



# Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for August 17, 2020

## Seven months later, what we know — and don't know — about Covid-19

The “before times” seem like a decade ago, don't they? Those carefree days when hugging friends and shaking hands wasn't verboten, when we didn't have to reach for a mask before leaving our homes, or forage for supplies of hand sanitizer. Oh, for the days when social distancing wasn't part of our vernacular.

In reality, though, it's only been about seven months since the world learned a new and dangerous coronavirus was in our midst. In the time since Chinese scientists confirmed the rapidly spreading disease in Wuhan was caused by a new coronavirus and posted its genetic sequence on line, an extraordinary amount has been learned about the virus, SARS-CoV-2, the disease it causes, Covid-19, and how they affect us.

Click the link to see some of the things we have learned, and some of the pressing questions we still need answered. <https://www.statnews.com/2020/08/17/what-we-now-know-about-covid19-and-what-questions-remain-to-be-answered/>

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### *(Additional info on story from Sunday's EP Update)*

#### **FDA clears saliva test for Covid-19, opening door to wider testing**

(STAT News) Over the weekend, the FDA authorized the emergency use of [a saliva test](#) for Covid-19. Developed by researchers at the Yale School of Public Health, the test offers a less-invasive alternative to the current standard of nasal swabs for Covid-19 testing, while still being highly sensitive. The test doesn't rely on the kinds of chemical reagents that have led to shortages for other tests and samples can be processed in less than three hours. Yale plans to make the protocol behind the new test available to other labs across the country and is suggesting that the test be offered at \$10 per sample, which would also make it relatively inexpensive. Making the test more widely available could be a game changer, as testing delays have plagued the U.S. response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Read more: <https://www.statnews.com/2020/08/15/fda-clears-saliva-test-for-covid-19-opening-door-to-wider-testing/>

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

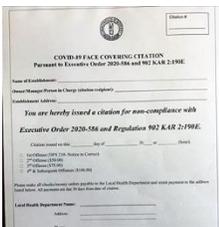
#### ***Related - A New COVID-19 Problem Hits Texas 'We're not having enough people step forward'***

(Newser) Anyone can get a coronavirus test at the CentroMed clinic in San Antonio, but on a recent day, the drive-thru was empty. Texas leaders who grappled with testing shortages for much of the pandemic are now facing the opposite problem: not enough takers, [the AP](#) reports. Meanwhile things have improved in Texas, including a nearly 40% drop in hospitalizations since July's peak. But deaths remain high, and doctors in some parts still say they're still stretched.

Full story: <https://www.newser.com/story/294970/texas-has-a-new-coronavirus-problem.html>

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#### **Ky. health departments can now issue citations to businesses not enforcing mask mandate**



(WKYT) Kentucky health departments can now cite businesses that are not complying with the mandate to wear masks. Many health departments received the citations Thursday, while others will get them Friday or early next week.

Kevin Hall, with the Fayette County Health Department, says the citations are similar to citations handed out for businesses not complying with the smoking ban a few years ago. The first offense is just a warning, but after that businesses will be ordered to pay fines of \$50 for a second offense, \$75 for a third offense, and \$100 for fourth and subsequent offenses. Health departments can issue citations to restaurants, convenience stores, or

anywhere that serves food.

Read more: <https://www.wkyt.com/2020/08/14/ky-health-departments-can-now-issue-citations-to-businesses-not-enforcing-mask-mandate/>

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#### **Coronavirus Deaths in Nursing Homes Climbing Again**

(HealthDay) The novel coronavirus is surging once more in U.S. [nursing](#) homes, where it killed tens of thousands at the start of the pandemic. Federal data cited by two long-term care associations this week illustrated the troubling trend: The number of new cases in nursing homes bottomed out at 5,468 during the week of June 21, but it climbed to 8,628 for the week of July 19, the *Washington Post* reported. That's a 58 percent increase, which roughly parallels the rise in overall U.S. cases during that period.

In a different analysis of 35 states, the Kaiser Family Foundation found that cases in long-term care facilities jumped 11 percent in the two weeks ending July 10. But in 23 hot spot states, they rose 18 percent, compared with just 4 percent in 12 states that had the virus under better control, the *Post* reported.

Learn more: <https://www.medicinenet.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=245463>

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**HHS to Begin Distributing \$1.4 Billion in Relief Funds to Free-standing Children's Hospitals**

(HHS Press Release) The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), is announcing an additional \$1.4 billion in targeted distribution funding to almost 80 free-standing children's hospitals nationwide. As the healthcare system continues to grapple with the financial hardships caused by the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), children's hospitals have been uniquely impacted. Children's hospitals have seen decreasing patient visits and increased costs. This distribution will help to ensure children's hospitals receive relief proportional to other hospitals across the nation and providers caring for children are able to continue operating safely in some of our most vulnerable communities. This funding is made possible through the bipartisan CARES Act and the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act, which allocated \$175 billion in relief funds to hospitals and other healthcare providers, including those disproportionately impacted by this pandemic.

HHS Press Release: <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/08/14/trump-administration-to-begin-distributing-1.4-billion-in-relief-funds-to-childrens-hospitals.html>

HHS state listing: <https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/safety-net-hospital-provider-relief-payment-state-breakdown-childrens-hospitals.pdf>

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**Coronavirus hasn't devastated the homeless as many feared**

(AP) When the coronavirus emerged in the U.S. this year, public health officials and advocates for the homeless feared the virus would rip through shelters and tent encampments, ravaging vulnerable people who often have chronic health issues. While shelters saw some large COVID-19 outbreaks, the virus so far doesn't appear to have brought devastation to the homeless population as many feared. Good data is difficult to get on the homeless population because hospitals and death certificates don't track housing status. Full story: <https://apnews.com/595410c64aff65fd0e053e9657e7f928>

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**CDC Coronavirus What's New Extracts**

- [Older Adults](#) Sunday, August 16, 2020
- [When to Quarantine](#) Sunday, August 16, 2020
- [Duration of Isolation and Precautions for Adults with COVID-19](#) Sunday, August 16, 2020
- [When You Can be Around Others After You Had or Likely Had COVID-19](#) Sunday, August 16, 2020
- [Information for Healthcare Professionals about Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) Sunday, August 16, 2020
- [Information for Laboratories about Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) Sunday, August 16, 2020
- [Toolkit for People 15 to 21](#) Saturday, August 15, 2020
- [Frequently Asked Questions about Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) for Laboratories](#) Saturday, August 15, 2020
- [Guidance for General Laboratory Safety Practices during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#) Saturday, August 15, 2020
- [Updated Isolation Guidance Does Not Imply Immunity to COVID-19](#) Friday, August 14, 2020
- [Information for Pediatric Healthcare Providers](#) Friday, August 14, 2020
- [Large-scale Geographic Seroprevalence Surveys](#) Friday, August 14, 2020
- [People with Moderate to Severe Asthma](#) Friday, August 14, 2020
- [People with Certain Medical Conditions](#) Friday, August 14, 2020
- [What Gym and Fitness Center Employees Need to Know about COVID-19](#) Thursday, August 13, 2020
- [Communication Materials](#) Thursday, August 13, 2020
- [Worker Safety and Support](#) Thursday, August 13, 2020
- [Hiring In-home services or repairs](#) Thursday, August 13, 2020

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***NEW Preparedness Problems***

**Bad weekend in Cincinnati  
At least 18 shot, 4 Killed Across Cincinnati**

(WLWT-5) Four people are dead after 18 were shot in four separate shootings within hours of each other across Cincinnati on Sunday. A night of violence continued through the morning and into the evening hours as multiple shootings broke out within hours of each other. There is no suspect information in any of the shootings and police said they believe all of the shootings are unrelated.

Cincinnati Police Chief Eliot Isaac said Sunday the gun violence in the city has to stop. Cincinnati Mayor John Cranley released a statement Sunday, also calling for an end to the senseless gun violence and asking people not to go to gatherings where guns are present. The mayor said he has been talking with Isaac over the past several weeks about what community efforts and additional resources can be deployed immediately to address crime in the wake of the pandemic.

Video report and read more: <https://www.wlwt.com/article/police-18-people-shot-4-dead-in-multiple-shootings-across-cincinnati-on-sunday/33614585>

**InfraGard Webinar: "Current State of Civil Unrest"**

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

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

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**What is a fire tornado?**

**'Extreme fire activity' sparks rare weather warning near Reno.**

(USA Today) This year is full of things most people have never heard of and probably never want to see for themselves. "Fire tornado" is the latest entrant on 2020's list of new, scary and destructive things. The "extreme fire activity," brought on by conditions in the ongoing Loyalton Fire in Northern California, was recorded Saturday by the National Weather Service in Reno, Nevada.

Conditions surrounding the rare fire tornado, also known as a "*firenado*," prompted NWS Reno [to issue a tornado warning related to the fire](#), the first warning of its kind, Dawn Johnson, senior meteorologist with the weather service, told USA TODAY.



Story link: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/weather/2020/08/16/fire-tornado-loyalton-fire-california-warning/5597082002/>

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**Lightning Sparks New Wildfires Across California**

(NBC LA) A rare summer thunderstorm brought lightning that sparked several small blazes in Northern California on Sunday and stoked a huge forest fire that has forced hundreds of people from their homes north of Los Angeles. More than 4,500 buildings remained threatened by the wildfire, which was burning toward thick, dry brush in the Angeles National Forest. Firefighters already battling the blaze in steep, rugged terrain in scorching heat faced more hurdles Saturday when hundreds of lightning strikes and winds up to 15 mph (24 kph) pushed the flames uphill. Temperatures were expected to hit the mid 90s to 100s, Miller said, a slight drop from Saturday when the mercury hit 111 degrees (44 Celsius) on Saturday at the firefighters' base camp. Thunderstorm and gusty wind could return in the late afternoon.

Read more: <https://www.nbclanangeles.com/news/local/lightning-sparks-new-wildfires-across-california/2413706/>

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**New Jersey counties are under quarantine for another reason: Invasive bugs**

(CNN) Quarantine bugging you? Imagine how New Jersey residents feel. In addition to a series of [coronavirus restrictions](#), state authorities have placed eight counties under additional quarantine because of an exotic and invasive insect known as the spotted lanternfly. The insect, native to China and South Korea, poses a [risk](#) to more than 70 plant species, including fruit trees, vegetables and vines. It was first detected in Berks County, Pennsylvania, in 2014. The spotted lanternfly is an "excellent hitchhiker" known for its ability to travel quickly by clinging onto vehicles. It's believed to have traveled from China to



Pennsylvania by hitching a ride on a shipment. Learn more: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/08/16/us/spotted-lanternfly-quarantine-trnd/index.html>

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**UK CATS Stroke Lecture**

**"Improving Communication During the Consultation"**

August 18, 12 noon ET/11 AM CT

ZOOM: <https://uky.zoom.us/j/5355100884>

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**KSPAN Webinars**

**[Partnering to Promote Child Home Safety](#)**

August 19, 10-11 AM ET

Click [HERE](#) to register or go to [www.safekentucky.org](http://www.safekentucky.org)

**[Question, Persuade, & Respond \(QPR\) Training](#) (*Suicide Prevention*)**

Thursday, August 20, 2020

10:00 -11:30 am ET

Click [HERE](#) to register or go to [www.safekentucky.org](http://www.safekentucky.org)

[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>

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**HHS/ASPR COVID-19 Clinical Rounds Learning Series**

**EMS: Patient Care and Operations**

**Monday, August 17, at 12:00 - 1:00 pm ET** [Click here for registration](#)

Join EMS providers from across the country to discuss challenges faced in the COVID-19 response and what can be done to enhance patient care and emergency operations.

**Critical Care: Lifesaving Treatment and Clinical Operations**

**Tuesday, August 18, 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, August 20, 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.

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**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Calls and Webinars**

**CDC COVID-19 Partner Update: New Tools for Schools**

**Monday, August 17, 3:00 pm ET,** [Click here for registration](#)

CDC will share updates on CDC's COVID-19 response, including the latest scientific information available. Additionally, presenters will provide an overview of CDC's new [COVID-19 Toolkit for K-12 Schools](#) and other relevant information for schools.

**2020-2021 Influenza Vaccination Recommendations and Clinical Guidance during the COVID-19 Pandemic**

**Thursday, August 20, 2:00 pm ET,** [Click here for connection information](#)

During this COCA Call, presenters will discuss updates to the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations for the 2020-2021 influenza vaccination season. Topics will include the Standards for Adult Immunization Practice, flu vaccination planning, general vaccination guidance during the COVID-19 pandemic, and guidance for large vaccination clinics held in satellite, temporary, or off-site locations.

**U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Calls and Webinars**

**Webinar Series - FDA's Regulation of Face Masks and Surgical Masks During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

**Tuesday, August 18, at 12:00 pm ET** [Click here for connection information](#)

Representatives from the FDA will share information and answer questions related to face masks and surgical masks. The discussion will include the FDA's Enforcement Policy for Face Masks and Respirators During the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Public Health Emergency (Revised) and relevant emergency use authorizations (EUAs).

**Virtual Town Hall Series- Immediately in Effect Guidance on Coronavirus (COVID-19) Diagnostic Tests**

**Wednesday, August 19, at 12:15 pm ET** [Click here for connection information](#)

The FDA will host a virtual Town Hall for clinical laboratories and commercial manufacturers that are developing or have developed diagnostic tests for SARS-CoV-2. The purpose of this Town Hall is to help answer technical questions about the development and validation of tests for SARS-CoV-2.

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](mailto: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.