



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for October 3, 2020

Govs. Beshear, Holcomb order flags at half-staff Sunday for National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service

Learn more: <https://www.wave3.com/2020/10/03/govs-beshear-holcomb-order-flags-half-staff-sunday-national-fallen-firefighters-memorial-service/>

Kentucky Reports 1,275 new COVID-19 cases, 8 deaths reported Saturday

Gov. Andy Beshear on Saturday updated Kentuckians on the state's continuing efforts to fight the novel coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19). Today, he reported the highest-ever daily total and the highest-ever weekly total of new COVID-19 cases in the commonwealth.

"I know it's been a tough couple of days, seeing the President, the First Lady, U.S. Senators, Cam Newton and others test positive for COVID-19. But right here in the commonwealth, we now have 1,275 new cases announced today, meaning 1,275 Kentuckians have just tested positive," said Gov. Beshear. "This is our highest number of cases ever. This is the highest number of cases per week ever and we have one more day that will add to the count, and it shows that we have to do better."

As of 3 p.m. Oct. 3, Gov. Beshear said there were at least 72,001 coronavirus cases in Kentucky, 1,275 of which were newly reported Saturday. Of the newly reported cases, 166 were from children age 18 and younger, with 27 age five and younger. The youngest was just two months old.

Unfortunately, Gov. Beshear reported eight new deaths Saturday. The total of Kentuckians now lost to the virus is 1,205. The positivity rate was 4.74%.

Press release: <https://kentucky.gov/Pages/Activity-stream.aspx?n=GovernorBeshear&prId=394>

No Moderna Coronavirus Vaccine Until Next Spring

Learn more: <https://news360.com/article/539153744>

***Related* – Worse case COVID scenario: We have a vaccine no one will take!**

(Boston Herald) The worst case scenario when it comes to a potential COVID-19 vaccine is if people don't want to take it, a Harvard expert and former Obama health secretary said, which would make the pandemic last "indefinitely."

"Here is the nightmarish scenario — that we have a safe and highly effective COVID-19 vaccine ... and then because distrust is so high and lack of confidence is so high, no one wants to take it and that is just not going to be acceptable," said Dr. Howard Koh, former assistant secretary for health for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Read more: <https://www.bostonherald.com/2020/10/02/harvard-expert-worst-case-covid-vaccine-scenario-is-if-people-dont-take-it/>

US researcher develop low-cost sensor that rapidly detects Corvid

In ray of hope to identify asymptomatic people, researchers in the US have developed a new test with a low-cost sensor that may enable the at-home diagnosis of a Covid infection through rapid analysis of small volumes of saliva or blood, without the involvement of a medical professional, in less than 10 minutes.

When attached to supporting electronics, the sensor can wirelessly transmit data to the user's cell phone through Bluetooth technology.

The team at California Institute of technology developed this multiplexed test (a test that combines multiple kinds of data) with a low-cost sensor developed in the lab of Wei Gao, assistant professor in the Andrew and Peggy Cherng department of medical engineering.

Named 'SARS-CoV-2 RapidPlex,' the sensor contains antibodies and proteins that allow it to detect the presence of the virus itself, antibodies created by the body to fight the virus, and chemical markers of inflammation, which indicate the severity of the [Covid-19](#) infection.

Read more: <https://www.prokerala.com/news/articles/a1088483.html>

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.