



Healthcare Preparedness Coalition Meeting

3/24/2020

Talking Points:

- Still **NO** positive cases in Monona County
 - o When we get a positive case in Monona County, we will do a press release notifying the public of the confirmed case.
- On Saturday, the Governor released more information about travelling. If you have travelled outside the state, then you need to self-isolate. Guidance on travel out of Iowa as we are unique being a border state:
 - o **What is acceptable:**
 - Going to and from work – we want employees to go home and stay in their homes if they live in a border state outside of Iowa
 - Getting groceries (but limit the time in the store) – individuals that live in a border state is reasonable to expect that they will visit a store or gas station for necessities in their home location.
 - Dropping someone off at the airport
 - o **What is not acceptable:**
 - Eating a restaurant – we recommend Iowans to not travel to a border state where restaurants, bars are more open. We recommend those who live in a border state, but work in Iowa should not visit restaurants and bars in their home locations.
 - Staying in a hotel
 - Shopping for non-essential items such as TV's and furniture
- Following info is for taking care of someone who is symptomatic or is COVID-19 positive
 - o Always follow their physician's guidelines
 - o Sick person should wear a mask when around others
 - o Monitor the person's symptoms (if they get worse, call their physician)
 - o Household members should stay others rooms (sleep in a separate room and use a different bathroom if able)
 - o Do not allow unnecessary visits (coming over for coffee or to chat)
 - o Make sure there is good airflow
 - o Don't allow the sick individual to take care of animals
 - o Perform proper hand hygiene and avoid touching your face as always
 - o Clean high touched surfaces (door knobs, phones, tabletops)
 - o Thoroughly clean clothes
 - o Wear the proper PPE when handling bodily fluids (disposable mask and gloves)
- Webinar on Sunday said to not use **ibuprofen** because it will make the symptoms of COVID-19 worse. Use Tylenol if needed.
- **Masks** being sewn by the public



- IDPH is looking into this to see if this is something that can be used by healthcare professionals as PPE – will provide more guidance on this as we receive it.
- **Essential Employee Letters** – some local employees are receiving letters from their corporate offices or headquarters that are validating that they are an essential employee. They may have been directed to put the letter in their windshield or show that as a credential to enter certain places. This is being done by the business on their own. This is not a directive coming from the governor’s office or any other state entity at this time. This may be a business that is trying to be prepared, in the event further travel and movement becomes more restrictive. We do not want people to panic or worry if they receive this or hear about this. There is no plan for this as of today in Iowa.

Updates:

- Pat Prorok (EMA)
 - Distilleries are starting to make hand sanitizer and it being closely monitored by the FDA
- Fran Tramp (Burgess Health Center)
 - The further elective surgeries for the time being
 - Limiting visitors
 - Restrictions on employees traveling out of Iowa
- Jess Carrier (Monona County Economic Development)
 - All questions about businesses should go to Jess
 - There are disaster and small business grants and loans that can help out our local businesses
 - 712-431-6528 (cell)
 - mocoecdev@gmail.com

Questions:

- What is the capacity of the Burgess Health Center if there is an influx of patients that need to be hospitalized?
 - Depending on the severity of the patient’s symptoms, there is enough equipment for a few patients in serious need of a ventilator. This is the reason for the social distancing and trying to stop the spread because no hospital or combination of hospitals have enough equipment for critical patients if the spread keeps increasing as rapidly as it has been.
- If Burgess sends a patient to another county, then they test positive for COVID-19, does that count as a positive for Monona County?
 - Yes, if their residency is in Monona County, then it does not matter what hospital they tested positive at.
- What is the process after Monona County gets a positive test result?
 - Public Health and Pat Prorok will be notified immediately
 - Governor Reynolds will hold a press conference and the Burgess will post a press release.



- The BOS will hold a meeting
- Public Health will follow up with the positive case with guidance from the Iowa Department of Public Health in regards to isolation and guidelines.