Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation
Emergency Preparedness Update
for August 20, 2020

Kentucky COVID Update from August 19 Briefing

(Press Release) Gov. Andy Beshear on Wednesday updated Kentuckians on the state's continuing efforts to fight the novel coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) in the commonwealth. As of 4 p.m. Aug. 19, Gov. Beshear said there were at least 40,926 coronavirus cases in Kentucky, 655 of which were newly reported Wednesday. Fifteen of the newly reported cases were from children ages 5 and younger, including a 12-day-old baby in Jefferson County. Unfortunately, Gov. Beshear reported 12 new deaths Wednesday, raising the total to 830 Kentuckians lost to the virus. As of Wednesday, there have been at least 785,138 coronavirus tests performed in Kentucky. The positivity rate currently stands at 5.41%. At least 9,331 Kentuckians have recovered from the virus. To see all recent daily reports, click here.

COVID-19 antibody levels vary widely in recovered patients

(CIDRAP) A study published yesterday in *JAMA Internal Medicine* of 175 patients who recovered from mild COVID-19 reveals wide variation in the levels of antibodies against the novel coronavirus, ranging from very high levels in 2 patients to undetectable levels in 10—but no significant difference in illness duration.

Researchers from Fudan University in Shanghai, China, measured antibody levels in COVID-19 patients released from Shanghai Public Health Clinical Center after being hospitalized from Jan 24 to Feb 26.

Of the 175 patients, 165 (94%) had significantly higher levels of COVID-19 antibodies than 13 uninfected controls in the convalescent phase of infection. Antibody levels were medium-low in 29 patients (17%), medium-high in 69 patients (39%), and high in 25 patients (14%).

Learn more: https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2020/08/covid-19-antibody-levels-vary-widely-recovered-patients

---

FDA emergency authorization of blood plasma for Covid-19 on hold

(CNN) A US Food and Drug Administration emergency use authorization for blood plasma to treat Covid-19 is on hold, but could still be issued in the near future, Dr. H. Clifford Lane, deputy director at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, told The New York Times. The hold came after a group of federal health officials -- including National Institutes of Health Director Dr. Francis Collins, NIAID Director Dr. Anthony Fauci and Lane -- stepped in to argue the emerging data on the treatment was too weak, the Times reported Wednesday, citing two senior administration sources.

Read more: https://www.cnn.com/2020/08/19/health/blood-plasma-emergency-use-on-hold/index.html

---

Johns Hopkins' Report on Ethics for COVID Vaccine Allocation

(CIDRAP News) The Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security today released an ethical framework for how to allocate and distribute a COVID-19 vaccine once it's been approved but is in limited supply.

While the decision about who gets the initial doses of the first approved vaccine in the United States is currently being discussed by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the National Academy of Medicine, the paper offers suggestions for groups that, based on publicly available information, would be ethically defensible to include as candidates for high-priority access.

The framework emphasizes three broad ethical values: promoting public health and economic and social well-being; justice, fairness, and equality; and legitimacy, trust, and a sense of community ownership of vaccine policy.

Based on these principles, the authors suggest two tiers of candidates to consider for high-priority access. Tier 1 includes those most essential for maintaining the COVID-19 response, those at greatest risk for severe illness and death and their caregivers, and those most essential to maintaining core societal functions.

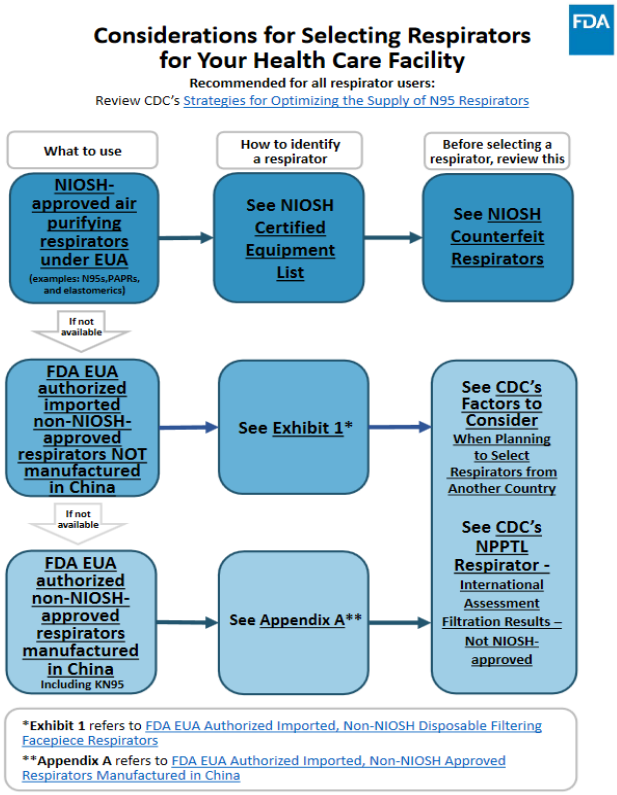
Tier 2—for when more vaccine supply becomes available—includes healthcare workers involved in broader health provision, people who face greater barriers to care if they become severely ill, those contributing to maintenance of core societal functions, and people whose living or working conditions put them at greater risk of infection. *Link to Aug 19 Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security report*

Administration limits FDA review of some corona tests
Policy change has been a major point of tension for weeks between HHS and FDA.
Learn more: https://www.politico.com/news/2020/08/19/trump-fda-review-coronavirus-tests-398924

-- From AHA Today for August 19, 2020 --

NIOSH releases assessment of non-NIOSH N95 respirators

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health today released a report summarizing the particulate filtration efficiency of non-NIOSH-approved N95 respirators made in other countries and authorized for emergency use during the COVID-19 public health emergency. The agency conducted 105 assessments of 102 models made by 87 manufacturers at the request of states, health care providers, non-health care employers, first responders and others. About 40% of the respirators tested below 95% particulate filtration efficiency for all units tested, 33% above 95% for all units tested, and 27% had mixed results. Based in part on these results, the Food and Drug Administration on May 7 removed 57 respirators from its international emergency use authorization list, the report notes. *[Note: The unauthorized models are made by: CTT Co. Ltd; Daddybaby Co. Ltd; Dongguan Xianda Medical Equipment Co. Ltd.; Guangdong Fei Fan Mstar Technology LTD; Guangdong Nuokang Medical Technology Co. Ltd.; Huizhou Huinuo Technology Co. Ltd.; and Lanshan Shendun Technology Co.]*



NIOSH Report: https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/ppecase/pdfs/PPE-CASE-P2020-0112-508.pdf

FDA on Chinese respirators no longer covered by EUA: https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/letters-health-care-providers/certain-filtering-facepiece-respirators-china-may-not-provide-adequate-respiratory-protection-letter

---

FDA releases tool to help facilities select respirators

The Food and Drug Administration yesterday released a resource to help U.S. health care providers select respirators for their health care facility. It includes a flowchart and information to help identify the emergency use authorization for specific types of respirators and the performance factors to consider for each type.

FDA selection resources: https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/coronavirus-covid-19-and-medical-devices/considerations-selecting-respirators-your-health-care-facility

NETEC Just in Time Training Videos

"N95 User Seal Check"

Link to video (2:40) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iy-6pUif-wY&feature=youtu.be

"Performing a Seal Check When Donning an N95 Mask"

Link to video (2:38) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CoSb-HJJ5tk

OTHER FIT TEST VIDEO RESOURCES

3M Qualitative Fit Test

Link to video (12:48) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xl4qX6qEYXU

Pharmacists can give childhood shots

(AP) Pharmacists in all 50 states are now allowed to give childhood vaccinations under a new directive aimed at preventing future outbreaks of measles and other preventable diseases. Alex Azar, the head of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, took the step using emergency powers he has during the U.S. coronavirus epidemic, which was declared a public health emergency. The directive announced Wednesday will temporarily preempt restrictions in 22 states starting this fall. The move is designed to help prevent vaccination rates from falling during the pandemic, Azar said.

Full story: https://apnews.com/6147846d7fc3e9e24c5da70d62f814de

---

Peaches may be linked to salmonella outbreak that has sickened 68 people in 9 states - *including KY*

(CNN) The US Food and Drug Administration is investigating a salmonella outbreak affecting 68 people in nine states that could be linked to tainted peaches. The bagged peaches were sold under the Wawona brand name in 2-pound clear, plastic bags at ALDI stores in 16 states starting on June 1.

ALDI has voluntarily recalled the peaches shipped to the following states: Connecticut, Iowa, Illinois, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Vermont, Wisconsin and West Virginia.

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has identified the peaches as the likely source of the salmonella infections, according to a news release from the FDA. "FDA's traceback investigation is ongoing to determine the full scope of product distribution and source of contamination," the agency said.

Full story: https://www.cnn.com/2020/08/20/health/peaches-recalled-salmonella-outbreak/index.html

***Related* - Salmonella outbreak linked to onions grows by more than 200 cases**

(CIDRAP News) A multistate *Salmonella* Newport outbreak linked to onions grew in the past week, with 229 new cases, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). According to the CDC, officials have confirmed 869 cases in 47 states, including 116 hospitalizations. No deaths have been recorded.

Aug 18 CDC update - Aug 19 FDA recall notice

CDC COVID-19 - What's New extracts

- Cases & Deaths by County Thursday, August 20, 2020
- CDC data show disproportionate COVID-19 impact in American Indian/Alaska Native populations Wednesday, August 19, 2020
- Clinical Mitigation (Non-US Settings) Wednesday, August 19, 2020
- Information for Pediatric Healthcare Providers Wednesday, August 19, 2020
- Toolkit for General Public Wednesday, August 19, 2020
- Staffing Resources Wednesday, August 19, 2020
- Interim COVID-19 Contact Tracing Communications Toolkit for Health Departments Wednesday, August 19, 2020
- Operational Considerations for Community Isolation Centers for COVID-19 in Low-Resource Settings Wednesday, August 19, 2020
- COVID-19 in Newly Resettled Refugee Populations Wednesday, August 19, 2020

Reminder - Earth Ex 2020 Final Facilitator Training Session TODAY
"How to Play EARTH EX"
Today - Aug 20, 2020 2:00 PM - 3 PM ET/2 PM CT
Register> How to Play EARTH EX

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

Virtual Town Hall Series- Immediately in Effect Guidance on Coronavirus (COVID-19) Diagnostic Tests
Wednesday, August 26, 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.

Webinar Series - FDA's Surgical Masks Umbrella EUA
Tuesday, September 1, at 12:00 pm ET Click here for connection information
Representatives from the FDA will host a webinar on the FDA's surgical masks umbrella emergency use authorization (EUA). The FDA issued this EUA on August 5, 2020, in response to concerns relating to insufficient supply and availability of disposable, single-use surgical masks during COVID-19. **To ensure you are connected, please dial in at 11:45 a.m.**

Some US States Mull Laws To Restrict Police Behavior

(From IACP News) The Wall Street Journal (8/19, Gershman, Subscription Publication) reports Democratic lawmakers in states across the nation are pushing legislation that would remove the liability shield for law-enforcement officers who engage in misconduct and limit their use of force. Police unions and law-enforcement groups say they are willing to consider some of the accountability proposals, such as restrictions on physical force, but say opening officers to lawsuits will hinder them from doing their job.

***Related* - Charleston, West Virginia To Hire Police Mental Health Coordinator**

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.