



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for March 30, 2021

KY COVID-19 Update

(From [press release](#)) On Tuesday, Gov. Andy Beshear announced 751 new COVID-19 cases and a 2.9% positivity rate. There are 378 currently hospitalized, with 91 in the ICU and 37 on vents. 13 new deaths were recorded, with 10 new audit deaths, for a total of 6,065.

Kentucky has now vaccinated about 40% of all adults. The Governor reminded Kentuckians that there are thousands of COVID-19 vaccination appointments available over the next few weeks at Norton Healthcare (register [here](#)), UK Health Care's vaccination site at Kroger Field (register [here](#)) and the Kroger Frankfort Regional Vaccination site (register [here](#) or call [866-211-5320](tel:866-211-5320)); King's Daughters Pavilion also has hundreds of available appointments (call [606-408-2683](tel:606-408-2683)).

Related KY Health News Story

Kentucky's one-dose vaccination rate is above adjoining states', but its positive-test and new-case averages have hit plateaus

CIDRAP - [Report on COVID origins highlights clues to animal-human jump](#)

FDA authorizes second genome sequencing test for SARS-CoV-2

(From [AHA Today](#)) The Food and Drug Administration recently issued an [emergency use authorization](#) for a next generation sequencing test to detect SARS-CoV-2 in respiratory specimens from individuals suspected of COVID-19 by their health care provider. Laboratories certified under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments to perform high complexity tests can perform the SARS-CoV-2 NGS Assay test. For more information, [< See the fact sheet for health care providers >](#)

COVID Vaccine Hesitancy Drops among All Americans, New Survey Shows

(KHA) A new poll of attitudes toward COVID vaccinations shows Americans are growing more enthusiastic about being vaccinated, with the most positive change in the past month occurring among Black Americans. But the poll found that 13% of respondents overall said they will "definitely not" be vaccinated, signaling that significant hurdles remain in the nation's vaccination campaign.

Among all groups, Republicans and white evangelical Christians were the most likely to say they will not get vaccinated, with almost 30% of each group saying they will "definitely not" get a shot. [Full KHN Article](#)

COVID-19 Sharps Disposal Fact Sheets

(CDC/NIOSH) The materials below are from the CDC designed to help COVID-19 vaccinators and others assisting at COVID-19 mass vaccination sites to help reduce needlestick injuries and exposures to bloodborne pathogen, like hepatitis B, hepatitis C, and HIV. In addition to the weblink, printable pdfs are included for sites to print and distribute hard copies of the fact sheets.

- ✓ [Strategies for Sharps Disposal Container Use During Supply Shortages For Managers and Purchase Agents](#)
- ✓ [Safe and Proper Sharps Disposal During the COVID-19 Mass Vaccination Campaign](#)
- ✓ [Preventing Needlestick Injuries at COVID-19 Vaccination Sites | Blogs | CDC](#)

NIMS Alert 08-21:

FEMA Updates [Core Capabilities Development Sheets](#) with Revised Training Courses

Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines for [March 30, 2021](#)

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.