



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for July 7, 2020

Kentucky COVID Updates

(Frankfort) Gov. Andy Beshear on Tuesday updated Kentuckians on the state's continued efforts to fight the novel coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19). "This remains a very serious global health challenge. Dr. Anthony Fauci, the nation's foremost infectious disease expert, said only yesterday that we are 'still knee-deep in the first wave' of coronavirus infections here in the U.S.," the Governor said. "The number of positive cases has been rising across the nation. Although eventually there will be a vaccine, we need to be mindful that it will not be perfected or ready to distribute anytime soon. We therefore must remain vigilant to protect the most vulnerable among us." As of 4 p.m. July 7, Gov. Beshear said there were at least 17,519 coronavirus cases in Kentucky, 371 of which were newly reported Tuesday. Unfortunately, Gov. Beshear reported nine new deaths Tuesday, raising the total to 602 Kentuckians lost to the virus.

KY Daily Summary: <https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/covid19/COVID19DailyReport.pdf>

Press Release: <https://kentucky.gov/Pages/Activity-stream.aspx?n=GovernorBeshear&prId=248>

US pulls out of WHO amid escalating COVID-19 activity concern growing about airborne spread

(CIDRAP) In rapidly evolving global COVID-19 developments today, President Donald Trump's administration notified Congress that the United States has officially withdrawn from the World Health Organization (WHO), as the WHO announced plans to meet with China to firm up plans to investigate the zoonotic source of the outbreak.

In another development, WHO officials acknowledged receiving a letter from a global group of scientists asking the organization to recognize the airborne spread of COVID-19. The global COVID-19 total today rose to 11,694,766 cases, and 540,157 people have died from their infections, according to the Johns Hopkins [online dashboard](#).

Learn more: <https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2020/07/us-pulls-out-who-amid-escalating-covid-19-activity>

Contact tracing is no longer possible across the US South due to rapid coronavirus surges

(CNN) Despite hopes for relief this summer, the United States still is battling the first wave of the [Covid-19 pandemic](#), so much so that across the South and Southwest [contact tracing](#) -- a key component to combating the virus -- is no longer possible, a health expert says.

"The cases are rising so rapidly, that we cannot even do contact tracing anymore. I don't see how it's possible to even do that," Dr. Peter Hotez, dean of tropical medicine at Baylor College of Medicine, told CNN's Anderson Cooper Monday.

Nearly [3 million confirmed coronavirus cases](#) have been reported in the US and the number of cases has rapidly increased in the past few weeks.

Read more: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/07/07/health/us-coronavirus-tuesday/index.html>

US government launches campaign to reduce high suicide rates

(AP) The federal government launched a broad national campaign Tuesday aimed at reducing high suicide rates, urging the public to reach out to others, especially during the coronavirus pandemic, and acknowledge daily stresses in people's lives.

Known as REACH, the government campaign is the core part of a \$53 million, two-year effort announced by President Donald Trump to reduce suicide, particularly among veterans.

Starting Wednesday, digital ads will hit the internet with the key message that "suicide is preventable" and that collective action not only by government but also by businesses, schools, nonprofits and faith-based organizations can overcome the stigma of discussing mental health and empower people to understand risk factors, stay connected with others and talk openly about problems.

With the coronavirus still raging across communities, officials expressed hope that the message of suicide prevention can aid the public more widely, not just veterans.

Surgeon General Jerome Adams, who is helping the effort, stressed the need to stay connected by texting, emailing or, in the case of his kids, writing "old-fashioned letters to grandma and grandpa." He described stigma against getting help as a much bigger public health threat than cigarettes or COVID-19.

Full story: <https://apnews.com/3cdb1dbe5ce7027dced1d50b09810033>

Protective gear for medical workers begins to run low again

(AP) The personal protective gear that was in dangerously [short supply](#) during the early weeks of the coronavirus crisis in the U.S. is running low again as the virus resumes its rapid spread and the number of hospitalized patients climbs.

A national nursing union is concerned that gear has to be reused. A doctors association warns that physicians' offices are closed because they cannot get masks and other supplies. And Democratic members of Congress are pushing the Trump administration to devise a national strategy to acquire and distribute gear in anticipation of the crisis worsening into the fall.

In general, supplies of protective gear are more robust now, and many states and major hospital chains say they are in better shape. But medical professionals and some lawmakers have cast doubt on those improvements as shortages begin to reappear.

Read more: <https://apnews.com/481d933b0caa6f5fc61f466c86d4777b>

Lexington lawyer says mask mandates are constitutional

(WKYT) - Wearing a mask in public is not currently mandated in Kentucky but it's a growing trend in other places. Violators face warnings and fines for not wearing face coverings in some states.

Viral videos show fights breaking out over the issue, but a Lexington lawyer says the government can impose the rule. Read more: <https://www.wkyt.com/app/2020/07/07/lexington-lawyer-says-mask-mandates-are-constitutional/>

150 in Shelby Prison Contract COVID

<https://www.wkyt.com/app/2020/07/07/more-than-150-inmates-contract-covid-19-in-ky-womens-prison/>

Summer camp virus outbreak raises safety questions

(AP) Missouri leaders knew the risk of convening thousands of kids at summer camps across the state during a pandemic, the state's top health official said, and insisted that camp organizers have plans in place to keep an outbreak from happening.

The outbreak happened anyway. An overnight summer camp in rural southwestern Missouri has seen scores of campers, counselors and staff infected with the coronavirus, the local health department revealed this week, raising questions about the ability to keep kids safe at what is a rite of childhood for many.

Missouri is one of several states to report outbreaks at summer camps. The Kanakuk camp near Branson ended up sending its teenage campers home. On Friday, the local health department announced 49 positive cases of the COVID-19 virus at the camp. By Monday, the number had jumped to 82.

Some states, like Oregon, New York, New Jersey and Connecticut, closed summer camps this year, and many camps elsewhere have voluntarily canceled programs. But other camps are plowing ahead, hoping that precautions like social distancing, masks and requiring children to quarantine before coming to camp will quell the risk. Other states where outbreaks have been reported have included Texas, Georgia, North Carolina and Tennessee. Full story: <https://apnews.com/b8e8f718a506456d5f914af5d3b2e711>

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

- [SPHERES](#) Tuesday, July 7, 2020
- [Cases in the U.S.](#) Tuesday, July 7, 2020
- [Multistate Assessment of SARS-CoV-2 Seroprevalence in Blood Donors](#) Tuesday, July 7, 2020
- [Testing Data in the U.S.](#) Tuesday, July 7, 2020
- [Considerations for Events and Gatherings](#) Tuesday, July 7, 2020
- [Information for Healthcare Professionals about Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) Tuesday, July 7, 2020
- [COVID-19 Travel Recommendations by Country](#) Tuesday, July 7, 2020
- [Infographic: Tracking MIS-C: Multi-System Inflammatory Syndrome in U.S. Children](#) Tuesday, July 7, 2020
- [Cases & Deaths by County](#) Tuesday, July 7, 2020
- [Quarantine If You Might Be Sick](#) Tuesday, July 7, 2020
- [Large-scale Geographic Seroprevalence Surveys](#) Tuesday, July 7, 2020
- [Clinical Questions about COVID-19: Questions and Answers](#) Tuesday, July 7, 2020

EPA approves two Lysol products as the first to effectively kill novel coronavirus on surfaces

(CNN) Lysol Disinfectant Spray and Lysol Disinfectant Max Cover Mist meet the EPA's criteria for use against the coronavirus based on laboratory testing that found both products kill the virus two minutes after contact, the agency announced in a statement Monday.

Full story: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/07/07/health/epa-lysol-disinfectant-covid-19-trnd/index.html>

White parents: Talk to your kids about racism to raise more empathic adults

(CNN Health) Though race and racism are at the top of Americans' public discussion, most white parents don't talk about those issues with their kids.

Research on how white parents discuss race with their children is sparse. However, past research has shown that conversations about race, much less racism, [are rare](#), even when these issues are highly visible -- for example, during the Ferguson protests in 2014.

One study found that even though [81% of white mothers believed it was important](#) to have such discussions, only 62% of them reported actually doing so. Of those who said they did, however, fewer than one-third of those people could actually recall a specific conversation.

Learn more: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/07/07/health/white-parents-talk-racism-wellness-partner/index.html>

US may ban TikTok and Chinese social media

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said late Monday that the U.S. is "looking at" banning TikTok and other Chinese social media apps over national security concerns. His remarks come as [India banned the app](#) and Australia is considering it.

Pompeo said he doesn't recommend downloading the app unless "you want your private information in the hands of the Chinese Communist Party." A spokesperson for TikTok refuted Pompeo's comments in a statement to CBS News.

Story link: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/tiktok-pompeo-united-states-weighing-ban-chinese-social-media-apps/>

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.

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](#).

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.