



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for July 6, 2020

Hospitals approaching capacity as Miami closes restaurants

(AP) Hospitals rapidly approached capacity across the Sunbelt, and the Miami area closed restaurants and gyms again because of the surging coronavirus Monday, as the U.S. emerged from a Fourth of July weekend of picnics, pool parties and beach outings that health officials fear could fuel the rapidly worsening outbreak.

The seesaw effect — restrictions lifted, then reimposed — has been seen around the country in recent weeks and is expected again after a holiday that saw crowds of people celebrating, many without masks.

Confirmed cases are on the rise in 41 out of 50 states plus the District of Columbia, and the percentage of tests coming back positive for the virus is increasing in 39 states.

Florida, which recorded an all-time high of 11,400 new cases Saturday and has seen its positive test rate lately reach more than 18%, has been hit especially hard, along with other Sunbelt states such as Arizona, California and Texas

Hospitalizations across the state have been ticking upward, with nearly 1,700 patients admitted in the past seven days compared with 1,200 the previous week. Five hospitals in the St. Petersburg area were out of intensive care unit beds, officials said. Miami's Baptist Hospital had only four of its 88 ICU beds available.

The coronavirus is blamed for over a half-million deaths worldwide, including more than 130,000 in the U.S., according to the tally kept by Johns Hopkins University. The number of confirmed infections nationwide stood at 2.9 million, though the real number is believed to be 10 times higher. New cases per day nationwide have hit record levels of well over 50,000.

Other States:

Officials in Texas also reported hospitals are in danger of being overwhelmed. Hospitalizations statewide surged past 8,000 for the first time over the weekend, a more than fourfold increase in the past month. Houston officials said intensive care units there have exceeded capacity.

Along the border with Mexico, two severely ill patients were flown hundreds of miles north to Dallas and San Antonio because hospitals in the Rio Grande Valley were full.

In Arizona, the number of people hospitalized with COVID-19 topped 3,200, a new high, and hospitals statewide were at 89% capacity. Confirmed cases surpassed 100,000, and more than half of those infected, or over 62,000, are under 44 years old, state health officials said.

Health officials in South Carolina reported over 1,500 new cases Monday. If the numbers keep rising at their current rates, hospitals will probably have to adopt an emergency plan to add 3,000 more beds in places such as hotels and gyms, authorities said.

Alabama has been averaging about 1,000 new cases a day, two or three times what it was seeing in late April, when its stay-at-home order was lifted.

In West Virginia, Republican Gov. Jim Justice reversed course and ordered the wearing of face masks indoors, joining other state leaders around the country.

Full AP story: <https://apnews.com/edb298e959d070aea5851d3bd1d8ffbd>

----- Gov. Beshear Provides Update on COVID-19

([From Press Release](#)) Gov. Andy Beshear on Monday updated Kentuckians on the state's continued efforts to fight the novel coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19). The Governor reminded everyone that his next press briefing will be held Thursday, July 9, at 4 p.m. EDT, not Tuesday, July 7, as previously was planned.

Case Information – Monday, July 6 - As of 4 p.m. Gov. Beshear said there were at least 17,152 coronavirus cases in Kentucky, 268 of which were newly reported Monday. Unfortunately, Gov. Beshear reported eight new deaths Monday, raising the total to 593 Kentuckians lost to the virus.

Case Information – Sunday, July 5 - Kentucky health officials reported 280 new cases of the novel coronavirus. There were no new deaths attributable to COVID-19 reported on July 5.

Case Information – Saturday, July 4 - On Saturday, July 4, Kentucky health officials reported 255 new cases of the novel coronavirus. There were no new deaths attributable to COVID-19 reported on July 4.

----- From [AHA today for July 6, 2020](#)

AHA, AMA and ANA urge public to take steps to stop COVID-19 spread - The AHA, American Medical Association, and American Nurses Association today sent a [letter](#) urging the public to take simple steps known

to help stop the spread of COVID-19 — wearing a face mask, maintaining physical distancing and washing hands.

“We are not powerless in this public health crisis, and we can defeat it in the same way we defeated previous threats to public health — by allowing science and evidence to shape our decisions and inform our actions,” the groups wrote.

The call to action comes as there have been dramatic upticks in COVID-19 cases in many parts of the country, with hospitals in some states at risk of being overwhelmed.

“To those of you who are doing your part in helping turn the tide of this pandemic — thank you,” the groups wrote. “Your actions are critical to stopping the spread of COVID-19. Moving forward, we must all remain vigilant and continue taking steps to mitigate the spread of the virus to protect each other and our loved ones. There is only one way we will get through this — together.”

FDA warns of ‘life-threatening’ methanol-based hand sanitizers, authorizes new COVID-19 test kits. The Food and Drug Administration last week warned of methanol’s toxic and “not acceptable” suitability for use as an active ingredient in hand sanitizer. Methanol is a wood alcohol more commonly used for the creation of fuel or antifreeze. FDA said it has seen an increase in methanol’s use in hand sanitizers, resulting in adverse events among adults and children that include blindness, hospitalizations and death.

FDA also authorized the emergency use of a trio of COVID-19 test kits:

- the TNS Co., Ltd (Bio TNS) COVID-19 RT-PCR Peptide Nucleic Acid for the qualitative detection of nucleic acid from SARS-CoV-2 in respiratory specimens;
- the Kroger Health COVID-19 Test Home Collection Kit, which can be used by individuals to self-collect nasal swab specimens at home while video-observed by a health care provider; and
- Psomagen, Inc.’s Psoma COVID-19 RT Test, which is authorized for qualitative detection of nucleic acid from SARS-CoV-2 in upper respiratory swab specimens and bronchoalveolar lavage specimens.

FDA issues EUA for test differentiating flu from COVID-19. The Food and Drug Administration last week authorized the emergency use of a third diagnostic test that detects and differentiates flu and COVID-19 viruses from one another. The test from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, along with previously authorized tests from BioFire Diagnostics LLC and QIAGEN GmbH, require only a single sample from patients who exhibit respiratory disease symptoms. FDA said these tests will use fewer supplies and provide faster and comprehensive results.

Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines Extracts from July 6, 2020

Mortality and Morbidity: The Measure of a Pandemic (*JAMA*) Death seems like it should be an accurate measure of the pandemic’s evolution and effects—the worst outcome, an unequivocal outcome. However, the number of deaths attributed to COVID-19 in official reports is likely an underestimate of deaths caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). In addition, the statistic does not incorporate deaths indirectly attributable to the virus and the measures used to contain it.

Antibody Testing for Coronavirus Disease 2019: Not Ready for Prime Time (*BMJ*) In a linked paper, Bastos and colleagues provide a much needed review of the performance of serological assays to accurately detect antibodies to SARS-CoV-2. They meta-analyzed 40 studies according to type of antibody test (enzyme linked immunosorbent assays (ELISAs), lateral flow immunoassays (LFIA), and chemiluminescent immunoassays (CLIAs)), and for each type, determined the average or pooled sensitivity and specificity and assessed the studies for risk of bias. Only four of the 40 studies included outpatients and only two studies assessed LFIA at the point of care.

Becton Dickinson’s Rapid Antigen Test for COVID-19 Authorized by FDA, Shares Rise (*New York Times*) The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has granted emergency use authorization to Becton Dickinson and Co for a COVID-19 antigen test that can be administered at the point of care and produce results within 15 minutes, the company said on Monday.

Ukraine: Country Classified as ‘High Risk’ for Polio Outbreak (*Outbreak News Today*) The European Regional Polio Eradication Certification Commission (RCC) has assessed the risk of transmission in the event of the importation of wild poliovirus or the emergence of a vaccine poliovirus (cVDPV) in 41 countries in the region. The risk in Ukraine was classified as high

CDC Coronavirus What's New?

- Cases & Deaths by County Monday, July 6, 2020
- Funeral Home Workers Monday, July 6, 2020
- Guidance for General Laboratory Safety Practices during the COVID-19 Pandemic Monday, July 6, 2020

- [Staffing Resources](#) Monday, July 6, 2020
- [Cases in the U.S.](#) Monday, July 6, 2020
- [Testing Data in the U.S.](#) Monday, July 6, 2020
- [COVID-19 Considerations for Animal Activities at Fairs, Shows, and Other Events](#) Monday, July 6, 2020
- [Data Visualization](#) Monday, July 6, 2020
- [How to Wear Cloth Face Coverings](#) Monday, July 6, 2020
- [COVID-19 Travel Recommendations by Country](#) Monday, July 6, 2020
- [How to Make Cloth Face Coverings](#) Monday, July 6, 2020
- [Social Distancing](#) Monday, July 6, 2020
- [Social Media Toolkit](#) Monday, July 6, 2020
- [Frequently Asked Questions about Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) for Laboratories](#) Saturday, July 4, 2020
- [Quarantine If You Might Be Sick](#) Friday, July 3, 2020
- [How to Get CDC's COVID-19 Diagnostic Test and Supplies](#) Friday, July 3, 2020
- [Resources for Laboratories Working on Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) Friday, July 3, 2020
- [CDC's Diagnostic Multiplex Assay for Flu and COVID-19 and Supplies](#) Friday, July 3, 2020
- [CDC Diagnostic Test for COVID-19](#) Friday, July 3, 2020
- [Businesses and Workplaces](#) Friday, July 3, 2020
- [SARS-CoV-2 Testing Strategy: Considerations for Non-Healthcare Workplaces](#) Friday, July 3, 2020
- [Information for Laboratories about Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) Friday, July 3, 2020
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#) Friday, July 3, 2020
- [Isolate If You Are Sick](#) Thursday, July 2, 2020
- [Changing Paths During the Pandemic](#) Thursday, July 2, 2020
- [Living in Shared Housing](#) Thursday, July 2, 2020
- [Covid-19 Videos](#) Thursday, July 2, 2020
- [Playing Youth Sports](#) Thursday, July 2, 2020
- [Interim Guidance on Testing Healthcare Personnel for SARS-CoV-2](#)

HHS/ASPR COVID-19 Clinical Rounds

These interactive virtual learning sessions aim to create a peer-to-peer learning network where clinicians from the U.S. and abroad who have experience treating patients with COVID-19 share their challenges and successes; a generous amount of time for participant Q & A is also provided. Register for upcoming sessions below.

Critical Care: Lifesaving Treatment and Clinical Operations

Tuesday, July 7, at 12:00 - 1:00 pm ET [Click here for registration](#)

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.

Emergency Department: Patient Care and Clinical Operations

Thursday, July 9, at 12:00 - 1:00 pm ET [Click here for registration](#)

Join presenters to discuss emergency management resources and information that can be utilized to improve effective hospital and emergency department function during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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](#).

FDA - Respirators for Health Care Personnel Use during COVID-19 Pandemic

Tuesday, July 7, at 12:00 pm ET [Click here for connection information](#)

The FDA, along with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), will host the second webinar in the webinar series on the topic of Importing Respirators for Health Care Personnel Use during COVID-19 Pandemic

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.