



# Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for November 10, 2020

## Kentucky Announces Thanksgiving COVID-19 Guidance and COVID Update

(WFPL) State officials are asking Kentuckians to avoid in-person gatherings this Thanksgiving as both the state and nation monitor spiraling infection rates of COVID-19.

The word “sacrifice” crossed Beshear’s lips not once, not twice but at least three times as he implored Kentuckians do what is necessary this year to ensure their loved ones sit across the table from them at Thanksgiving in years to come.

“We ought to celebrate our blessings, we ought to be able to be in touch with each other through Zoom, but we ought to be thankful for having the knowledge of how to protect those around us,” Beshear said. “And so you know what? 2020 [has] been tough on a lot of things and it’s going to be a little rough on your Thanksgiving gathering, but we are asking you, pleading with you, to do it right.”

Kentucky issued the following [guidance for Thanksgiving](#):

- Avoid in-person gatherings with people who do not live in your household
- Always wear a face covering or mask
- Maintain a social distance of at least six feet or more
- Avoid large gatherings, especially those held indoors
- Do not host or attend crowded parades.
- Avoid shopping in crowded stores

Today’s COVID numbers:

- 2120 New Cases – Highest Tuesday; 5th highest day
- 124,646 total cases
- Positivity rate is 7.68%
- New deaths reported today: 14; Total is now 1,590

Full WFPL story: <https://wfpl.org/kentucky-announces-thanksgiving-covid-19-guidance/>

*[NOTE: Due to Veterans Day, there will not be a live update by the Governor. Look for a posted update.]*

### Louisville Metro Health increasing COVID-19 Compliance Inspections

(WLKY) The Louisville Metro Health Department is cracking down on COVID-19 compliance and inspection work at bars, restaurants and other businesses in the city, according to Mayor Greg Fischer. A COVID-19 assessment will be integrated into any environmental inspection.

The health department is quadrupling the amount of surveillance during peak times, such as weekends and evenings, to better gauge compliance at bars and restaurants. Some inspections will be unannounced, officials say.

Concerning Thanksgiving, Health Director Dr. Sarah Moyer encouraged families to avoid travel and large gatherings

Story link: <https://www.wlky.com/article/health-department-increasing-covid-19-compliance-inspections-at-louisville-businesses/34631961#>

### What we know - and don't - about Pfizer's promising vaccine results

(Politico) Read more: <https://www.politico.com/news/2020/11/09/pfizer-coronavirus-vaccine-effective-435304>

### COVID CPR Safety Measures Don't Lessen Survival

(Drugs.com) The effectiveness of CPR isn't compromised when EMS crews and others take recommended safety precautions against the new [coronavirus](#), researchers say. Interim guidance issued by the American Heart Association and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says health care providers should take extra precautions during the pandemic. That includes using personal protective equipment and other protocols when administering cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) to patients at risk of [cardiac arrest](#). This guidance has been widely adopted during emergencies involving patients with known or suspected COVID-19.

But concerns have also been raised about whether the guidance puts added strain on health care providers and whether the use of additional protective equipment reduces the effectiveness of CPR.

To answer those questions, the researchers analyzed outcomes among patients who received CPR at a Kentucky medical center (University of Louisville) from March to May of 2019 and between March and June 2020. On average, CPR continued for significantly more time for the COVID-19 patients. But there was no significant difference in survival rates during the event that required CPR (for example, a heart or breathing emergency): 50% among those with COVID-19 and 64% among those without COVID-19.

However, only one patient with COVID-19 (10%) survived to hospital discharge, compared to 25% of patients without COVID-19, the study found.

Outcomes for patients in 2019 and 2020 were similar, which suggests that additional safety precautions taken by health care professionals because of the pandemic don't harm the quality of CPR, the researchers concluded.

Full story: <https://www.drugs.com/news/covid-cpr-safety-measures-don-t-lesser-survival-study-93891.html>

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**Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines**  
Extracts from **November 10, 2020**

**Characteristics of Hospitalized COVID-19 Patients Discharged and Experiencing Same-Hospital Readmission — United States, March–August 2020** (MMWR)

COVID-19 is a complex clinical illness with potential complications that might require ongoing clinical care. Using electronic health record and administrative data from the Premier Healthcare Database, CDC assessed patterns of hospital discharge, readmission, and demographic and clinical characteristics associated with hospital readmission after a patient's initial COVID-19 hospitalization.

**First It Was Masks; Now Some Refuse Testing for SARS-CoV-2** (JAMA) In the pandemic's early weeks, when a shortage of tests meant that mainly hospitalized patients were being tested, the demand was greater than the supply. Months later, laboratories have greater testing capacity, but in some states, testing rates have dropped as cases have increased.

**How Might a Mask Mandate Play Out? Look to the Battle Over Seat Belt Laws** (STAT) In the end, what worked with seat belts were efforts by public health advocates, financial incentives, state level mandates, enforcement, solid research, and concerted effective public health messaging — all activities that are possible with masks.

**Eli Lilly's Antibody Treatment Gets Emergency F.D.A. Approval** (New York Times) The authorization raised immediate questions about who would get access to the antibody treatments, which are in short supply.

**Brazil Halts Trials of Chinese COVID-19 Vaccine** (Al Jazeera) Brazil's health regulator said on Monday it had suspended clinical trials of an experimental Chinese COVID-19 vaccine after an "adverse incident" involving one of the volunteers, in a surprise to the trial organisers who said that while there had been a death it was not related to the vaccine.

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**Battelle N95 Decon System Going Offline in KY Nov 30th**

(From Commissioner Stack Letter 11/9/20) Federal support for the Battelle Critical Care Decontamination System deployed for N95 mask decontamination system will soon cease. There is no additional funding to support continued operation of the system so it will be discontinued effective **December 1, 2020**. November 30, 2020 will be the last day for masks to be received for processing. Any masks received on or after December 1, 2020 will be discarded.

**State Expands Crisis Services for Kentuckians at Risk of Suicide**

(From Press Release) The Kentucky Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental, and Intellectual Disabilities (DBHDID), an agency of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS), today announced an additional Community Mental Health Center (CMHC) has been added to the list of accredited agencies serving as National Suicide Prevention Lifeline call centers within the state.

Pathways, Inc., a CMHC which serves Bath, Boyd, Carter, Elliott, Greenup, Lawrence, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan and Rowan counties, recently completed the accreditation process and is now providing call center services for all Kentuckians. Kentuckians can reach the NSPL by dialing 1-800-273-8255 (TALK).

Calls to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline by Kentucky residents have increased 3% for 2020, compared to the same period in 2019.

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.