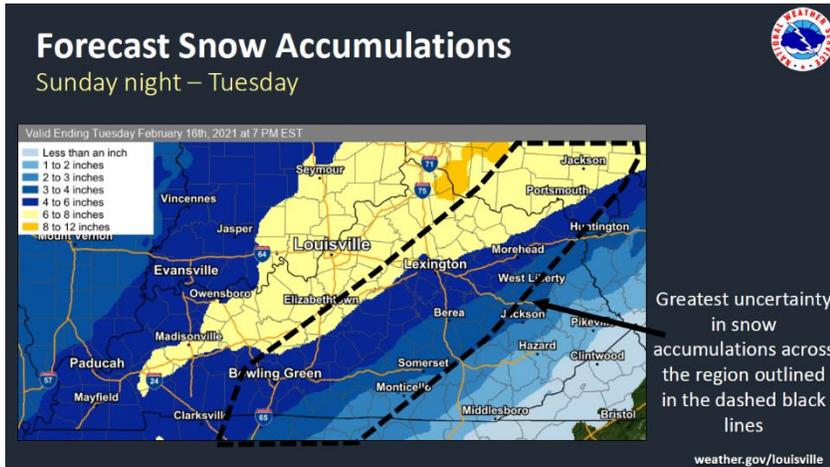




Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for February 13, 2021

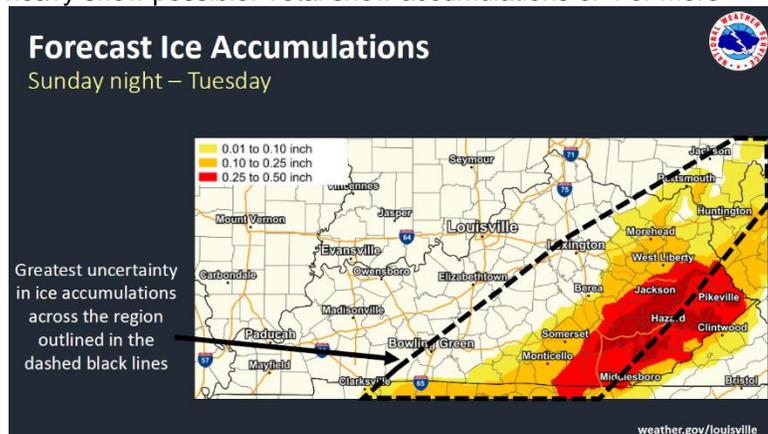
MAJOR WINTER STORM EXPECTED SUNDAY NIGHT THROUGH TUESDAY

([NWS Louisville](#)) A winter storm will bring two waves of wintry precipitation to the region Sunday night through Tuesday. There could be significant accumulations of snow, sleet and possibly freezing rain. The heaviest precipitation is expected to occur Monday afternoon into Monday night. Total snow and sleet accumulations of 4 inches or more possible. Ice accumulations exceeding one tenth of an inch possible. Travel could be very difficult to impossible at times. Power outages are possible due to snow and previous ice accumulations on trees and power lines.



([NWS Jackson](#)) WINTER STORM WATCH REMAINS IN EFFECT FROM SUNDAY EVENING THROUGH TUESDAY AFTERNOON. A complex winter storm is expected to affect the area Sunday night through Tuesday morning. Heavy wintry precipitation is possible. Total snow accumulations of 1 to 6 inches and ice accumulations of up to a half of an inch are possible. Power outages and tree damage are possible due to ice and snow. Travel could be very difficult.

([NWS Paducah](#)) WINTER STORM WATCH REMAINS IN EFFECT FROM SUNDAY EVENING THROUGH LATE MONDAY NIGHT. Moderate to locally heavy snow possible. Total snow accumulations of 4 or more inches possible. Very cold wind chill temperatures are also forecast. North winds 10 to 15 mph with gusts to 20 mph will likely cause blowing and drifting of snow.



([NWS Wilmington](#)) WINTER STORM WATCH REMAINS IN EFFECT FROM SUNDAY EVENING THROUGH TUESDAY AFTERNOON. Heavy snow possible. Total snow accumulations of 5 to 8 inches. Some sleet and freezing rain may mix in with the snow across extreme South Central Ohio and Northeast Kentucky. Travel could be very difficult.

----- KY COVID-19 Report for February 13, 2021

The KY Daily COVID-19 Update Report shows only 769 new cases today, with 117 for kids 18 or under. There were 19 new deaths. The positivity rate is at 6.87%. 1,059 are hospitalized with COVID, 266 in the ICU and 143 on a ventilator. See the full report at: <https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/covid19/COVID19DailyReport.pdf>
From <https://govstatus.egov.com/kycovid19>

----- What the CDC says to do if you're fully vaccinated and exposed to COVID-19

Learn more: https://www.wdrb.com/news/what-the-cdc-says-to-do-if-youre-fully-vaccinated-and-exposed-to-covid-19/article_5b8a89a6-6d85-11eb-a02c-67ab52bbd6cc.html

Related from the CDC: Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Authorized in the US
[Includes recommendations for vaccinated persons]

Read more: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/clinical-considerations.html>

Ford making N95 masks with clear panels to help the deaf and ease communication

(CBS) Ford is using its engineering prowess to solve a thorny coronavirus problem: Designing a medical-grade face mask that reveals wearers' facial expressions and also [allows hearing-impaired people](#) to read lips. The automaker, which began producing personal protective equipment early on in the [coronavirus pandemic](#), has developed a face mask with clear panels that also filters most airborne particles.

"We quickly identified that while it's difficult for everybody to wear a mask all day long, for folks suffering from hearing impairment, it's an even bigger challenge," Jim Baumbick, the leader of Ford's PPE manufacturing effort, told CBS MoneyWatch. Baumbick also sees potential for Ford's clear respirators to improve interactions between doctors and patients as well as teachers and students.

Full story: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/ford-is-making-n95-masks-with-clear-panels/>

FDA Backs Adding Vaccine to Every Moderna Vial

(Newser) Moderna and the Food and Drug Administration have agreed on a way to get more coronavirus vaccine to its destination, and it sounds simple enough: Put more in each vial. Filling the vials closer to the brim will put 40% more in each, the [New York Times](#) reports—14 doses instead of 10. That could be enough to raise the vaccine supply in the US by 20%. The amount of a dosage is 0.5 milliliters, per the [Hill](#).

The FDA has asked the company to submit data showing the change won't reduce efficacy. Work on the production lines to accommodate the change could be complete by late April. "It would be a great step forward," said Dr. Moncef Slaoui, who was involved in the Trump administration's vaccine development program. "I think it will have an impact in the short term."

The company had asked approval for the change last month. It will ease the slowdown when the bottles are filled, capped, and labeled. The FDA might decide to inspect the production process after any changes. Moderna also wants the stated life of the vaccine, once the seal is punctured, to be extended.

The company said in a statement that it's continuing to ramp up production. Moderna said it has supplied 41 million doses to the federal government so far, and President Biden said this week that the US is buying [100 million](#) more doses from Moderna. The true number of doses per vial can be murky: Although the CDC says it's 10, special syringes already have been able to draw 11 doses.

Source: <https://www.newser.com/story/302498/fda-backs-adding-vaccine-to-every-moderna-vial.html>

The Coronavirus And Frozen Food: Is There A Connection?

(NPR) At a news conference this week, the World Health Organization made a surprising statement: The coronavirus could possibly transmit on frozen packages of food.

"We know that the virus can persist and survive in conditions that are found in these cold and frozen environments," says Peter Ben Embarek, the food scientist who led the World Health Organization team that traveled to China to investigate the origin of the pandemic. "But we don't really understand if the virus can then transmit to humans."

Embarek went on to say that scientists need to investigate further this possible route of transmission – and that frozen meat, perhaps frozen wild meat, could have sparked an early outbreak of COVID-19 last year at the Huanan Seafood market in Wuhan.

Listen to podcast or read more: <https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2021/02/12/966306301/can-frozen-food-spread-the-coronavirus>

When will kids be able to get COVID-19 vaccines?



(CBS) Students as young as first grade might be able to get vaccinated against [COVID-19](#) by September, White House chief medical adviser Dr. Anthony Fauci predicted in an interview [published by ProPublica](#) on Thursday. Fauci cited [clinical trials](#) now underway in the U.S. from vaccine developers [Pfizer](#) and [Moderna](#) to test the safety and efficacy of the doses in children. He [had said previously](#) that the Food and Drug Administration might allow for vaccinations in American children "by the time we get to the late spring and early summer." Learn more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/covid-19-vaccine-kids-school/>

Related story - Kids to Start Getting Test Jobs of 3rd Major COVID Vaccine

<http://newser.com/s302501>

U.S. Cyber Weapons Were Leaked... and Are Now Being Used Against Us,

(NPR) In December 2020, a U.S. cybersecurity company announced it had recently uncovered a massive [cyber breach](#). The hack dates back to March 2020, and possibly even earlier, when an adversary, [believed to be Russia](#), hacked into the computer networks of U.S. government agencies and private companies via SolarWinds, a security software used by many thousands of organizations in the U.S. and around the world.

New York Times cyber security reporter Nicole Perloth calls the SolarWinds hack "one of the biggest intelligence failures of our time."

"We really don't know the extent of it," Perloth says. "What we know is that this thing has hit the Department of Homeland Security — the very agency charged with keeping us safe — the Treasury, the State Department, the Justice Department, the Department of Energy, some of the nuclear labs, the Centers for Disease Control."

Perloth says the fact that the breach went undetected for so long means that the hackers likely planted "back door" code, which would allow them to re-enter the systems at a later date.

Full story & podcast: <https://www.npr.org/2021/02/10/966254916/u-s-cyber-weapons-were-leaked-and-are-now-being-used-against-us-reporter-says>

Related story - Russians outsmarted DHS cyberattack detection program in hack

Investigators believe Russia is behind a massive cyber hack that hit several federal agencies, including the Treasury, Commerce, and Justice Departments. Sunday, 60 minutes investigates the largest and most sophisticated cybersecurity breach of federal systems in U.S. history.

Read more <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/solarwinds-hack-russia-cyberattack-60-minutes-2021-02-12/>

KHA Town Hall to Discuss Hospital at Home

To help hospitals respond to COVID-19, on November 25, 2020, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced the Hospital at Home program to allow eligible hospitals to provide hospital services to eligible patients in their homes. Hospitals must obtain a waiver from CMS and, currently, the waiver is only in effect for the duration of the COVID-19 public health emergency. CMS reimburses hospitals the same as if the patient were treated in the hospital.

On February 18, Dr. **Bruce Leff**, MD, Professor of Medicine and the Director of the Center for Transformative Geriatric Research at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine will discuss the Hospital at Home program and how it can be beneficial to hospitals. This information can help institutions evaluate whether they should pursue the program along with determining requirements for implementation as well as start-up timelines.

Attendees will also hear from **Jennifer Hardin**, Director of Home Care Services, and **Jeff Hughes**, Director of Cardiopulmonary Services, from St. Claire Healthcare on a successful program the hospital implemented to care for COVID-19 patients in their homes to maintain hospital capacity for more critically ill patients. The representatives from St. Claire will also discuss their evaluation and planning of how to implement a Hospital at Home program.

Join Zoom Meeting on February 18 at 3:00 p.m. (ET)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82412804108?pwd=dVBLY2JOU05DTG5hMmhQL0lpNjlSUT09>

Meeting ID: 824 1280 4108

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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.