



**BURGESS**  
Public Health

## Healthcare Preparedness Coalition Notes

3/31/2020

### Updates:

#### **Erin Brekke (Monona County Public Health):**

- Currently five cases in Monona County. The three new cases are not travel related or community spread. The three new cases were in close contact with the first two positive cases of COVID-19.
- There are expected to be more positives, but at this time there are no new guidelines. The Iowa Department of Public Health is still recommending the following:
  - o Social distancing
  - o Washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
  - o Sneezing and coughing into elbow or upper arm
  - o Disinfecting highly touched surfaces
  - o Stay home if you are sick
- It is great to see the community wanting to help out and make masks for healthcare workers. However, they are not considered proper PPE and should only be used as a last resort when the proper isolation/ ear loop/ procedure masks are exhausted.
- When EMS and personnel have been in contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19, they will be notified of the positive test result REGARDLESS of proper PPE.

#### **Fran Tramp (Burgess Health Center):**

- Burgess is not allowing any visitors into the hospital unless it is for an OB patient or it is an end-of-life-care patient.

#### **Pat Prorok (EMA):**

- Public Health and Pat have worked with the police department to notify personnel when proper PPE should be worn when EMS and police are called to a house. It is done in a way that the dispatcher does not know names or even if the resident has tested positive for COVID-19 or not.
- N95's should not be worn unless doing an aerosolizing procedure.
  - o **Exception:** Being in the back of an ambulance with a patient who is symptomatic. It is a confined space that is close quarters and the risk for transmission is increased.

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