Key Concepts**:

- Trace and monitor contacts of infected people. Notify them of their exposure.
- **Support the quarantine of contacts.** Help ensure the safe, sustainable and effective quarantine of contacts to prevent additional transmission.
- **Expand staffing resources.** Contact tracing in the US will require that states, tribes, localities and territorial establish large cadres of contact tracers.
- **Use digital tools.** Adoption and evaluation of digital tools may expand reach and efficacy of contact tracers.

CDC link: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/open-america/contact-tracing.html>

**CDC - Preliminary Criteria for the Evaluation of Digital Contact Tracing Tools for COVID-19**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/php/prelim-eval-criteria-digital-contact-tracing.pdf>

**Related - What is Contact Tracing, and How Can it Help Us Get Back to Normal?**

Learn more: <https://spectrumnews1.com/ky/lexington/news/2020/04/20/what-is-contact-tracing--and-how-can-it-help-us-get-back-to-normal-->

**CDC What's New?**

- ✓ [COVID-19 Contact Tracing Training Guidance and Resources](#) Monday, May 4, 2020
- ✓ Interim Guidance for Collection and Submission of Postmortem Specimens from Deceased Persons Under Investigation (PUI) for COVID-19 Monday, May 4, 2020
- ✓ [Resources for Community and Faith-Based Leaders](#) Monday, May 4, 2020
- ✓ [Testing in the U.S.](#) Monday, May 4, 2020
- ✓ [COVID-19 Travel Recommendations by Country](#) Monday, May 4, 2020
- ✓ [Frequently Asked Questions and Answers: Coronavirus Disease-2019 \(COVID-19\) and Children](#) Monday, May 4, 2020
- ✓ [Caring for someone at home](#) Sunday, May 3, 2020
- ✓ [Information for Pediatric Healthcare Providers](#) Sunday, May 3, 2020
- ✓ [General Business Frequently Asked Questions](#) Sunday, May 3, 2020
- ✓ [Dental Settings](#) Sunday, May 3, 2020

**DHS, CISA update telework guidance** - (AHA Today) The Department of Homeland Security and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency have updated their [telework guidance](#) to include new guidance on telework best practices, videoconferencing tips, guidance for securing videoconferencing, and specific cybersecurity recommendations for critical infrastructure and federal agencies using video conferencing.

**Tuesday, May 5, at 12:00-1:00 PM ET** [Click here for registration](#)

**Critical Care: Lifesaving Treatment and Clinical Operations**

This resource webinar is intended for consultant physicians involved in critical care practice, fellows, residents, pharmacists, nursing staff, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, respiratory therapists, & allied health staff.

**More Upcoming Sessions**

Thursdays, 12:00-1:00 pm ET– Topic Focus: *Emergency Department: Patient Care and Clinical Operations*

If you miss a session find the recordings online on the [University of New Mexico's Project ECHO website](#). [Click to join the HHS/ASPR COVID-19 Clinical Rounds email list](#).

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**NIOSH webinar on considerations for purchasing international respirators**

On **Thursday, May 7 at 1:00 p.m. EDT**, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is hosting a webinar on [factors to consider when planning to purchase respirators from another country, including KN95 respirators from China](#)

This webinar will discuss the common pitfalls of purchasing respirators internationally to help buyers make informed procurement decisions to keep their workers safe. The considerations presented in this webinar will

help to maximize the likelihood of obtaining safe and effective products. See the [NIOSH webpage](#) for more information about the webinar, including the panel of speakers. Or, go directly to the [webinar registration page](#).

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**[Homeless in NYC: Scared of shelters during COVID-19 crisis](#)**  
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**ESF-14 - Cross-Sector Business and Infrastructure Series on COVID-19**

**ESF-14 Conference Call Series on COVID-19**

**Tuesday, May 5, at 3:00 pm ET Dial-in: 1-800-593-7177, Pin: 7963614**

Join the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) for updates on ESF-14 activities in the COVID-19 response.

**Thursday, May 7, at 3:00 pm ET Dial-in: 1-800-593-7177, Pin: 7963614**

Join the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) for updates on ESF-14 activities in the COVID-19 response.

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**New Report: Protecting the US Electric Grid  
Communications from Electromagnetic Pulse**

A new report is out from the Foundation for Resilient Societies on protecting the U.S. electric grid communication system from Electromagnetic Pulse. Without electricity, working remotely while combatting the virus would be impossible.

The Foundation for Resilient Societies recommends in its report, "Protecting the U.S Electric Grid Communications from Electromagnetic Pulse," that utilities place their communications equipment and power sources in electromagnetically shielded cabinets with low-impedance grounding grids. The study recommends six months of fuel storage on-site for the systematic restart and restoration of the grid.

Access the report here:

[https://www.resilientsocieties.org/uploads/5/4/0/0/54008795/protecting\\_us\\_electric\\_grid\\_communications\\_from\\_emp.pdf](https://www.resilientsocieties.org/uploads/5/4/0/0/54008795/protecting_us_electric_grid_communications_from_emp.pdf)

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**US DHS: Security of Soft Targets and Crowded Places-Resource Guide**

The Guide is designed to help stakeholders take proactive steps to enhance their security and resilience for a range of threats, including IED incidents, by providing guidance and resources consistent with broader all-hazards preparedness and risk management principles. It seeks to raise awareness of wide range of free capabilities available to support risk mitigation and to provide information on how those capabilities that can be incorporated into the security practices of organizations of all sizes.

Report: <https://tripwire.dhs.gov/reports/225697>

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](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.