



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Update #1 to the Emergency Preparedness Update for December 2, 2020

Governor Beshear reports Deadliest Day of Pandemic; Highest Positivity Rate

(WKYT) Governor Andy Beshear provided an update on COVID-19 cases this afternoon, and reported 3,601 new COVID-19 cases on Wednesday, bringing the state total to 186,765 cases. The governor says the state is seeing a 9.62 percent positivity rate. Of Wednesday's new cases, 379 are in kids 18 or younger.

There were 37 reported COVID-19 related deaths on Wednesday, making it Kentucky's deadliest day. The state death total is now 1,980.

As of Wednesday, 1,768 people are hospitalized for COVID-19 related reasons, 427 are in the ICU, and 234 are on ventilators. [Note there is a link on the WKYT site, or the direct YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/BiOhf51PVJw>]

The Governor's Press Release will be posted here: <https://governor.ky.gov/news>

The KDPH Covid-19 Daily Summary is: <https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/covid19/COVID19DailyReport.pdf>

CDC Announces Alternatives to 14-day Quarantine

Over 65 with health conditions – avoid any indoor spaces where people are unmasked

(ABC) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Wednesday announced alternatives to its two-week recommended quarantine for people who have been exposed to COVID-19.

Quarantine can now end after 10 days without a test if the individual has not reported any symptoms, or after seven days with a negative COVID-19 test and no reported symptoms, said Henry Walke, the CDC's COVID-19 incident manager.

Walke said the move "may make it easier for people to take this critical public health action by reducing the economic hardship associated with a longer period, especially if they cannot work during that time." People should continue to monitor for symptoms for the full 14 days after being exposed to the virus "especially if quarantine is discontinued early," he said.

A 14-day quarantine remains the best way to prevent spread, according to the CDC. Walke added, "Everyone should follow this specific guidance from their local public health authorities about how long they should quarantine."

New link to CDC Guidance 12/2/20:

Options to Reduce Quarantine for Contacts of Persons with SARS-CoV-2 Infection Using Symptom Monitoring and Diagnostic Testing

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/more/scientific-brief-options-to-reduce-quarantine.html>

Risk at 'historic high,' White House Task Force warns

In this week's briefing for governors, the White House Coronavirus Task Force urged all Americans over the age of 65 or with significant health conditions to avoid "any indoor public spaces where anyone is unmasked."

The briefing said those under 40 years old who saw anyone outside their household for Thanksgiving should assume they're infected and must isolate. "The COVID risk to all Americans is at a historic high," according to the briefing, which was obtained by ABC News.

Source: https://abcnews.go.com/Health/live-updates/coronavirus/?id=74456908&cid=clicksource_4380645_4_three_posts_card_hed#74505488

Stay home for the holidays or get tested twice, CDC urges

(AP) Health officials on Wednesday urged Americans to stay home over the upcoming holiday season and consider getting tested for coronavirus before and after if they do decide to travel.

The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said that the best way to stay safe and protect others is to stay home.

That's the same advice they had over Thanksgiving but many Americans traveled anyway. With COVID-19 cases and deaths continuing to rise, the CDC added the testing option.

During a news briefing, the CDC said travelers should consider getting COVID-19 tests one to three days before their trips and again three to five days afterward. They also recommended reducing non-essential activities for a full week after travel or for 10 days if not tested afterward.

Source: <https://www.usnews.com/news/health-news/articles/2020-12-02/stay-home-for-the-holidays-or-get-tested-twice-cdc-urges>

InfraGard Webinar

Hosted by San Diego InfraGard's Education Sector

It Can Be Done: Safely Reopening K-12 Schools During COVID-19

Thursday, December 10, 2020 from 8:30 – 10 a.m. PST (11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. EST)

Registration: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1826257338996738317>

ASPR TRACIE Crisis Standards of Care and COVID-19 Webinar *SOLD OUT!*

If you were intending to sign-up for this HHS ASPR TRACIE webinar on Thursday, December 3rd, be advised that it has become such a sought after subject that the webinar is “sold out” in less than one day. ASPR TRACIE is recording the program, and has advised that they will be posting it tomorrow evening. **We will share that information when it becomes available.**

If you missed the program information which came out yesterday, and you are interested in this topic, here is a brief synopsis. The COVID-19 pandemic has forced many healthcare systems to adopt crisis practices that would normally be considered a compromise to usual standards of care. Crisis Standards of Care (CSC) are policy, regulatory, and systems changes implemented when the duration of crisis care practices is prolonged. Many scarce resource allocation strategies have been necessary during COVID-19. Reducing the burden on healthcare systems, healthcare coalitions, and state and regional response agencies is critical to minimizing resource scarcity impacts in a given area.

ASPR TRACIE hosted this webinar to discuss clinical consultation versus triage support, systems-level information sharing, coalition-level coordination activities, and recent publications/resources to help with planning efforts. Speakers (listed in alphabetical order):

- Dan Hanfling, MD, Vice President, Technical Staff, In-Q-Tel; Clinical Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, The George Washington University
- John Hick, MD, Hennepin Healthcare (MN)
- Eric Toner, MD, Senior Scholar, Senior Scientist, Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security

Included with the flyer posting was a document that came from New York's hospitals, “[CSC: Lessons Learned from New York City Hospitals' COVID-19 Experience](#)” ASPR TRACIE also has other resources that may be of value. [ASPR TRACIE COVID-19 CSC Resources](#)

If we have piqued your interest, watch for information tomorrow evening on how to go to the recording.

From Johns Hopkins: Center for Health Security

[Capitol Hill Steering Committee Webinar \(12/9\): Implementation of Mass Vaccination Campaigns in a Pandemic: Challenges and Opportunities during COVID-19](#)

Join them on December 9 at 11am (ET) for the Capitol Hill Steering Committee on Pandemic Preparedness and Health Security webinar: Implementation of Mass Vaccination Campaigns in a Pandemic: Challenges and Opportunities during COVID-19. In the recent weeks there has been exciting news from the COVID-19 vaccine trials, bolstering hopes that the vaccines will bring the pandemic under control. This session will focus on the implementation of mass vaccination programs. We will discuss the challenges and opportunities at the local, state and national levels to maximize the effectiveness and equity of the impending COVID-19 vaccination effort.

[Researcher Finds Evictions Are Associated With More Than 10,000 Deaths From COVID-19](#) (NPR) The national moratorium on evictions expires in December. NPR's Mary Louise Kelly talks with researcher Kathryn Leifheit, who linked evictions to increased coronavirus infections and deaths.

[Prisons Are Covid-19 Hotbeds. When Should Inmates Get the Vaccine?](#) (New York Times) They live in crowded conditions, sharing bathrooms and eating facilities where social distancing is impossible. They have high rates of asthma, diabetes and heart disease. Many struggle with mental illness. A disproportionate number are Black and Hispanic, members of minority communities that have been hard hit by the coronavirus pandemic. So should prisoners and other detainees be given priority access to one of the new Covid-19 vaccines?

[Democratic Senators Urge Funding for States to Distribute COVID-19 Vaccine](#) (Homeland Preparedness News) A group of Democratic U.S. senators recently urged Congressional leaders to provide funding to ensure the swift distribution of COVID-19 vaccines.

The KHEREF 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 Preparedness@kyha.com (include your current email address). The preparedness program for the Kentucky Hospital Association (KHA) and KHEREF are supported by US DHHS ASPR HPP funds through a contract with Kentucky Public Health.