



# Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for April 9, 2021

## KY COVID Update

(From [Press Release](#)) On Friday, Gov. Andy Beshear announced 744 new COVID-19 cases and a 2.79% positivity rate. 382 are hospitalized, with 106 in the ICU and 60 on vent. There were 4 new deaths recorded today, with 5 new audit deaths, for a total of 6,223.

### Government vaccine advisers say they don't foresee AstraZeneca vaccine being used in the US

(CNN) Vaccine advisers to the federal government tell CNN they don't foresee AstraZeneca's Covid-19 vaccine being used in the United States, and even if it were offered, they personally wouldn't take it, given the other available options. Full story: <https://www.cnn.com/2021/04/09/health/vaccine-advisers-astrazeneca-us/index.html>

### Pfizer Asks OK for Younger Recipients

(Newser) Pfizer asked the Food and Drug Administration on Friday to add recipients ages 12 to 15 to the emergency use authorization for its coronavirus vaccine. At the moment, Pfizer has permission to distribute the vaccine for anyone 16 or older. The company said last week that its trials showed its vaccine to be [100% effective](#) in recipients 12 to 15; those results have not been peer-reviewed, per [NBC](#). If approved, that age group could be vaccinated in time for the return to school in the fall, per the [New York Times](#). Read more: <https://www.newser.com/story/304765/pfizer-asks-ok-for-12-to-15-year-olds.html>

### J&J vaccine problems hamper U.S. military vaccines overseas

Learn more: <https://www.modernhealthcare.com/supply-chain/jj-vaccine-problems-hamper-us-military-vaccines-overseas>

### FDA Recommends Transition from Use of Decontaminated Disposable Respirators

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is recommending health care personnel and facilities transition away from crisis capacity conservation strategies, such as decontaminating or bioburden reducing disposable respirators for reuse. Based on the increased domestic supply of new respirators approved by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) currently available to facilitate this transition, the FDA and CDC believe there is adequate supply of respirators to transition away from use of decontamination and bioburden reduction systems.

The FDA recommends that health care personnel and facilities:

- Limit decontamination of disposable respirators. Decontaminated respirators and respirators that have undergone bioburden reduction should be used only when there are insufficient supplies of new FFRs or if you are unable to obtain any new respirators.
- Transition away from a [crisis capacity strategy](#) for respirators, such as decontamination of N95 and other FFRs.
- Increase inventory of available [NIOSH-approved respirators](#)—including N95s and other FFRs, elastomeric respirators, including new elastomeric respirators without an exhalation valve that can be used in the operating room, and powered air-purifying respirators (PAPRs). Even if you are unable to obtain the respirator model that you would prefer, the FDA recommends that you obtain and use a new respirator before decontaminating or bioburden reducing a preferred disposable respirator.

Full FDA release: <https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/letters-health-care-providers/fda-recommends-transition-use-decontaminated-disposable-respirators-letter-health-care-personnel-and>

### Customs and Border Protection in Louisville finds 243 pounds of methamphetamine hidden in rugs

Read more: <https://www.kyforward.com/customs-and-border-protection-in-louisville-finds-243-pounds-of-methamphetamine-hidden-in-rugs/>

### Significant Severe Weather & Flooding Friday into Saturday

*Weather Nation TV*, April 9, 2021 - The active pattern for the South-Central and Southeastern U.S. will continue for the end of the week and this weekend. Severe storms capable of damaging winds, large hail, and tornadoes are likely, in addition to a risk for heavy rain and flash flooding. <Read more >

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.