



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for August 16, 2020

KY COVID Update

(KyForward News) Gov. Andy Beshear reported 638 new COVID cases and six deaths as of Saturday afternoon, bringing the state's totals to 38,930 cases and 810 deaths. Seventeen of the new cases were children age 5 and under. "Saturday's COVID report unfortunately suggests this is going to be the highest week of total cases that we've ever had, though our positivity rate is going down a little bit," said Gov. Beshear.

The Governor highlighted how more young Kentuckians are testing positive, especially in the hot spots, as the new school year approaches. "When you look at how hard children are being hit now, 322 people under the age of 18 have tested positive since the beginning of this in Warren County alone."

The deaths reported Saturday included two men from Jefferson County, ages 71 and 85; a 57-year-old woman from Jefferson County; a 74-year-old man from Graves County; a 72-year-old man from Nicholas County, and an 89-year-old man from McCracken County. As of Saturday, at least 754,985 tests had been administered. The COVID-19 testing positive rate, based on a seven-day rolling average, taking into account total positive tests reported by laboratories divided by total tests reported by labs, stood at 5.45%. The number of Kentuckians who have recovered stood at 9,091. Hospitalizations in Kentucky for COVID-19 declined slightly, to 658, with 140 of those in intensive care and 98 of the ICU patients on ventilators. Beshear recently began giving the ventilator count, which is not part of the state's daily report. (To see all recent daily reports, [click here.](#))

Full story: <https://www.kyforward.com/covid-update-gov-beshear-reports-638-cases-6-deaths-children-hard-hit-citations-readied-and-more/>

Governor's press release: <https://kentucky.gov/Pages/Activity-stream.aspx?n=GovernorBeshear&prId=311>

U.S. CDC reports 5,285,546 coronavirus cases

(Reuters) - The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on Saturday reported 5,285,546 cases of new coronavirus, an increase of 56,729 cases from its previous count, and said that the number of deaths had risen by 1,229 to 167,546.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-usa-cdc/u-s-cdc-reports-5285546-coronavirus-cases-idUSKCN25B0VS>

Related - Worldwide coronavirus cases cross 21.29 million, death toll at 760,118

<https://www.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-casualties/factbox-worldwide-coronavirus-cases-cross-21-29-million-death-toll-at-760118-idUSL4N2AY3AS>

Seattle 'Flu' Cases Were COVID, Obscuring the Real Spread

<http://newser.com/s294913>

Fauci: Temperature checks often 'notoriously inaccurate'

(ABC) As classrooms reopen for the fall, many school administrators say they're using temperature checks on students and teachers. But Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said Thursday that the White House and the National Institutes of Health have abandoned temperature checks as a screening tool. Especially on hot summer days, temperature checks aren't a reliable way to screen for infection, Fauci said.

"We have found at the NIH, that it is much much better to just question people when they come in and save the time, because the temperatures are notoriously inaccurate, many times," Fauci said at an event with the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center.

Fauci added that in recent days his temperature read as high as 103 degrees before getting into the air conditioning.

Source: <https://abcnews.go.com/Health/coronavirus-updates-us-records-56000-cases-1500-additional/story?id=72344689>

Related - COVID symptoms in order

(CBS) Researchers at the University of Southern California say they've found that the [symptoms](#) of [COVID-19](#) tend to appear in a specific order, a discovery that could help enable earlier detection and treatment for numerous patients. According to the study, published in the medical journal [Frontier Public Health](#), the most likely order of symptoms is as follows: fever, then cough and muscle pain, followed by nausea and/or vomiting, and then diarrhea. Learn more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/covid-19-symptoms-order-usc-study/>

Related - US considering coronavirus strain for potential human challenge trials but there's no intention to use it, Fauci says

More: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/08/14/health/coronavirus-vaccine-strain-us-scientists-bn/index.html>

CDC asks 4 states, 1 city to draft coronavirus vaccine distribution plans

(Forbes) Federal officials have asked four states and one city to make plans for when doses of the Covid-19 vaccine become available, according to a *Washington Post* [report](#), signalling progress toward an antidote which could be ready as early as fall.

California, Florida, Minnesota, North Dakota and Philadelphia were reportedly instructed this week by federal agencies, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), to begin planning how they would distribute the vaccine. They were asked to draw up proposals regarding storage and transportation that will be shared with other states to help with their planning. These states will also have to prioritize who should get the vaccine first, which will likely be essential workers and front-line healthcare professionals.

Contrary to Trump's insistence that the military will deliver vaccines to states, a Health and Human Services official [clarified](#) the Defense Department will control logistics, while "commercial distribution partners" will make sure states receive doses. On Friday, the president [announced](#) a new partnership medical supplier McKesson, which will play a central role in rapidly distributing the vaccine when it's ready.

Story link: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/jemimamcevoy/2020/08/14/here-are-the-states-and-city-the-cdc-is-preparing-for-a-coronavirus-vaccine/#2c31c80e4bc6>

FDA releases first-ever list of medical supplies in shortage

(Axios) The Food and Drug Administration on Friday released its [first-ever list](#) of medical devices needed to respond to the coronavirus that are in short supply.

Why it matters: The list includes surgical gowns, gloves, masks, certain ventilators and testing supplies that medical workers require to effectively respond to the pandemic, which has infected more than 5.3 million people in the U.S. to date, according to [Johns Hopkins University](#).

Full story: <https://www.axios.com/fda-medical-supplies-shortage-e2d722d4-cec2-4e39-818b-0d85eac22e76.html>

FDA List: <https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/coronavirus-covid-19-and-medical-devices/medical-device-shortages-during-covid-19-public-health-emergency#shortage>

Related - COVID-19 Supply Crunch Means More Testing Delays

<https://news360.com/article/535459137>

FDA Issues Emergency Use Authorization for Saliva based COVID test

Learn more: <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-fda-issues-emergency-use-authorization-yale-school-public-health>

Study hints - but can't prove - survivor plasma fights COVID-19

<https://news360.com/article/535478815>

Levels of Anxiety, Addiction, Suicidal Thoughts Are Soaring in the Pandemic

<https://news360.com/article/535459191>

Related - 25% of Young Adults Seriously Considered Suicide in June

<http://newser.com/s294927>

As COVID-19 pandemic drags on, an alarming rise in hunger found among older Kentucky adults

(KyForward News) The state's food banks say they're seeing an alarming number of adults approaching retirement age who need help putting food on the table because of lost wages or employment due to COVID-19. Even before the pandemic, Kentucky had the highest rate of food-insecure older adults in the nation, but advocates said more newcomers, many who have never had to rely on food assistance, are now seeking help. From March through June of this year, more than 120,000 Commodity Supplemental Food Program boxes were distributed to older adults and seniors in the state through regional food assistance groups.

Experts say boosting SNAP benefits by at least 15% as part of additional coronavirus relief legislation would help more households and older adults purchase food, while reducing the number of individuals leaning on food banks and pantries. Research shows for every one meal provided by a food bank, SNAP provides nine.

Read full story: <https://www.kyforward.com/as-covid-19-pandemic-drags-on-an-alarming-rise-in-hunger-found-among-older-kentucky-adults/>

Forecasters look to learn from deadly Midwest wind storm
The derecho that caused massive damage this past week
could offer lessons for forecasters and the public

(ABC) The unusual wind storm that damaged farms, homes and cities across the Midwest this past week could offer lessons for forecasters and the public on how to better prepare for something that packed the power of a category 3 [hurricane](#) but lacked the days of warning a typical [hurricane](#) offers.

The land hurricane, known as a derecho, caught farmers in fields, bicyclists on trails and travelers on highways — unaware that a series of thunderstorms that had formed the night before in South Dakota had picked up strength as it moved across Nebraska. At least three people in Iowa and one in Indiana were killed, including a bicyclist on a trail and a woman sitting on her front porch — both struck by trees.

Scientists say it's difficult to give advance warning about a derecho because, unlike a more distant hurricane forming over the ocean, its formation is not readily apparent. Even had forecasters provided warnings, it's not clear it would have made a difference. Thunderstorms and tornadoes are common in the Midwest, and many residents are desensitized to severe weather warnings.

"Severe thunderstorms in general need to be taken seriously," Patrick Marsh, chief of science support at the Storm Prediction Center in Norman, Oklahoma, said. "Severe thunderstorms can be just as dangerous to a person as a derecho can be to a series of communities, but we don't think about severe thunderstorms in that regard."

The National Weather Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration are working on tools that would assist forecasters in making predictions that consider a range of possibilities. In the future, a forecast for the next day might say that a thunderstorm is a likely scenario, with a chance for a derecho given the right conditions, Marsh said.

Scientists now believe Monday's derecho traveled 1,000 miles (1,610 kilometers) from South Dakota to northwest Ohio. It appears the storm began picking up strength in Nebraska, gaining power as it moved across Iowa before weakening as it approached Ohio.

Full story: <https://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/forecasters-learn-deadly-midwest-wind-storm-72392952>

InfraGard Webinar: "Current State of Civil Unrest"

Thursday, 20 August 2020 @ 11 AM ET/10 AM CST

Register: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3750443367065719051>

CDC Clinician Call: 2020-2021 Influenza Vaccination Recommendations
and Clinical Guidance during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Thursday, August 20, 2 PM ET/1 CT

ZOOM Link: <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1601970527>

CDC information link: https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2020/callinfo_082020.asp?deliveryName=USCDC_1052-DM35393

[UK Pediatric Emergency Medicine Symposium](#)

Pediatric Emergencies: Early Assessment and Treatment of Children

Zoom Meeting (online, live stream)

When: September 12, 2020 - 7:45 AM to 5:30 PM ET

Agenda: <https://www.cecentral.com/live/18648/agenda>

Overview: Join us for the **2nd Annual University of Kentucky Pediatric Emergency Medicine Symposium, "Pediatric Emergencies: Early Assessment & Treatment of Children"** This conference is designed for all clinicians looking to expand their knowledge and skills in the treatment of pediatric emergencies. Highlights from this year's course include review of the pediatric EKG, the approach to pediatric abdominal pain, and management of pediatric trauma. We will be hosting a live virtual conference on September 12th, allowing for social distancing while also providing the opportunity to engage with expert speakers.

Target Audience: Emergency Medicine physicians, clinicians, advanced practice providers, pediatricians, family medicine physicians, and anyone in a position to care for children in an acute care setting are encouraged to attend.

CME available (See registration site for more information.)

For Complete event and registration information: <https://www.cecentral.com/live/18648>

The KHEREF 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 KHEREF are supported by US DHHS ASPR HPP funds through a contract with Kentucky Public Health.