



3/11/2020

** NOTICE: This health alert provides written guidance for health care professionals and others who may need to take action to prevent or control a notifiable condition. It is not intended to provide guidance for the general public.*

First Case of COVID-19 in a Thurston County Resident Reported Today: COVID-19 Update #10

Requested Action:

- 1) Continue to assess, test and report both suspect and confirmed cases of COVID- 19 to Thurston County Public Health and Social Services Department.
- 2) We know that testing resources and access are a critical issue in our community. We are working with community partners to identify a solution so there are testing resources available and we reduce the pressure on the Emergency Departments.
- 3) Prioritize patients for testing, not everyone needs to be tested:
Patients with COVID-19 symptoms considered at highest priority for testing include:
 - Healthcare workers
 - Patients in other public safety occupations (e.g., law enforcement, fire fighter, EMS)
 - Patients involved in an illness cluster in a facility or institution (e.g., healthcare, school, corrections, shelters)
 - Patients with severe lower respiratory illness (hospitalized or fatal)
 - Patients older than 60 years
 - Patients with underlying medical conditions
 - Pregnant women
 - Patients with worsening symptoms
- 4) Provide patients whether testing them or not, with following guidance documents that best fits the patients situation so they know how to prevent the spread of infection to other people, and to minimize phone calls to your office and to public health.
 - Patients with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 - <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/COVIDcasepositive.pdf>
 - Patients who were exposed to a confirmed COVID-19 case - <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/COVIDexposed.pdf>
 - Unexposed patients with COVID-19 symptoms - <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/COVIDconcerned.pdf>
- 5) Remind patients to:
 - Wash hands often with soap and water. If not available, use hand sanitizer.
 - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
 - Avoid contact with people who are sick.
 - Stay home while you are sick and avoid close contact with others.
 - Cover your mouth/nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing.

Background:

March 11, 2020 we were notified about the first case of COVID-19 reported in a 56 year old Thurston County resident. We have interviewed the patient and identified the patients contacts who are in a very controlled setting and will notify contacts and put appropriate prevention and intervention measures in place. There are now 366 positive results and 29 deaths in Washington State with 12 counties reporting cases.



3/11/2020

Resources:

CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html>

DOH - Provider guidance on testing:
<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/Interim-2019NovelCoronavirusQuicksheetProviders.pdf>

DOH – Specimen Collection and Submission:
<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/5240/SCSI-2019-nCoV.pdf>

DOH – Healthcare Provider Guidance -
<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/NovelCoronavirusOutbreak2020/HealthcareProviders>

CDC COVID-19 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

CDC - Optimizing supply of N95: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/respirators-strategy/index.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fhcp%2Frespirator-supply-strategies.html

CDC Health care Professionals Guidance - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/index.html>

DOH - Droplet Precautions:
<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/SpecialDropletContactPrecautionsSign.pdf>

Washington State Hospital Association - WISHA website: <https://www.wsha.org/for-patients/coronavirus/>

THANK YOU FOR REPORTING

TO REPORT A NOTIFIABLE CONDITION IN THURSTON COUNTY	
Voice mail for reporting non-immediately reportable conditions (24 hours a day)	Phone: 360-786-5470 Fax: 360-867-2601
Day time immediately reportable conditions – Call detailed information to the 24-hour Notifiable Condition Reporting Line at 360-786-5470. Messages are picked up hourly. If a call back can't wait call 360-867-2500 and ask staff to locate a Communicable Disease staff.	Phone: 360-786-5470
After hours immediately and 24-hour reportable conditions or a public health emergency	Call 1-800-986-9050
No one is available with Thurston County Public Health and condition is immediately notifiable	1-877-539-4344

Communicable Disease Updates are posted online at: <http://bit.ly/CDUpdatePHSS>