

Tuesday, April 21, 2020 Local Briefing Notes

Locally

Cherokee County has no active cases at this time.

According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Cherokee County has a test rate of 5.02 per 1,000 residents as of today.

This morning, Cherokee County Health Department Administrator Betha Elliott and I met with Cherokee County Family and Consumer Science Agent Christina Holmes via Zoom.

We explored the need to apply for a grant through the Kansas Health Foundation, with the primary focus on providing food and hygiene items to children and families throughout the community, specifically for when school lunch programs discontinue and to help alleviate a sudden surge in need for existing community food programs.

Statewide

Today, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment reported 2,025 positive cases, 419 hospitalizations, 107 deaths and 17,076 negative tests. That was an increase from 1,986 positive cases, 405 hospitalizations, 100 deaths and 16,775 negative tests reported yesterday.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment has modified the COVID-19 testing criteria, to as follows:

PUI Criteria

Epidemiologic Risk	&	Clinical Features
<input type="checkbox"/> Close contact ^A with a person that has laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 and developed symptoms within 14 days of contact	<u>and</u>	At least two of the following symptoms, without an alternate more likely diagnosis: <input type="checkbox"/> Fever* <input type="checkbox"/> Chills <input type="checkbox"/> Rigors <input type="checkbox"/> Myalgia <input type="checkbox"/> Malaise <input type="checkbox"/> Headache <input type="checkbox"/> Sore throat <input type="checkbox"/> Lower respiratory illness (cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing) <input type="checkbox"/> New olfactory and taste disorders <input type="checkbox"/> Diarrhea
<input type="checkbox"/> History of travel ^S within 14 days of symptom onset		
<input type="checkbox"/> No source of exposure has been identified		

In addition, they have secured 15 Abbott rapid testing machines and have deployed several of the across the state and are in a strategic planning process as to where to deploy the remainder.

It was questioned if there are updated projections regarding the peak in Kansas. There are some models who predict the peak is in front of us with others showing it behind us. Due to epidemiology trending and test reporting, it is likely we won't recognize the peak until up to two weeks after it occurred.

Globally

The United States is reporting 787,960 positive cases. This is up from 766,212 positive cases reported yesterday.

Below is our local daily update.

Have a great and safe afternoon!

Thanks,
Sheriff David Groves