



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for February 4, 2021

February is [Earthquake Awareness Month](#)

{Did you know that the last KY earthquake was an [M-2 January 18 at 3:44 AM](#) near La Center, KY?}

----- KY COVID Update

The Governor said the supply from the federal government remains limited and that is a barrier to vaccinating more Kentuckians more quickly, but he continues to push for more doses and to establish more sites and programs to speed up vaccinations as more doses arrive in the commonwealth.

There were 2,500 new cases reported today, with 432 18 or under. The positivity rate is 8.37%. Three were 58 new deaths recorded, for a total of 3,921.

1,340 are currently hospitalized with COVID-19, with 368 in the ICU and 171 on vents. Regions 4, 7 and 8 have ICU capacity in use over 82%; and Region 10 is at 97.78%.

To view the [full daily report](#) on COVID, [incidence rate map](#), information on [testing locations](#), [vaccines](#), [contact tracing](#), [school reports and guidance](#), [guidance for health care providers](#) and the White House Coronavirus Task Force reports for Kentucky and more, visit kycovid19.ky.gov.

To watch the briefing today (49 minutes) go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4BZEIjx3BE8> Run the slider bck to the beginning for the who program.

----- Moderna Moves to Put More COVID-19 Vaccine Doses in Each Vial

There are potential downsides to putting more vaccine in each vial

(HealthDay News) -- A decision on whether to allow Moderna to increase the number of doses in its vials of COVID-19 vaccine is expected from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration within a few weeks.

The Moderna vaccine is one of two approved COVID-19 vaccines in the United States, and boosting the number of doses in its vials could increase vaccination rates across the nation, *The New York Times* reported. The company would like to bump the number of doses in its vials from 10 to as many as 15.

While it has discussed the proposed change with the FDA, Moderna has not yet provided the agency with manufacturing data to support it, people familiar with the discussions said, *The Times* reported. The FDA may be open to the idea of permitting more doses in each vial but may not be willing to approve a 50 percent increase, the newspaper said.

Read more: <https://consumer.healthday.com/moderna-wants-to-increase-number-of-doses-in-covid-19-vaccine-vials-2650256748.html>

----- States Begin to Incorporate Children into their COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Plans

In a new blog post, the National Academy for State Health Policy describes how states are beginning to incorporate children in their COVID-19 vaccine distribution plans in preparation for when a vaccine is authorized for children under age 16. The federal Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) is currently [discussing](#) vaccine trials in pediatric populations and has indicated it [may update](#) its recommendations once a vaccine is authorized for children under age 16. Meanwhile, several states have already identified a distribution phase for children in their current plans.

Youth age 12 and older have just begun [enrolling](#) in vaccine trials. If the vaccine is authorized for this age group, it will next be [tested](#) in a younger pediatric population. While there have been [barriers](#) to clinical trials for the vaccine in this population and the timeline is unclear, it will be months before any children under age 16 are eligible for vaccination.

The blog post was produced as part of HRSA's cooperative agreement with National Organizations of State and Local Officials. Read the full HASHP posting: <https://www.nashp.org/states-begin-to-incorporate-children-into-their-covid-19-vaccine-distribution-plans/>

----- Adults 20 to 49 may have driven 72% of US COVID-19 surges

(CIDRAP) Adults 20 to 49 years old may have kindled 72.2% of US COVID-19 resurgences starting in late summer 2020, with those 35 to 49 especially contributing, a [study](#) published yesterday in *Science* suggests.

A team led by researchers from Imperial College London analyzed age-specific cell phone mobility data of more than 10 million Americans and linked them to age-specific COVID-19 death data starting on Mar 15, 2020.

Data from 42 US states, Washington, DC, and New York City showed that the number of visits to places such as supermarkets and restaurants began to rebound across all age-groups in August after a significant initial

reduction due to public health interventions such as lockdowns in the spring. COVID-19 infections and deaths followed a similar pattern in both the United States and Europe.

Among all locations assessed, until mid-August, the 35- to 49-year age-group was estimated to have contributed to 41.1% of virus transmission, compared with 2.1% in those aged 0 to 9 years, 4.0% in those 10 to 19, 34.7% in those 20 to 34, 15.3% in those 50 to 64, 2.5% in those 65 to 79, and 0.3% in those 80 and older. The number of coronavirus deaths did not rise significantly after school reopenings in the fall.

Learn more: <https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2021/02/adults-20-49-may-have-driven-72-us-covid-19-surges>

CDC: ER visits for drug overdoses, suicide attempts rise during pandemic

(UPI – Feb 3) Hospital emergency rooms in the United States saw an increase in patients requiring treatment for drug overdoses and suicide attempts in 2020 as the [COVID-19](#) pandemic raged, according to an analysis published Wednesday by [JAMA Psychiatry](#).

ERs treated 14% more drug overdose patients on a weekly basis last year and treated 6% more patients after a suicide attempt compared to prior years, the data showed. The findings highlight the need to account for the mental health effects on the pandemic as part of the overall public health response, the researchers, from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, wrote in the study.

Full UPI story: https://www.upi.com/Health_News/2021/02/03/CDC-ER-visits-for-drug-overdoses-suicide-attempts-rise-during-pandemic/3221612361312/

**AHA, AMA & ANA Release Public Service Announcement
Urging the American Public to Take COVID-19 Vaccine When it is Their Turn**

(AHA full [Press Release](#)) Together, the American Hospital Association (AHA), American Medical Association (AMA), and American Nurses Association (ANA) released a [public service announcement](#) (PSA) today urging the American public to get the COVID-19 vaccination when it is their turn. The PSA stresses that COVID-19 vaccines are safe, effective and help us all as we work together to defeat COVID-19. Today's effort continues the work the three associations have done over the past year to increase public acceptance of the essential actions to curb the spread of COVID-19, which also include: wearing a mask, practicing physical distancing and washing hands frequently. The organizations have released several previous PSAs encouraging the public to adhere to these critical public health measures, which will be increasingly important as more communicable COVID-19 variants appear and spread in the U.S.

As national associations representing physicians, nurses, and hospital and health system leaders, the AHA, AMA and ANA [remain committed](#) to supporting the rigorous scientific and regulatory process, establishing safe and effective processes for administering vaccines to all who are eligible and choose to get vaccinated, and to making critical information about vaccines available as it is released. Last December, the three organizations released an [open letter](#) urging health care professionals to take COVID-19 vaccines and to share their experience with others. Link to the PSA: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V32kn916KoQ&feature=youtu.be>

UK Rosenberg College of Law to Host Sex Trafficking and Opioids Symposium

Friday, Feb. 5, 2021, 8:30 a.m. EDT

Registration is open to the public. To register, [CLICK HERE](#).

Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines – [Extracts from Feb 4](#)

['Just Cruel': Digital Race For COVID-19 Vaccines Leaves Many Seniors Behind](#) (NPR) The efforts to vaccinate people who are 65 and older have strained under the enormous demand that has overwhelmed cumbersome, inconsistent scheduling systems. The struggle represents a shift from the first wave of vaccinations — health care workers in health care settings — which went comparatively smoothly. Now, in most places, elderly people are pitted against each other competing on an unstable technological playing field for limited shots.

[China's Vaccine Campaign Hits A Few Bumps](#) (NPR) China has approved one domestic coronavirus vaccine for commercial use. Four more are in late stage human trials, and a nationwide vaccination campaign is already underway. But the vaccine rollout is happening more slowly than expected. Only about 24 million doses have been administered, but those numbers represent only the first dose of a two-dose vaccine. That means at most, only 1.6% of China's population received their first shot by the end of January. Beijing's modest goal is to inoculate 50 million people — or about 3.5% of the total population — by mid-February, right before Lunar New Year. China excels at mobilizing hundreds of millions of people for home isolation or mass COVID-19 testing. So why is it struggling with vaccination?

[Multi-state Salmonella Outbreak of Unknown Origin Now up to 60 Patients](#) (Food Safety News) Traceback efforts continue in a Salmonella Miami outbreak, but few details are available. Federal investigators report that

the patient count has increased to 60. In its original outbreak notification on Jan. 13 the Food and Drug Administration's weekly CORE investigation table listed 48 patients. The FDA has not revealed what states are involved in the outbreak. The CORE investigation table indicates that traceback is underway, but it does not provide any other information about what food or foods are part of that effort.

[Texas A&M Researchers Show Water Treatment Removes Enveloped Viruses](#) (*Outbreak News Today*)

Using a surrogate of the coronavirus that only infects bacteria, researchers at Texas A&M University have now presented strong evidence that existing water purification plants can easily reduce vast quantities of the virus thereby protecting our household water from such contagions. In particular, the researchers showed that the water purification step called coagulation could alone get rid of 99.999% of the virus, markedly decontaminating water for consumption.

Extracts from IEM Emergency Management & Homeland Security News for [Feb 4th](#)

This week's Northeastern snow storm was record-breaking

(*NBC Charlotte*, February 4, 2021) After a three-day snowstorm that may have felt like three years -- including on Groundhog Day, no less -- a heavy blanket of record-breaking, deadly snowfall has left an entire winter's worth of snow behind. As the bull's-eye of the storm targeted the mid-Atlantic and moved into the Northeast, the multiple feet of snow that accumulated in many areas got all the headlines. However, along with that snow, whipping winds and inundating coastal floods left behind a record-breaking mess for the ages. <[Read More](#) >

Increasing Numbers of U.S. Residents in High-Risk Wildfire and Flood Zones

(*Governing*, February 4, 2021) The U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) estimates that around 13 million Americans are living within a 100-year flood zone. But over the last few years, researchers have found that the government's estimates are far lower than the ground realities. A 2018 study published in the journal *Environmental Research Letters* states that, taking into account the risk of flooding from rivers, about 41 million people are exposed to flood risk. <[Read More](#) >

Global Resilience Commission Webinar

Energy Resilience: Critical actions are required!

Are we taking the right steps?

Wednesday, 24 February 1100 EST

[Register for this Webinar!](#)

During this GRCom session, we will learn about Black Sky challenges, practical resilience initiatives, and opportunities to collaborate to solve grid security and sustainability issues, and new frameworks for advancing grid resilience. With the significant transformation of energy production, we will discuss techniques for effectively integrating green energy solutions for greater resilience. Hear from industry experts on new regulatory concepts that can support and enhance the move to a more secure and resilient grid. Everyone who registers for this session will receive a special link to a new networking opportunity: **The Resilience Forum**. The Forum will kick off shortly after the main session. The Resilience Forum offers an opportunity to pose questions, hear from session sponsors, and be part of the discussion on topics pulled directly from the webinar session.

National Donor Day

(HRSA) This Valentine's Day, share the love by celebrating [National Donor Day](#). This annual observance focuses on five points of life: organs, tissues, marrow, platelets, and blood. Join us in supporting the donors and their families who made the decision to give the gift of life to thousands of people in the U.S. and the medical professionals who made it possible.

Signing up as an organ donor is the ultimate gift of love and hope to the more than 100,000 people currently on the national transplant waiting list. You can potentially save up to eight lives and enhance the lives of 75 more through organ, eye and tissue donation. Keep love alive: learn more about organ donation and register at [organdonor.gov](#) and [donaciondeorganos.gov](#) today.

KY Pediatric Emergency Care Coalition Meeting

March 3, 2021 virtually (Free)

[Register NOW!](#)

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KPECC2021>

The fifth annual meeting of the Kentucky Pediatric Emergency Care Coalition (KPECC) will be held virtually on March 3rd beginning at 9 AM ET/8 AM CT. The agenda being developed will allow you to attend all or parts of the day as your interest and schedule allow.

- *Morning focus on the ED setting*
- *A 1-hour mid-day break*

- Early afternoon topics relevant to both ED and EMS personnel
- Additional presentations/discussions specifically for the EMS Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator

More info to come. Address questions to Morgan Scaggs [Morgan.scaggs@kctcs.edu or 859-256-3573]

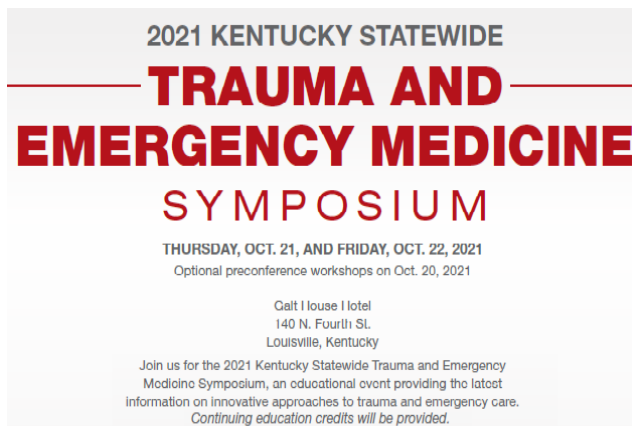
KPECC Registration Open!

Indiana’s Safe Haven Law Expansions Make Progress in IN Legislature

(WFPL) Two bills making their way through the Indiana General Assembly would expand the state’s Safe Haven Law. Safe Haven Baby Boxes offer a way for parents to anonymously surrender infants less than 30 days old. There are 53 boxes throughout Indiana which have a silent alarm, alerting a staffer to come for the baby.

Current law mandates that they be located at hospitals or professional fire stations that are staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. But Republican State Rep. Randy Frye wants to make it easier for smaller communities to install baby boxes. House Bill 1032, which Frye authored, would allow some volunteer fire stations and emergency medical service (EMS) providers to install boxes.

Learn more: <https://wfpl.org/safe-haven-law-expansions-make-progress-in-indiana-legislature/>



2021 Kentucky Statewide Trauma and Emergency Medicine Symposium

Event Date: October 20, 2021

End Date: October 22, 2021

Save-the-date!

Wednesday, Oct 20 - Optional preconference meetings

Thursday - Friday, Oct 21 - 22 - 1 1/2 day conference

Galt House, Louisville, KY

Fees:

- Physicians (2 day attendance): \$250.00
- Physicians (1 day attendance): \$175.00
- Nurses and others (2 day attendance): \$140.00
- Nurses and others (1 day attendance): \$100.00
- Residents, Fellows and Students: \$30.00
- EMS/EMT Professionals: \$50.00

For more information and to register, visit this link:

<https://cmetracker.net/NHCCME/Publisher?page=pubOpen#/EventID/129126/>

EMS Agency Assessment by KYEMSC is Ongoing!

(KBEMS) The KYEMSC Program is required to collect information from all EMS agencies in Kentucky annually. In order for us to best support EMS agencies, we are asking agency Directors or PEC Coordinators to complete a brief questionnaire so that we can learn more about your agency’s efforts to be prepared to care for ill or injured children. The questionnaire should only take 5-10 minutes to complete.

In past years, the responses from you and your colleagues have helped identify needs and provide resources for improving pediatric emergency care at the local and national level. To continue building on this momentum, we are relying on administrators from all EMS agencies to respond to this questionnaire. Your responses will be used by the KYEMSC Program for quality improvement efforts. De-identified data from agencies across the country will also be combined to review progress and provide support for integrating the needs of children into our overall emergency care systems.

Currently, only **26%** of Kentucky agencies have completed the survey. We have several more weeks to get that number to **100%**. To see if your agency has completed the survey, or to get additional information, contact morgan.scaggs@kctcs.edu

IS YOUR EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT PEDSREADY?



Children and their families rely on the nearest ED to be ready to provide outstanding care. Yet, every day, acutely ill and injured children are treated in EDs with varying levels of readiness to manage their immediate healthcare needs. **START NOW** to be PedsReady before taking the assessment starting ~~June 2020~~ **Coming - May 2021**

Visit PedsReady.org



FBI, Partners Disarm Emotet Malware

Global Law Enforcement and Private Sector Take Down a Major Cyber Crime Tool

(FBI) The FBI worked alongside foreign law enforcement and private sector partners in an innovative, coordinated effort to take down a destructive malicious software, or malware, known as Emotet.

First observed in Europe in 2014, Emotet expanded its reach over the years and was behind millions of costly cyberattacks across the globe. The FBI opened its first related investigation when a North Carolina school district was compromised by Emotet in 2017.

Usually delivered through an infected email attachment or link, the nimble and ever mutating code was able to slip past most virus detection software. Once it was installed, it allowed criminals to load additional damaging software onto a computer. In some cases, that additional malware was a banking trojan that recorded online banking credentials and then stole from victims' accounts. In other cases, Emotet allowed the installation of malware that enabled a [ransomware](#) attack.

Full story: <https://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/emotet-malware-disrupted-020121>

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.



Three Reasons Why You Were Given Top Priority to Be Vaccinated Against COVID-19



- 1 You are on the front lines and risk being exposed to people with COVID-19 each day on the job.
- 2 Protecting you also helps protect your patients and your family, especially those who may be at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19.
- 3 You matter. And you play an essential role in keeping your community healthy.

Lead the way!

Encourage your coworkers, patients, family and friends to get vaccinated.



12/09/20

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/vaccines