



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for July 24, 2020

KY COVID Update - 4 PM July 24th
797 new cases; Total 25,931
574,233tests; Positivity rate 5.28 %
7 new deaths; Total 691

Gov. Beshear Announced Second-Highest Day of New COVID-19 Cases

[\(Press release\)](#) Gov. Andy Beshear on Friday announced the second-highest daily total of new cases of the novel coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) in Kentucky.

“Today we are reporting what I believe is the second-highest number of new cases we have had since our first case on March 6, with 797 new cases of COVID-19. That brings our total number of cases to 29,931. What it means is we are continuing to see an increase and a growth that we absolutely have to stop,” said Gov. Beshear. “And we’ll be watching these very carefully through the weekend and if we do not see the numbers come down, we going to have a series of recommendations and steps that we’ll need to take next week.”

Case Information - As of 4 p.m. July 24, Gov. Beshear said there were at least 25,931 coronavirus cases in Kentucky, 797 of which were newly reported Friday. Nineteen new cases were from children ages 5 and younger. Unfortunately, Gov. Beshear reported seven new deaths Friday, raising the total to 691 Kentuckians lost to the virus.

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

UK Healthcare says software flaw led to 26 false-positive COVID-19 tests
*Officials say UK scientists discovered the error and promptly reported it --
and that the "vast majority" of results have not changed.*

Link to this article: https://www.wdrb.com/news/coronavirus/uk-healthcare-says-software-flaw-led-to-26-false-positive-covid-19-tests/article_7c6355f2-ccec-11ea-a4fe-977204a26dc0.html

Latest OIG Guidance on Staff Testing at Long-term Care Facilities

Yesterday, the Office for the Inspector General (OIG) released updated provider guidance on staff testing at long-term care facilities. Effective immediately, the Cabinet for Health and Family Services will continue its financial support of ongoing COVID-19 surveillance testing for residents and staff of LTC providers. The guidelines are based on what is currently known about the transmission and severity of COVID-19.

Click her for [Guidance Memo](#)

Trump administration renews public health emergency after urging from states

The news will come as relief to health care groups who worried that President Donald Trump would let the emergency declaration lapse when it was set to expire July 25, despite [previous assurances](#) from top administration officials it would be renewed. The emergency powers have helped the administration usher in a massive scale-up of telehealth visits, emergency approval of new drugs and tests and new flexibility for government-run health insurance programs. They have also let cash-strapped state and local health departments deploy federally funded personnel to focus on the virus.

Story link: <https://www.politico.com/news/2020/07/23/trump-coronavirus-public-health-emergency-380799>

Extension link: <https://www.phe.gov/emergency/news/healthactions/phe/Pages/covid19-23June2020.aspx>

Discontinuing Isolation for Hospitalized Patients & Those in Non-Health Care Settings

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently updated its guidance for discontinuing isolation of [hospitalized patients with COVID-19](#) and [COVID-19-positive individuals in non-health care settings](#). The test-based strategy is no longer recommended for either population. Instead the CDC recommends using the symptom-based strategy to determine when to discontinue isolation. Clinicians are encouraged to read the summary of changes to the symptom-based strategy for both populations. The CDC also updated its [decision memo](#), which includes empirical evidence that supports ending isolation and precautions for persons with COVID-19 using a symptom-based strategy.

These 11 Cities Receive a COVID Warning
<http://newser.com/s294007>

**Expanded List: 75 Hand Sanitizers recalled by the FDA
Due to "Toxic" Methanol**

More: <https://www.goodhousekeeping.com/health/a33217666/fda-recalls-hand-sanitizers-coronavirus/>

Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines - Extract from July 24

Neonatal Management and Outcomes During the COVID-19 Pandemic: An Observation Cohort Study

(Lancet Child and Adolescent Health) Data suggest that perinatal transmission of COVID-19 is unlikely to occur if correct hygiene precautions are undertaken, and that allowing neonates to room in with their mothers and direct breastfeeding are safe procedures when paired with effective parental education of infant protective strategies.

Well-being of Parents and Children During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A National Survey

(Pediatrics) The objective of this national survey was to determine how the pandemic and mitigation efforts affected the physical and emotional wellbeing of parents and children in the US through early June 2020. Since March 2020, 27% of parents reported worsening mental health for themselves, and 14% reported worsening behavioral health for their children.

A Pandemic Ethical Conundrum: Must Health Care Workers Risk Their Lives to Treat Covid-19 Patients?

(STAT News) The sweep of Covid-19 across the globe has raised a fundamental question about medical ethics: Do physicians, nurses, EMTs, and other health care workers have moral and legal obligations to risk their health and lives to treat patients during a pandemic? It's an important question, given the toll that Covid-19 is taking on medical professionals. As we write this, more than 100,000 health care workers have been infected in the United States alone and nearly 550 have died from Covid-19. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that health care workers accounted for 11% to 16% of Covid-19 infections during the first wave.

Companies start to think remote work isn't so great after all

(Wall Street Journal) Four months ago, employees at many U.S. companies went home and did something incredible: They got their work done, seemingly without missing a beat. Executives were amazed at how well their workers performed remotely, even while juggling child care and the distractions of home. Twitter Inc. and Facebook Inc., among others, quickly said they would embrace remote work long term. Some companies even vowed to give up their physical office spaces entirely.

(May require subscription): <https://www.wsj.com/articles/companies-start-to-think-remote-work-isnt-so-great-after-all-11595603397>

U.S. panel charged to plan fair distribution of eventual COVID-19 vaccine

(Reuters) U.S. public health officials on Friday charged a group of independent scientists and ethicists with developing guidelines to determine who should get the first doses of a COVID-19 vaccine, once one becomes available. The guidelines are aimed at developing an equitable framework that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention can use to develop a plan to distribute the first doses of vaccine, which U.S. officials expect to be ready by the end of the year.

The directors of the CDC and the National Institutes of Health charged the panel with devising the plan. The work will be conducted by a special committee of experts from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine and the National Academy of Medicine, an independent advisory body.

Full story: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-vaccine-access/u-s-panel-charged-to-plan-fair-distribution-of-eventual-covid-19-vaccine-idUSKCN24P2PF>

Study identifies six different "types" of COVID-19

(CBS) A new study of [COVID-19](#), based on data from a symptom tracker app, determined that there are six distinct "types" of the disease involving different clusters of symptoms. The discovery could potentially open new possibilities for how doctors can better treat individual patients and predict what level of hospital care they would need. Learn more; <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/covid-19-symptoms-study-six-different-types/>

CDC urges in-person learning for schools

(CIDRAP) The head of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said today that a child is 6 to 13 times more likely to die from influenza than from COVID-19, and that school closures that began in the spring led to significant public health problems for the nation's children, including worsening mental health and increasing hunger. CDC Director Robert Redfield, MD, made those comments during a media briefing today on the CDC's [enhanced guidelines for school reopening](#), which were released late yesterday.

Full CIDRAP story: <https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2020/07/cdc-urges-person-learning-schools>

CDC Guidance: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/index.html>

More on schools:

- [Communities, Schools, Workplaces, and Events](#) Friday, July 24, 2020
- [Preparing K-12 School Administrators for a Safe Return to School in Fall 2020](#) Thursday, July 23, 2020
- [The Importance of Reopening America's Schools this Fall](#) Thursday, July 23, 2020
- [Guidance for K-12 School Administrators on the Use of Cloth Face Coverings in Schools](#) Thursday, July 23, 2020
- [School Decision-Making Tool for Parents, Caregivers, and Guardians](#) Thursday, July 23, 2020
- [Screening K-12 Students for Symptoms of COVID-19: Limitations and Considerations](#) Thursday, July 23, 2020
- [Back to School Planning: Checklists to Guide Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers](#) Thursday, July 23, 2020

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

- [COVIDView Weekly Summary](#) Friday, July 24, 2020
- [Health Departments](#) Friday, July 24, 2020
- [Your Health](#) Friday, July 24, 2020
- [Cases & Deaths by County](#) Friday, July 24, 2020
- [Toolkit for People with Disabilities](#) Friday, July 24, 2020
- [Crew Disembarkations through Commercial Travel](#) Friday, July 24, 2020
- [Scaling Up Staffing Roles in Case Investigation and Contact Tracing](#) Friday, July 24, 2020
- [Considerations for Retirement Communities and Independent Living Facilities](#) Thursday, July 23, 2020

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

- (July 24) [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Update: Daily Roundup](#) - FDA actions on issuances of emergency use authorizations, tests, and more in its ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Trump signs orders to lower prescription drug prices

(Reuters) U.S. President Donald Trump on Friday signed four executive orders aimed at lowering the prices Americans pay for prescription drugs, as he faces an uphill re-election battle and criticism over his handling of the coronavirus pandemic. Trump has previously proposed most of the changes made by the executive orders he signed on Friday, but this is the first time they have made it into signed executive orders.

One order would allow for the legal importation of cheaper prescription drugs from countries like Canada, while another would require discounts from drug companies now captured by middlemen to be passed on to patients, Trump said. Another measure seeks to lower insulin costs while a fourth, which may not be implemented if talks with drug companies are successful, would require Medicare to purchase drugs at the same price that other countries pay, Trump said.

Full story: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trump-drugprices/trump-signs-orders-to-lower-prescription-drug-prices-idUSKCN24P2JA>

**CDC: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and Diabetes:
The Importance of Prevention, Management, and Support
Tuesday, July 28, at 2:00 pm ET [Click here for connection information](#)**

During this Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA) Call, presenters will focus on current information about the impact and increased risk for COVID-19 complications in people with diabetes and the importance of diabetes prevention, management, and support.

**ASPR: Use of Telemedicine in Alternate Care Sites
Tuesday, July 28, 2:00 p.m. ET, [Click here for registration](#)**

The COVID-19 pandemic and the associated community mitigation efforts enacted have altered the delivery of and access to healthcare across the U.S. Healthcare providers are looking for new and innovative ways to deliver patient care to accommodate social distancing and community mitigation measures. The use of telemedicine has grown significantly in recent months. In addition to being used by outpatient providers, telemedicine plays an integral role in Alternate Care Sites (ACS). ACS are one of many alternate care strategies intended to provide additional hospital surge capacity and capability. HHS ASPR and ASPR TRACIE are hosting this webinar where speakers will discuss operations, management, and lessons learned from using telemedicine in these settings.

KY Hospital Association TOWN HALL meetings
July 28, 4 PM ET: KY Attorney General's Office on Medicaid Fraud & Abuse
<https://join.onstreammedia.com/go/41054140/townhall>
Dial In: 1-877-594-8353 - Passcode: 56350822#

Save the Date: August 4, 3 PM ET
Feedback from the front-line in Texas and Florida hospitals
[Representatives from hospitals in both states on their experiences, lessons learned and recommendations.]
<https://join.onstreammedia.com/go/41054140/townhall>
Dial In: 1-877-594-8353 - Passcode: 56350822#

InfraGard National Webinar: **Cybersecurity in the Age of COVID-19**
Wednesday, 7/29/2020, at 11:00 AM EDT/10 AM CDT
REGISTER HERE: <https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/7894556567851625483>

InfraGard: **DOJ's Role in the Investigation and Prosecution of Cyber Crime**
Wednesday, July 29, 2 PM ET

The webinar is open to members and non-members. Considering the topic of the webinar, members are strongly encouraged to invite members of the legal departments of their respective organizations to attend the session. To register for the webinar, please use the following link: <https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/5431222811770518031>

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency released its [COVID-19 Recovery CISA Tabletop Exercise Package](#), assisting stakeholders in assessing recovery and business continuity plans related to organizational recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic

Final Facilitator Training Session "How to Play Earth Ex" on August 20th at 2 PM EDT.

This session will present the new Battle Rhythm Manager interface, outline each Phase of the 2020 exercise, and explore the new Monte Carlo inject engine. Participants will leave with a full understanding of how to implement the EARTH EX 2020 exercise to maximize its potential for their organization. **Register>** [How to Play EARTH EX](#)

EarthEX 2020 - Registration is open

The fourth annual Emergency All-sector Response Transnational Hazard Exercise will be available for play from September 1 to October 31, 2020 - worldwide. Individuals, families, business continuity planners, emergency managers, community and program coordinators. **Everyone is invited to register and participate. Learn how to be better prepared!**

To register: <https://battlerhythm.net/Registration/register.html>

Address questions to: EarthEx@eiscouncil.org

Other related webinars of potential interest...

Global Supply Chain Threats – 29 July – 2 pm EDT

This EARTH EX 2020 training series webinar is an awareness primer for anyone wanting a better understanding of the current global supply chain threats, their causes, and actions that can be planned or taken to increase operational resilience. Register here>> [Global Supply Chain](#)

Global Continuity Issues and Requirements – 12 August – 2 pm EDT

This EARTH EX 2020 training series webinar will address the significant issues that are driving the need for a comprehensive framework for reaching global continuity and resilience requirements. Register here>> [Global Continuity Issues](#)

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.