



# Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for May 29, 2020

## KY COVID-19 Updates

283 new cases today; Total is 9,464

9 new deaths reported; Total 418

3,231 Recovered; 81 still in ICU

About 6000 new tests; Total 227,944

[KYCOVID19.ky.gov](http://KYCOVID19.ky.gov) for more info

## HHS ASPR Provides Additional COVID-19 Preparedness Funding

The Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) has allocated approximately \$125-million of additional federal funds make a *new* distribution yesterday of more COVID-19 Hospital Preparedness and Response funding to the 53 state and territorial hospital associations which received the original funding in April. That includes the Kentucky Hospital Association, which originally was awarded \$725,934, was awarded an additional \$1.8-million for hospital preparedness. We are awaiting additional guidance and template information from ASPR, but the next steps appear to be development of a modified work plan and budget by mid-July.

To compliment what KHA was awarded, Kentucky Public Health's Preparedness program received an additional \$1.56-million of COVID-19 Preparedness and Response funding. This is on top of the original \$455,484 they received in April. KDPH is still working on their plan for how to use this funding, but a large share will be distributed through the ten HPP Regional Coalitions. Based on some preliminary discussions, it appears that they would like to replenish some their cached supplies, but they are also looking at developing strategies to help improve preparedness capability and training for EMS, long-term care facilities, and other healthcare facilities.

## Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines

Extracts from [May 28](#) & [May 29, 2020](#)

[Some Nursing Homes Escaped Covid-19—Here's What They Did Right](#) (*Wired*) As states start to reopen, senior care facilities must balance the needs of residents against the potential for more deadly Covid-19 outbreaks.

[Pharma Execs Say Several COVID Vaccine Options Needed](#) (*CIDRAP*) Claiming not to be in competition with each other but rather with time and the coronavirus, top executives from the world's leading pharmaceutical companies said yesterday they're working as fast as they can to develop, scale up, and distribute a COVID-19 vaccine.

[CDC Recommends Sweeping Changes to American Offices](#) (*New York Times*) Upon arriving at work, employees should get a temperature and symptom check. Inside the office, desks should be six feet apart. If that isn't possible, employers should consider erecting plastic shields around desks. Seating should be barred in common areas. And face coverings should be worn at all times. These are among sweeping new recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on the safest way for American employers reopening their offices to prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

[Comparison of Clinical Characteristics of Patients with Asymptomatic vs Symptomatic Coronavirus Disease 2019 in Wuhan, China](#) (*JAMA*) To control the spread of COVID-19 and isolate patients as early as possible, the Chinese government requested that close contacts of individuals with COVID-19 must be screened for severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) infection. During the screening process, we found some patients whose test results were positive for SARS-CoV-2 but who had no symptoms or signs throughout the course of the disease. Considering that little is known about the differences of clinical features and prognosis between patients who were asymptomatic vs those who were symptomatic.

[EU Governments Ban Malaria Drug for COVID-19, Trial Paused as Safety Fears Grow](#) (*Reuters*) European governments moved on Wednesday to halt the use of anti-malaria drug hydroxychloroquine to treat COVID-19 patients, and a second global trial was suspended, further blows to hopes for a treatment promoted by U.S. President Donald Trump.

[How Coronavirus Lockdowns Stopped Flu in its Tracks](#) (*Nature*) Lockdowns and social-distancing measures aimed at slowing the spread of coronavirus seem to have shortened the influenza season in the northern hemisphere by about six weeks.

[A Medical-Delivery Drone Service Gets US Approval Amid Coronavirus](#) (*Defense One*) A medical-delivery firm has received special permission to fly its drones farther than previously allowed in the United States, a COVID-prompted decision that advances the nascent drone-delivery industry here.

**Updated May 27 - CDC - COVID-19 Employer Information for Office Buildings**

Link: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/office-buildings.html>

**FDA Takes Steps to Streamline Development of Tests With At-Home Sample Collection**

(FDA) The FDA took steps to further support the development of COVID-19 tests for at-home self-collection by including a voluntary EUA template for at-home sample collection kits to its website.

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**Extracts from CDC Corona Virus What's News?**

- [COVIDView Weekly Summary](#) Friday, May 29, 2020
- [Considerations When Preparing for COVID-19 in Assisted Living Facilities](#) Friday, May 29, 2020
- [Communication Toolkit for Airlines to Inform Travelers and Crew](#) Friday, May 29, 2020
- [Cruise Ship Crew Member Disembarkations](#) Friday, May 29, 2020
- [Households Living in Close Quarters](#) Friday, May 29, 2020
- [Discontinuation of Home Isolation for Persons with COVID-19 \(Interim Guidance\)](#) Friday, May 29, 2020
- [COVID-19 Travel Recommendations by Country](#) Friday, May 29, 2020
- [Frequently Asked Questions and Answers: Coronavirus Disease-2019 \(COVID-19\) and Children](#) Friday, May 29, 2020

----- From [AHA Today](#) -----

**FDA authorizes N95 decontamination system's emergency use.** The Food and Drug Administration May 27 [authorized](#) the emergency use of the Stryker Sustainability Solutions VHP N95 Respirator Decontamination System during the COVID-19 pandemic. The device decontaminates compatible N95 respirators for multiple-user reuse to prevent exposure to pathogenic biological airborne particulates when there are insufficient supplies of face-filtering respirators. Hospitals should note that N95 respirators containing cellulose-based materials are incompatible with the SSS VHP N95 RDS and respirators are limited to a maximum of three decontaminations via the device.

**HHS releases resources on adjusting operations to manage patient surge.** The Department of Health and Human Services' Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response yesterday released [resources](#) focused on establishing, funding and operationalizing medical operations coordination cells and alternative care sites. The agency aims to ensure load-balancing across health care facilities and systems during the COVID-19 pandemic. Available resources include a [toolkit, tip sheet and a pair of webinars](#).

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**How DHS is looking ahead at  
Mobile Application Security**

(US DHS S&T) The increased use of mobile technologies to deliver mission services and data and the amount of personal and government data stored on mobile devices makes mobile apps a lucrative target for attacks. Mobile application management solutions manage distribution, update and removal of managed apps from a DHS-managed device, however, standards-based methods are needed to vet apps prior to installation and continuously scan installed apps for new vulnerabilities. To proliferate secure mechanisms into the mobile device ecosystem, DHS Science and Technology Directorate (S&T) has initiated the Mobile Application Security (MAS) R&D project. This project seeks to automate and incorporate-security-by-design into a series of security tools for mobile apps that assist developers, analysts and security and network operators.

Read more: <https://www.dhs.gov/science-and-technology/cybersecurity-mobile-app-security>

Related additional information:

- [CISA/EOC: Mobile Application Best Practices](#)
- [DHS Study on Mobile Device Security](#)
- [Mobile App Security Study: Securing Mobile Applications for First Responders](#)
- [Mobile Security R&D Program Guide, Volume 2](#)
- [Mobile Device Security Fact Sheet](#)
- [2017 R&D Showcase: Mobile App Vetting Video](#)

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.