



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for June 3, 2020

Governor provides COVID-19 Updates

Gov. Andy Beshear reported the tragic loss of one of the youngest Kentuckians to fall victim to the deadly virus. "Today we've got to announce that we have on our list of deaths a 9-month-old child from Hopkins County," Gov. Beshear said. "We grieve for everybody we have lost from COVID-19. This is a reminder of how deadly this virus can be, how precious all of our lives are.

Dr. Steven Stack, commissioner for the Department for Public Health, said the child's death initially was ruled to be a case of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, or SIDS. He said a later COVID-19-positive test requires the death to be included in the reporting. Dr. Stack said the death of such a young person to coronavirus was rare yet devastating.

Case information: As of 4 p.m. June 3, Gov. Beshear said there were at least 10,410 coronavirus cases in Kentucky, 265 of which were newly confirmed Wednesday. Unfortunately, Gov. Beshear reported eight new deaths Wednesday, raising the total to 450 Kentuckians lost to the virus.

Full press release: <https://kentucky.gov/Pages/Activity-stream.aspx?n=GovernorBeshear&prId=197>

Obesity, atypical immune response in some kids with COVID-19

(CIDRAP) A retrospective single-center [case series](#) of 50 hospitalized pediatric COVID-19 patients in New York City found that respiratory symptoms were common but not ubiquitous, that most children had underlying illnesses, and that obese patients were likely to require mechanical ventilation.

A separate single-center [case series](#) published today in *JAMA Network Open* found that that pediatric COVID-19 patients with moderate disease had higher levels of the inflammatory marker interleukin 10 and lower levels of neutrophil immune cells than those with mild illness, suggesting that the virus may be associated with abnormal immune responses.

Read more: <https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2020/06/obesity-atypical-immune-response-some-kids-covid-19>

HCQ Fails as COVID-19 Post-Exposure Prophylaxis in HCPs

No difference in infection between those receiving drug vs placebo

Full MedPage Today story: <https://www.medpagetoday.com/infectiousdisease/covid19/86869>

With emergency visits down 42%, US hospitals reeling from COVID-19

(CIDRAP) In April, [42% less people visited emergency departments](#) (EDs) across the United States than in April last year, according to data published today in *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*.

This significant drop-off, which took place while most states had stay-at-home orders, translates to millions of dollars lost by US hospitals still fighting the COVID-19 pandemic, and Americans becoming at risk for worsening outcomes for non-COVID emergencies.

The data were collected from the National Syndromic Surveillance Program' electronic health data in real time. Visits dropped from a mean of 2.1 million per week (Mar 31 to Apr 27, 2019) to 1.2 million per week (Mar 29 to Apr 25, 2020).

The biggest drop-off in patients was among children 14 years old and younger, women and girls, and people in the Northeast (presumably due to large COVID-19 outbreaks in New York and New Jersey). In the pre-pandemic 2019 data, 12% of emergency department visits were for children; that figure dropped to 6% in the pandemic period.

Although the fewest visits were seen in mid-April, the most recent complete week (May 24 through 30) remained 26% below the corresponding week in 2019, the authors said. And though telemedicine has emerged as an important tool during the pandemic, the authors warn it's not always appropriate—or accessible—for patients.

Full story: <https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2020/06/emergency-visits-down-42-us-hospitals-reeling-covid-19>

Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headline [Extracts from 6/3/20](#)

[Johns Hopkins Experts Call for K-12 Schools to Reopen in the Fall](#) (JHU HUB) Johns Hopkins School of Education Dean Christopher Morphew and Bloomberg School of Public Health Vice Dean Josh Sharfstein say there is an urgent need to reopen America's K-12 schools this fall, citing an expected academic backslide known as the "COVID slide" and burgeoning public health issues faced by vulnerable children, including hunger and decreased access to health care.

See Also: [The Urgency and Challenge of Opening K-12 Schools in the Fall of 2020](#) (JAMA)

[New DRC Ebola Outbreak Grows to 9 Cases, 5 Deaths](#) (CIDRAP) Three more cases have been reported in a new Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo's (DRC's) Equateur, and health officials have fleshed out more details about the cluster of cases.


[Local Public Health Workers Report Hostile Threats and Fears About Contact Tracing](#) (NPR) During her 17 years running Okanogan County's small public health department in eastern Washington, Lauri Jones rarely encountered any controversy. "Usually, we kind of sit here under the radar," says Jones, whose department before the pandemic was mostly known for mundane duties such as recording births, issuing permits for septic tanks, and investigating reports of food poisoning. But that all changed when the coronavirus pandemic began in March.

HHS Provides an Additional \$250 Million to Help U.S. Health Care Systems Respond to COVID-19

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response ([HHS ASPR](#)) is providing an additional \$250 million to aid U.S. health care systems treating patients and responding to the [COVID-19](#) pandemic. As authorized by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, HHS has now provided a total of \$350 million to health care systems for pandemic response, including [\\$100 million](#) released in April 2020.

"While our country mourns those we have lost from this pandemic, we continue to support America's hospitals and heroic frontline healthcare workers who are treating COVID-19 patients and saving American lives," said HHS Secretary Alex Azar. "This additional funding secured from Congress by President Trump will help healthcare providers prepare for and treat patients with COVID-19. By supporting coordination among different healthcare facilities across a region, HHS is helping communities care for COVID-19 patients while also addressing day-to-day medical needs."

The funds will support hospitals and other health care entities to train workforces, expand telemedicine and the use of virtual healthcare, procure supplies and equipment, and coordinate effectively across regional, state and jurisdictional, and local health care facilities to respond to COVID-19. In addition to directly supporting health care capacity for COVID-19 patient surge, this funding will advance the mission of the [National Special Pathogen System](#) to enhance national capacity and capability to respond to highly infectious diseases now and in the future.

The National Special Pathogen System uses a systems-based, national approach to the treatment of infectious diseases and includes the National Emerging Special Pathogens Training and Education Center ([NETEC](#) ); 10 regional Ebola and other special pathogen treatment centers; 62 HHS Hospital Preparedness Program ([HPP](#)) cooperative agreement recipients and their state or jurisdiction special pathogen treatment centers; and hospital associations. <[Press Release](#)>

Overview: <https://www.phe.gov/emergency/events/COVID19/HPP/Documents/hpp-supplemental-funding-table.pdf>

[CDC Coronavirus What's New?](#)

- [Agriculture Workers and Employers](#) Wednesday, June 3, 2020
- [Keeping Workplaces, Homes, Schools, or Commercial Establishments Safe](#) Wednesday, June 3, 2020
- [Appendices](#) Wednesday, June 3, 2020
- [Contact Tracing](#) Wednesday, June 3, 2020
- [Cruise Ship Crew Member Disembarkations](#) Wednesday, June 3, 2020
- [Staffing Resources](#) Wednesday, June 3, 2020
- [Interim COVID-19 Contact Tracing Communications Toolkit for Health Departments](#) Wednesday, June 3, 2020
- [K-12 Schools and Childcare Programs](#) Wednesday, June 3, 2020
- [Data Visualization](#) Wednesday, June 3, 2020
- [Special Considerations for Patients on Home Dialysis](#) Wednesday, June 3, 2020
- [COVID-19 Travel Recommendations by Country](#) Wednesday, June 3, 2020

Early Release - CDC MMWR Report

[Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Emergency Department Visits](#)

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6923e1.htm>

ASPR TRACIE Coronavirus Resources: <https://asprtracie.hhs.gov/COVID-19>

- Recording-ASPR TRACIE Webinar: [Ensuring Healthcare Safety Throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic \(Lessons learned and adjustments going forward\)](#)
- [Healthcare Resilience Taskforce's COVID-19 Workforce Virtual Toolkit](#)
- [Resources for Hospitals during Civil Unrest](#) <<<<< Timely reading!

- [Healthcare System Preparedness for Secondary Disasters during COVID-19](#)
- [Hospital Onboarding Checklist](#)

CDC Coronavirus Resources: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

FDA Press Announcements

- [June 2, 2020 - Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Update: Daily Roundup June 2, 2020](#)
- [June 1, 2020 - Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Update: FDA Takes Action to Protect Public Health; Increase Supply of Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizer](#)
- [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Resources for Health Professionals](#)
<https://www.fda.gov/health-professionals/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-resources-health-professionals>

Securing the Health Sector HHS, InfraGardNCR, and DHS Webinar Patient-Generated Violence

Friday, June 5, at 1-2 pm ET

The webinar will give an overview of violence in healthcare. The presenters are seasoned healthcare security executives who will describe what kinds of workplace violence occur in healthcare settings and why. They'll address specifically what's being done to combat patient-generated violence, including legislative remedies. They'll offer specific techniques and strategies for mitigating and preventing violence in a healthcare setting, including the importance design plays in the care environment.

[Click here to register.](#) You must register in advance to attend the webinar. After you register, you'll receive connection details directly from GoToWebinar.

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 (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.