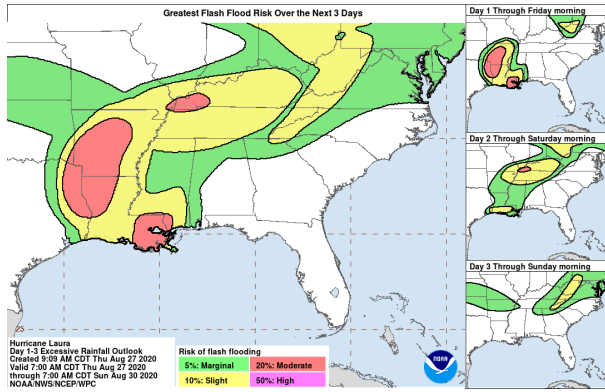




# Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update - 1 for August 27, 2020

## Hurricane Laura on land as Cat-1 Hurricane Battering Louisiana

(NWS Louisville) Isolated to scattered thunderstorms will develop this afternoon. The strongest storms will be capable of heavy rainfall and strong wind gusts. Storms should taper down shortly after sunset. Friday through Wednesday, showers and storms are expected Friday into Saturday as the remnants of Hurricane Laura



approach and move through the region. One to three inches of rainfall with locally higher amounts will be possible through Saturday, leading to the potential for localized flooding issues. Additionally, some of the stronger storms embedded within the rain bands of Laura may be capable of severe wind gusts and isolated, brief, spin up tornadoes. The severe threat would mainly occur Friday night.

(NWS Paducah) Friday through Wednesday, the remnants of Laura will cross the area Friday and Friday night, bringing torrential rainfall at times, which could result in flash flooding. A few strong to severe thunderstorms could also produce brief spin-up tornadoes and strong wind gusts. Outside of any storms, wind gusts near 35 mph will be possible.

Additional thunderstorms are possible Monday and Tuesday, with brief heavy rainfall and lightning as the main hazards.

(NWS Jackson) Thunderstorms are possible Friday into Saturday evening, and also at times from Monday through Wednesday. The remnants of Hurricane Laura will likely bring heavy rainfall Friday night into Saturday. Localized flooding will be a concern. The wind field associated with Hurricane Laura's remains will lead to gusts around 30 mph for much of the area Friday night into Saturday. In addition, there will be a potential for a spin up tornado or two as the system passes, mainly in the western parts of the Cumberland Valley.

**[NOTE: Emergency coordinators have a call this afternoon with NWS, and we will have an update later in the day with the latest.]**

### More Than 74,000 U.S. Children Have Tested Positive for Coronavirus in the Last 2 Weeks

*Pediatric cases of COVID-19 increased by 21 percent between Aug. 6-20*

Learn more: <https://people.com/health/more-than-74000-us-children-tested-positive-coronavirus-last-2-weeks/>

### KY Releases Updated Guidance on "Release from Isolation" & "Return to Work"

Yesterday, the Kentucky Department of Public Health (KDPH) updated their guidance for release from isolation and return to work. KDPH, consistent with CDC guidance, recommends a symptom-based strategy to determine resolution of COVID-19 clinical disease and likely infectivity. This guidance represents KDPH's best expert judgment on this date and will continue to evolve as understanding of COVID-19 improves.

Link to guidance: <https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/covid19/Guidanceforreleasefromisolation.pdf>

### Two-Dose Coronavirus Vaccine Shows Promise After Initial Testing Phase

(Newsweek) Newly released data from a preliminary trial of Moderna's two-dose vaccine candidate to prevent COVID-19 suggests that the vaccine could be safe for use across all age groups.

The company presented interim data from a Phase 1 trial of the vaccine during a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices meeting on Wednesday. The presentation included new data from two groups of participants, one aged 56 to 70 and another aged 71 and older, which suggested that the vaccine may be as effective among older people as it is for younger groups.

Moderna said that the vaccine was "generally safe and well-tolerated" among all age groups when given in two divided doses of 100 micrograms each, spaced 28 days apart. The vaccine caused the immune systems of the older participants to produce potentially virus-neutralizing antibodies at similar levels as were previously found in participants aged 18-55, while all participants receiving the vaccine produced more antibodies than those seen in people who have recovered from COVID-19.

Full story: <https://www.newsweek.com/two-dose-coronavirus-vaccine-shows-promise-after-initial-testing-phase-1527923>

**No-Lab Antigen Test; Don't Argue with Mask Refuseniks; Pandemic Child Predators-and more!**

Learn more: <https://www.medpagetoday.com/infectiousdisease/covid19/88291>

**CMS Rule Requires Nursing Home Staff to be Tested for COVID-19  
Non-compliant facilities could face fines in excess of \$400 per day**

(MedPage Today) An interim final rule from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) that requires all Medicare-certified nursing homes test their staff for COVID-19 is drawing mixed reviews from the homes.

"The pandemic has already cost nursing homes tens of thousands of lives and billions of dollars, as dedicated workers have been shouting for help from the front line," Katie Smith Sloan, president and CEO of LeadingAge, an association of nonprofit nursing homes, said in a statement. "Nursing homes will put the resources CMS announced today to good use. But the fight against this virus is far from over, and our members need continued support."

She added that "the antigen testing machines HHS [the Department of Health and Human Services] is delivering to nursing homes will help, but members who already have the machines report that they are still waiting for instructions and test kits to make them usable."

The [interim final rule issued Tuesday](#) calls for nursing homes to test all staff, although the frequency may vary even among staff members at a single facility. "We estimate that, based on the guidelines given regarding testing frequency, the criteria for conducting a test, and the response time for test result, not all staff will be tested on the same frequency," the regulation says. "For example, a third of the staff population could be tested weekly and two-thirds of the staff population could receive a test every ten days or monthly."

Read more: <https://www.medpagetoday.com/infectiousdisease/covid19/88285>

CMS Press Release: <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/trump-administration-strengthens-covid-19-surveillance-new-reporting-and-testing-requirements>



Join KSHE, IAHSS, and KSHPM for the 2020 Virtual Healthcare Coalition Conference. Network with colleagues and business partners and learn essential tools for successful healthcare management through presentations that support this year's theme: "Celebrating Healthcare Heroes." The HCC welcomes those who work in and service the following healthcare fields: Engineering/Facilities, Security/Safety and Purchasing/Materials Management.

The Healthcare Coalition Conference offers 4 education tracks available to attendees in various breakout sessions over the course of two days including:

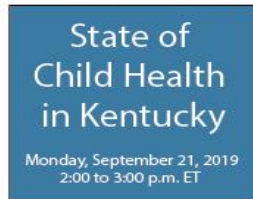
- ✓ Management and Leadership
- ✓ Security and Safety
- ✓ Materials Management
- ✓ Toolbelt (Hands-on-Training)

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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.