



## Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for April 21, 2021

### Gov. Beshear: 'Now is the Time to Find Your Shot of Hope'

([Press Release](#)) On Wednesday, Gov. Andy Beshear encouraged all Kentuckians 16 and older to sign up for a COVID-19 vaccine appointment so the commonwealth can reach its 2.5 million vaccine *Team Kentucky Vaccination Challenge* aimed at lowering infections, saving lives and ending this pandemic. When the 2.5 million vaccine goal is reached, the state will lift most capacity restrictions on many Kentucky businesses. As of 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 21, Gov. Beshear reported that 1,682,774 Kentuckians have received at least one dose of the vaccine. There were 785 new cases, with a positivity rate of 3.39%. There were 7 new deaths recorded today, with 6 audit deaths. Currently, there are 417 hospitalized, 113 in the ICU, and 52 on vents.

### Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines Extracts from [April 21, 2021](#)

#### [April 28 Webinar: Improving the Resilience of U.S. Health Care Systems for Future Pandemics](#)

Hospitals and health care systems are the life force behind an effective pandemic response in the United States. Yet during the COVID-19 pandemic, these public and private sector institutions experienced staff, supply, and equipment shortages; struggled with providing access to care in rural areas; and lacked data coordination. How can the federal government assist in tackling the problems experienced by these institutions during the COVID-19 pandemic to help them prepare for future pandemics and other health emergencies?

**Register Here:** [https://jh.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Fe0WCAw-T9qpXRdVn2rUsw](https://jh.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Fe0WCAw-T9qpXRdVn2rUsw)

[Lagging Vaccination Rates Among Rural Seniors Hint At Brewing Rural-Urban Divide](#) (NPR) Chris Reimer had never heard of Leopold, Mo., when he found himself rushing down a winding, two-lane road toward the rural, 65-person community in February. Reimer, a social media manager in St. Louis, had made a split-second decision when he saw a local television reporter tweet about a 2,000-dose COVID-19 vaccination clinic opening to anyone after 3 p.m. that day.

### Pfizer Identifies Fake Covid-19 Shots Abroad as Criminals Exploit Vaccine Demand

(Wall Street Journal) In Mexico, about 80 people received fraudulent doses, and in Poland authorities recovered vials likely containing an anti-wrinkle treatment.

Read more: <https://www.wsj.com/articles/pfizer-identifies-fake-covid-19-shots-abroad-as-criminals-exploit-vaccine-demand-11619006403>

### April 24th – National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

(DEA) The National Prescription Drug Take Back Day addresses a crucial public safety and public health issue. According to the 2019 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, **9.7 million people misused prescription pain relievers, 4.9 million people misused prescription stimulants, and 5.9 million people misused prescription tranquilizers or sedatives in 2019.** The survey also showed that a majority of misused prescription drugs were obtained from family and friends, often from the home medicine cabinet.

The DEA's Take Back Day events provide an opportunity for Americans to prevent drug addiction and overdose deaths. Check out the Collection Site Locator: [https://takebackday.dea.gov/?gclid=CjwKCAjwmv-DBhAMEiwA7xYrd3GHGE4Pkyfwt7qoErPuoQ8LNJomqE0YIOrVXMXMJuDx2qFXFnHORoCzi0QAvd\\_BwE](https://takebackday.dea.gov/?gclid=CjwKCAjwmv-DBhAMEiwA7xYrd3GHGE4Pkyfwt7qoErPuoQ8LNJomqE0YIOrVXMXMJuDx2qFXFnHORoCzi0QAvd_BwE)

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](mailto: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.