



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for October 2, 2020

President Trump and First Lady Test Positive for COVID-19

(MedPage Today) In the dark of night, in a tweet retweeted over 600,000 times in the first three hours in which it posted, Trump announced both he and first lady Melania Trump have tested positive for COVID-19, the disease he has publicly downplayed since the start of the pandemic and which has now killed over 207,000 people in the U.S.

According to a letter written by White House physician Sean Conley, DO, FACEP, Trump and his wife are both feeling well at this time, and they will stay at the White House during their quarantine and illness. Conley sought to assure the American public in his statement, saying "The White House medical team and I will maintain a vigilant watch, and I appreciate the support provided by some of our country's greatest medical professionals and institutions."

Trump may have contracted the disease from Hope Hicks, the aide who traveled with him aboard Air Force One both to and from the presidential debate on Tuesday. Hicks also accompanied Trump to his rally in Minnesota on Wednesday, and began developing symptoms late that day.

The potential ramifications to this are many: At the very least, Trump will be required to temporarily halt his campaign while he quarantines, and will miss the next presidential debate, planned for October 15. Longer term, should the President exhibit symptoms, under the 25th Amendment he would have the option to transfer power to Vice President Mike Pence while he recovers.

Contact tracing will involve the highest levels of U.S. government. As of Friday morning, Vice President Mike Pence and second lady Karen Pence have tested negative, according to [press secretary Devin O'Malley](#).

Sanjay Gupta, MD, said on *CNN* that "given the president's age and his pre-existing conditions, he's going to be at increased risk. But ... the odds are very much in his favor ... greater than 90%, 95% chance that he will get through this." Full story: <https://www.medpagetoday.com/infectiousdisease/covid19/88914>

Governor's COVID Update for October 1

(WKYT) Gov. Beshear reported 910 new COVID-19 cases on Thursday, bringing the state total to 69,728 cases. The governor says the state is seeing a 4.11 positivity rate. Of Thursday's new cases, 146 are in kids 18 or younger.

"Nine hundred and ten cases is hard, but today we're reporting 17 deaths. That's pretty sad when 17 is just the fifth highest day," said Gov. Beshear. "By the end of the week we will probably hit 1,200. When we have a lot of cases, sadly a lot of death follows. There are 17 families who have been struggling before today, but today, let's light our homes up green for them."

[The state has also released full guidelines for Halloween this year.](#) There are some key things: wearing masks at all times, sanitizing often, and maintaining social distancing. The state suggests folks place individually wrapped candy outside on the porch, driveway or table and cleaning your hands before and after touching wrapped candy. State officials suggest avoiding the following activities: trunk or treats, haunted houses, hayrides, traveling to fall festivals in neighboring towns, and events with large crowds.

Full story: <https://www.wkyt.com/2020/10/01/watch-live-gov-beshear-gives-update-on-covid-19/>

Press Release: <https://kentucky.gov/Pages/Activity-stream.aspx?n=GovernorBeshear&priid=391>

'Aerosol' vs. 'airborne' vs. 'droplets' amid COVID-19: What you need to know

(ABC) Conflicting messages from public health authorities have fueled a great deal of confusion over [COVID-19](#), particularly regarding its transmission. The terms "aerosol," "airborne" and "droplet" have made the rounds in attempts to explain how the novel coronavirus may spread, but without sufficient explanations of what they mean. Click here to see what you need to know: <https://abcnews.go.com/Health/aerosol-airborne-droplets-amid-covid-19/story?id=73250018>

Related story - COVID-19 spread freely aboard USS Theodore Roosevelt

Lessons learned from the outbreak may apply to other congregate settings

(CIDRAP) The COVID-19 outbreak on board the USS Theodore Roosevelt aircraft carrier that ultimately infected more than 1,200 sailors and killed one, leading to the firing of its captain and the resignation of the Navy's top official, shows how easily the virus spreads in close quarters, according to a [research letter](#) published today in *JAMA Network Open*.

In the case series, the US Army Public Health COVID-19 Task Force analyzed data from 736 of 4,800 USS Theodore Roosevelt sailors diagnosed as having COVID-19 and placed in isolation at Naval Base Guam from Mar 31 to Apr 15. Sailors who tested negative for coronavirus and those without symptoms were quarantined in single hotel rooms, and those who developed symptoms were moved to isolation.

The outbreak, which peaked on Mar 30 with 30 new cases and ultimately infected 25% of the crew members, involved 736 of the 4,085 sailors on board (18%) by mid-April. Of all infected sailors, 590 (80.2%) were symptomatic for a median of 7 days. The other 146 sailors remained without symptoms for the entire study period. Six sailors were hospitalized.

Median patient age was 25 years, and 572 (77.7%) were men. The most common symptom was cough, followed by cold-like symptoms, loss of smell, headache, loss of taste, and fever.

Read more: <https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2020/10/covid-19-spread-freely-aboard-uss-theodore-roosevelt-report-shows>

Hospitals to begin purchasing remdesivir directly from distributor

(From [AHA Today](#)) Beginning today, American hospitals can purchase Veklury (remdesivir) directly from the drug's distributor, the Department of Health and Human Services [announced](#). Due to limited supply, the federal government previously allocated and distributed the antiviral drug, authorized for emergency use to treat hospitalized adult and pediatric patients with suspected or laboratory-confirmed COVID-19.

Gilead Sciences, which makes the drug, [said](#) it is "now meeting real-time demand for Veklury in the United States and anticipates meeting global demand for Veklury in October, even in the event of potential future surges of COVID-19." To ensure stable management of drug supply in the near term, AmerisourceBergen will continue to serve as the sole U.S. distributor through the end of this year and will sell the product directly to hospitals, the company said. It said hospitals "will control the quantity of Veklury that they order, enabling them to have ample, predictable supply of Veklury in advance of any anticipated increase in COVID-19 incidence."

HHS Press Release: <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/10/01/veklury-remdesivir-available-directly-distributor-following-trump-administrations-successful-allocations.html>

US Officials Say Car Crash Deaths Increased Amid Coronavirus Pandemic

([IACP News](#)) The [Wall Street Journal](#) (10/1, Calvert, Subscription Publication) reports the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said Thursday that the rate of car crash deaths in the US rose to 1.25 per 100 million miles traveled as the coronavirus pandemic grew during the spring. The rise was propelled by a rise in risky behavior due to reduced police presence.

[Reuters](#) (10/1, Shepardson) says the NHTSA report found that even though the number of US traffic deaths dropped during the coronavirus lockdowns, the fatality rate as a result of riskier behavior increased to a 15-year-high. NHTSA found that "the stay-at-home orders may have led the population of drivers during the height of the health crisis to have been smaller but more willing to take risks."

The [AP](#) (10/1) reports NHTSA's Deputy Administrator James Owens "said the agency is encouraged by the overall declines, but concerned because of a trend since April of increased fatality rates." Owens said in a statement, "Now more than ever we should be watching ourselves for safe driving practices and encouraging others to do the same."

October 4, 2020 - Child Abuse *TEN-4 Day*

TEN-4 day is to increase awareness about the "TEN-4" rule in recognizing signs of possible child abuse, with TEN standing for torso, ears, and neck, and 4 for the age of the child.

Ten-4 Bruising Rule Information - Go to <https://faceitabuse.org/ten4rule/>

**Kentucky Receives \$1 Million Grant to Prevent Child Trafficking
*One of only four states to receive federal award***

The Kentucky Department for Community Based Services (DCBS) has received a \$1 million federal grant to prevent child trafficking and to provide support to survivors.

DCBS, an agency of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS), received the Improving Outcomes for Child and Youth Victims of Human Trafficking award as part of the U.S. Department of Justice's (DOJ) \$101 million national investment to combat and research human trafficking through specific programming to enhance local and state services.

Gov. Andy Beshear said the three-year grant will help state government work with its social services and law enforcement partners to provide critical resources.

"I have been fighting human trafficking – and especially trafficking of children –since I served as Kentucky's Attorney General," he said. As Governor, I remain committed to protecting children and youth and to serving those who have been victimized by this heinous crime. This grant will help us to seek justice and create a well-supported network of services that support survivors and promote healing."

Kentucky is one of only four states to receive DOJ's Improving Outcomes for Child and Youth Victims of Human Trafficking program award. The grants will enhance coordinated, statewide approaches to at-risk populations to improve outcomes for children and youth who are victims of human trafficking.

Press release: <https://chfs.ky.gov/News/Documents/nrchildtrafficking.pdf>

October 4-10 Fire Prevention Week (FPW)

2020 Campaign - "*Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!*" works to educate everyone about the simple but important actions they can take to keep themselves, and those around them, safe in the kitchen.

Did you know? Cooking is the #1 cause of home fires and home fire injuries. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of fires in the kitchen. Learn More at <https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Staying-safe/Preparedness/Fire-Prevention-Week>

US Justice Department Denies Portland, Oregon Mayor's Request To End Federal Deputation Of Police Officers

([IACP News](#)) [Fox News](#) (9/30, Casiano) reports, "The Justice Department has rejected a request from Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler to end to the federal program that deputized of dozens of police officers in the U.S. Marshals who are part of the city's response to ongoing protests. 'The U.S. Marshal will not cancel the cross-deputation of local and state law enforcement officers,' read a joint statement from Billy Williams, the U.S. Attorney for the District of Oregon, and district U.S. Marshal Russ Burger, the U.S. Marshall for the district. 'Law enforcement and law-abiding citizens of Portland have endured months of nightly criminal violence and destruction.'" The statement "added that the deputation of Oregon State Police, Multnomah County Sheriff and Portland Police Bureau serves as a deterrence for those looking to commit criminal acts amid more than 100 consecutive nights of protests in the city that have routinely turned violent."

AP Analysis: Police Departments In US Cities Calling For "Defunding" Seeing Only Modest Cuts

([IACP News](#)) The [AP](#) (10/1, Mulvihill) reports, "The racial justice protests following the death of George Floyd earlier this year prompted calls to 'defund the police' in cities across the country, a priority for activists that has now become a central point in the presidential contest." A review by The AP "finds that while local governments have trimmed police budgets over the past four months, the cuts have been mostly modest" and "have been driven as much by shrinking government revenue related to the coronavirus pandemic as from the calls to rethink public safety." In "Minneapolis, Seattle and Portland, Oregon, all hotspots for protests and counter protests, the calls for deep police cuts have been answered with modest ones," and "even in liberal enclaves such as Austin, Texas, and Berkeley, California, where officials have embraced sweeping changes to policing, implementation is slow-going and uncertain."

Spotty internet? You probably need a mesh WiFi system - here's why...

Learn more: <https://news360.com/article/539040071>

October 18-24 - National Teen Driver Safety Week

This week - and every week, parents should have conversations with their teens about the important rules they need to follow to stay safe behind the wheel of a motor vehicle. These rules address the greatest dangers for teen drivers: alcohol, inconsistent or no seat belt use, distracted and drowsy driving, speeding, and number of passengers. Learn more at <https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/teen-safety/national-teen-driver-safety-week>

Learn about **Kentucky's Checkpoints Program**. It is available for communities/schools/organizations to implement to promote teen driver safety. The program is free and financial support is available to assist with implementation. Learn more at <https://kspan.egnyte.com/dl/TcDYGfPeS8>

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.