



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for December 8, 2020

(From [Press Release](#)) Gov. Andy Beshear heralded some positive signs in Kentucky's fight against the coronavirus: Daily, week-over-week positive cases fell by 1,000 Tuesday and the commonwealth surpassed more than 3 million COVID-19 tests administered.

As of 4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8, Gov. Beshear reported the following COVID-19 numbers:

- ✓ New cases today: 3,114
- ✓ New deaths today: 20
- ✓ Positivity rate: 9.56%
- ✓ Total deaths: 2,102
- ✓ Currently hospitalized: 1,760
- ✓ Currently in ICU: 416
- ✓ Currently on ventilator: 207

The Governor noted that different Kentucky regions have between 54% and 87% of hospital beds already in use; in addition, Kentucky regions have between 61% and 96% of ICU beds already filled.

KY Public Health Updates Hospitals on vaccine Distribution Wednesday

Focus areas:

- Vaccine Development Overview – Dr. Stack
- Hospital Onboarding Update – Team
- Ordering and Fulfillment – Team
- Administration related issues – Team
- Initial vaccines, quantities and phased-deployment – Dr. Stack
- Q&A – Dr. Stack & team

Wednesday, December 9th, 9:30 AM ET/8:30 AM CT

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 878 6194 4289

Passcode: 2501

One tap mobile: +13017158592,,87861944289#,,,,,0#,,2501# US

Dial in: 929-205-6099 US (New York)

Immunity for Administering Vaccines

A vaccine for COVID-19 is a "covered countermeasure" to which the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness or PREP Act immunity will apply provided that the other conditions are satisfied. The PREP Act authorizes the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue a Declaration to provide liability immunity under federal and state law to certain individuals and entities against any claim of loss caused by, arising out of, relating to, or resulting from the manufacture, distribution, administration, or use of certain medical countermeasures (e.g., a vaccine). The liability immunity extends to claims under both federal and state law. The liability immunity does not provide protection for death or serious injury caused by willful misconduct. The Secretary issued a PREP Declaration on March 10, 2020, with respect to COVID-19. The PREP Act provides that a person covered by this PREP Act immunity includes a physician or other health care professional who administers a vaccine within the scope of his or her practice under state law.

[CDC Vaccination Playbook](#) (See page 56)

Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines Extracts from December 8, 2020

[Britain Launches the West's First Mass Coronavirus Vaccination — With a Maggie and a William Shakespeare First in Line](#) (*Washington Post*) It took barely a second. She rolled up her sleeve and Britain's Margaret Keenan became on Tuesday the first person to receive the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine shot outside of clinical trials, as the first mass coronavirus immunization campaign in the West began.

['So Many Unknowns': Local Doctors—and Pharmacies—Will Still Decide who Gets COVID-19 Vaccines](#) (*Science*) Converting recommendations into practice at the hospital, clinic, or pharmacy level presents many quandaries, especially when it's not yet clear how many doses will go to each location.

[Pfizer's Vaccine Offers Strong Protection After First Dose](#) (*New York Times*) The Food and Drug Administration's first analysis of the clinical trial data also found that the coronavirus vaccine worked well regardless of a volunteer's race, weight or age.

[C.D.C. Call for Data on Vaccine Recipients Raises Alarm Over Privacy](#) (*New York Times*) The Trump administration is requiring states to submit personal data — including names, birth dates and addresses — of Covid-19 vaccine recipients.

[New COVID-19 Data Release Shows Where Hospitals Around The Country Are Filling Up](#) (*NPR*) The information provides nationwide data on hospital capacity and bed use at a hospital-by-hospital level. This is the first time the federal agency has released the COVID-19 hospital data it collects at the facility level. Previously, HHS only released data aggregated at the state level.

Two Lessons Hospitals Can Learn From Their COVID Response

(MedPage) Although hospitals and healthcare systems prepare plans for disasters, such as tsunamis or earthquakes, the onset of COVID last spring revealed many were ill-prepared to mobilize in response to a global pandemic, particularly in the allocation of resources and provider supports.

Two vexing challenges, in particular, have emerged:

1. Implementing an effective incident command center designed to orchestrate a system-wide, coordinated response to the pandemic; and second,
2. Providing just-in-time learning for providers to ensure they have the training, knowledge, and skills necessary to ensure caretaker safety and optimal patient care.

Full story: <https://www.medpagetoday.com/hospitalbasedmedicine/generalhospitalpractice/90056>

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 Preparedness@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.