



# Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for December 28, 2020

## KY COVID-19 Update

The Governor reported 1,455 new cases today, with 8 new deaths. There are 1,552 hospitalized, with 411 in the ICU, and 217 on a vent. The positivity rate is 7.97%. He noted that these numbers could be off a little due to communications issues in some part of the state due to the AT&T communication issues caused by the Nashville bombing.

Watch the full briefing: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3p7BJZB4YJ8>

### Vaccine Administration Site Reminders

- ✓ The amount of vaccine you will receive for the following week will be recorded in KYIR. (Per KDPH)
- ✓ Vaccinating sites should examine the contents of the administration kits carefully as these items will likely be different from your usual supplies.
  - Care should be taken to assure that all staff who will be administering vaccine are trained in the specific items, e.g., some needles are not safety needles. This may require amendment to hospital policies.
  - Please assure all instructions are followed.
- ✓ Please displace air in the syringe as instructed in order to avoid excess pressure and loss and subsequent wastage of vaccine.
- ✓ This vaccine is to be given IM and not SC. This means pay attention to patient size and needle length.
- ✓ For clinical questions related to the Moderna vaccine, please make use of their help line. 1-866-Moderna

ALSO – See Memo from Dr. Stack on prioritizing those to be vaccinated that is attached below. In the daily call today he set-out guidance for Kentucky about who is in Phase 1a and 1b:

Phase 1a: LTC facility residents/staff; Alternative Care facility residents/staff; healthcare personnel in clinical settings (inpatient, outpatient, dental, home-based)

Phase 1b: Persons => 70 y/o, 1st responders; K-12 school personnel.

### Still Disinfecting Surfaces? It Might Not Be Worth It

<https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2020/12/28/948936133/still-disinfecting-surfaces-it-might-not-be-worth-it>

### AT&T Updates Nashville Recovery Efforts

The majority of services have been restored in Nashville following Friday's explosion. Our mobility network is now operating normally, nearly all home internet and video customers have been restored and business customers are coming back online. As a reminder, they are [waiving data overage charges for customers](#) in 1166 zip codes across states like Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana, Alabama, Georgia, Illinois and Missouri from December 27 to December 31.

As of late Sunday evening, adequate power is available on most floors of the building. They continue to manage power needs to prevent overloading the generators supporting their equipment. Their teams have been closely monitoring temperatures in the building as well to keep equipment running. Plans are being developed today to begin restoring commercial power on some floors.

Recovery work will continue today to address the few remaining services and customers that still may be impacted by this event. Twenty-three of our disaster recovery technology and support trailers arrived in Nashville yesterday. This equipment will be critical as we maintain service and make repairs in the days ahead.

They still have 11 portable cell sites running in the region to support customers and first responders. They have begun to turn down portable sites that are no longer needed given the recovery of service, but will have resources standing by in the region as needed. AT&T will continue to provide additional updates here as our recovery progresses. [https://about.att.com/pages/disaster\\_relief/nashville.html](https://about.att.com/pages/disaster_relief/nashville.html)

### **Related - Investigators are looking at 'any and all possible motives' after identifying Nashville bomber**

(CNN) Investigators are looking at "any and all possible motives" in the Nashville explosion after [identifying the bomber as Anthony Quinn Warner](#).

Warner, a 63-year-old described by one neighbor as a loner, died when his recreational vehicle exploded early Christmas morning on 2nd Avenue North in the city's downtown. The blast injured at least eight people and damaged more than 40 buildings, including an AT&T transmission facility that provides wireless service to much of the region.

Before the explosion, the RV broadcast a computerized female voice repeatedly warning that a bomb would explode in minutes and directing people to evacuate. The RV also broadcast Petula Clark's 1964 hit "Downtown," a song about how the bustle of downtown can cure a lonely person's troubles.

Upon hearing the warnings, officers went from door to door [evacuating residents](#), likely saving many from serious injury. The RV exploded at 6:30 a.m. -- just moments after one [officer left the immediate area](#).

FBI agent Doug Korneski said investigators are interviewing people who knew him to try to learn a possible motive. There is no indication that anybody else was involved, he said. Warner's father previously worked for AT&T, Tennessee Bureau of Investigation director David Rausch confirmed Monday. He said investigators are looking into whether that may be relevant to the motive behind the bombing.

Full CNN story with more detail: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/12/28/us/nashville-bomb-christmas-monday/index.html>

***Related FOX story - Feds investigate whether Nashville bomber motivated by 'paranoia over 5G technology***

<https://fox8.com/news/after-naming-suspect-in-nashville-bombing-focus-turns-to-motive/>

**Related NEWSER Story – Copycat Incident in Tennessee Highway Shut Down After Truck Broadcasts Disturbing Message**

<http://newser.com/s300559>

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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](mailto: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.




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Eric C. Friedlander  
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Steven J. Stack, MD  
Commissioner

**To:** All Kentucky Clinical-Setting Healthcare Personnel  
**From:** Steven J. Stack, MD  
Commissioner for Public Health   
**Date:** December 28, 2020  
**Re:** COVID-19 Immunization

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Thank you for your commitment to the people of Kentucky. Your compassion for your patients and our citizens during these trying times is testament to your dedication to the healing arts.

The CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) includes healthcare personnel in phase 1a of COVID-19 vaccine deployment. There is ambiguity as to 'high risk' HCP vs. other HCP. In Kentucky, all HCPs working in clinical settings (i.e. places where patient care occurs), regardless of occupational role, are eligible for phase 1a immunization.

The new vaccines are modern medical miracles; they are also extremely limited in quantity, uncommonly difficult to handle, and in exceedingly high demand. Deployment of these vaccines is a complicated federal, state, and local public-private undertaking in which even the best intentions and planning will not avert uncertainties, frustrations, and missteps along the way – particularly at the start. Given the hope for recovery these vaccines offer, however, these are challenges we are grateful to confront.

In light of the above, I ask for your leadership in setting a positive example for the millions of Kentuckians who must wait to follow HCP in later phases as 2021 unfolds. This is very important as we ramp up vaccine administration sites, receive larger quantities of vaccine, and enlist an expanding array of partners to reach eligible persons in a manner aligned as closely as possible with the phasing plan.

Phase 1a HCP are a large population, but it is our concrete goal and hope that the vast majority of clinical-setting HCP will have been begun the immunization series before the end of January 2021. More information will be soon forthcoming. As this group is already at the very front of the line, I thank you for modeling patience and reassurance during the start-up time necessary for this complex task.

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