



# Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for May 28, 2021

## Kentucky COVID Update

(KY COVID [Daily Summary](#)) There were 415 new cases today, with 71 in persons 18 and under. Positivity rate was 2.43%. There were 6 new deaths recorded, plus 4 audit deaths, for a total of 6,758.

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### CDC Publishes Clinical Considerations Myocarditis and Pericarditis after Receipt of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines Among Adolescents and Young Adults

Since April 2021, increased cases of myocarditis and pericarditis have been reported in the United States after mRNA COVID-19 vaccination (Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is aware of these reports, which are rare given the number of vaccine doses administered.

CDC published [clinical considerations](#) for myocarditis and pericarditis following COVID-19 vaccination. In addition, [resources for the public](#) have been added to CDC's website that can be a resource for your patients. CDC and its partners are actively monitoring these reports by reviewing data and medical records to learn more about what happened and to see if there is any relationship to COVID-19 vaccination. Please report all cases of myocarditis and pericarditis post COVID-19 vaccination to the [Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System \(VAERS\)](#).

CDC continues to recommend COVID-19 vaccination for everyone 12 years of age and older, given the greater risk of COVID-19 illness and related, possibly severe complications.

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### US Attorney General Says DOJ Will Boost Resources for Fighting Hate Crimes

(IACP ["The Lead"](#)) The [Los Angeles Times](#) (5/27) reports that on Thursday, Attorney General Merrick Garland announced that the Department of Justice is "boosting resources, improving training and streamlining reporting procedures to help combat a troubling rise in hate crimes." The Times says, "Garland's memo followed what he described in March as an 'urgent' need to review how the federal government can best combat an increase in hate crimes and incidents, particularly those targeting members of the Asian American and Pacific Islander community."

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### FEMA Approves Additional Assistance for 22 More Counties Affected by Historic Flooding

([Press Release](#)) Gov. Andy Beshear announced Friday that the Federal Emergency Management Agency has approved his request for individual assistance for 22 more Kentucky counties following severe flooding Feb. 27 to March 14, 2021.

The additional counties now eligible for individual assistance are Anderson, Fayette, Jessamine, Laurel, Madison, Warren and Woodford. The following counties, which were previously eligible for public assistance, are now eligible for individual assistance including: Boyd, Clark, Franklin, Greenup, Jackson, Knott, Lawrence, Leslie, Letcher, Lincoln, Morgan, Owsley, Perry, Pulaski and Rockcastle.

The counties are in addition to those included when President Joe Biden declared a [major disaster declaration](#) on April 23 at Gov. Beshear's request to [make federal funding available](#) for Kentucky families and communities to recover.

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### Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines Extracts from [May 28, 2021](#)

[Assessment of the Frequency and Variety of Persistent Symptoms Among Patients With COVID-19: A Systematic Review](#) (*JAMA Network Open*) In this systematic review of 45 studies including 9751 participants with COVID-19, the median proportion of individuals who experienced at least 1 persistent symptom was 73%; symptoms occurring most frequently included shortness of breath or dyspnea, fatigue or exhaustion, and sleep disorders or insomnia.

[Two More Coronaviruses May Infect People](#) (*Science*) Last week, an international collaboration that went looking for known or novel viruses in pneumonia patients in Malaysia reported that in eight children, they found signs of a coronavirus that may have originated in dogs. Earlier this year another group reported a coronavirus that appears to have jumped from pigs to several children in Haiti. There's no sign so far that either virus can spread from person to person—as the spark of the pandemic, SARS-CoV-2, readily does—or definitive evidence that they cause human illness. But the discoveries, which could increase the number of coronaviruses known to infect people from seven to nine, underscore the threat posed by this viral family.

[Russia Rolls Out Covid-19 Vaccine for Animals](#) (WSJ) Russian officials said they rolled out a homegrown animal vaccine, Carnivac-Cov, after trials showed that it generates antibodies in dogs, cats, foxes and mink. The vaccine, which is administered in two doses 21 days apart, costs 500 rubles, or around \$7, for the full course. Moscow authorized the shot in March following trials that showed it was harmless and provoked an immune response in 100% of the vaccinated animals.

[Production of Another COVID-19 Vaccine to Begin in Weeks](#) (AP) Production of another potential vaccine against COVID-19 will begin within weeks, its developers Sanofi and GlaxoSmithKline said Thursday as they launched a large trial enrolling 35,000 adult volunteers in the United States, Asia, Africa and Latin America. The study will test vaccine candidate formulas against the original coronavirus that spread from Wuhan, China, and against the variant first seen in South Africa, the pharmaceutical firms said. If the trial is successful, regulators could approve the vaccine for use in the last three months of the year, the drugmakers said in a statement.

[Employers Can \(Mostly\) Require Vaccines For Workers Returning To The Office](#) (NPR) Under recent guidance from the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), employers have the legal right to make such a requirement. It's not a new concept. The federal workplace watchdog has allowed companies to mandate flu and other vaccines but allowed employees to claim exemptions where appropriate. Workers can still keep their jobs while opting out of receiving the vaccine by claiming medical or religious exemptions. Many long-term care operators have begun mandating that their workers get immunized to keep their jobs, according to AARP.

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.