

2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Infection

Kitsap Public Health Board Meeting
March 3, 2020

What do we know about COVID-19?

- Signs and symptoms similar to other respiratory infections
- Higher risk factors include older age, male, and underlying chronic medical conditions = more severe illness
- Younger and healthier people appear to have less severe illness
- RAPIDLY and CONSTANTLY changing situation

What do we know about COVID-19? (Con't)

- No treatment—supportive care for complications
- Case fatality rate probably <2%, but unavailability of testing to date likely under reports # of infections
- Transmission thought to occur mostly from person-to-person via respiratory droplets among close contacts
- Infectious period unknown, may be asymptomatic illness
- Incubation period may be 2-14 days

International Situation

- Total confirmed cases: 92,303 **numbers current as of 3/3/2020*
- Total deaths: 3,131
- 73 countries with cases
- Cases on every continent except Antarctica
- Most cases still in China, but now spreading faster outside China.
- Follow updates in real time: [Global nCoV Case Tracker](#)



Pull up COVID-19 Global Cases
Map from Johns Hopkins CSSE



United States Situation 3/2/2020

(Does not account for new cases in Washington)

COVID-19: U.S. at a Glance*

- Total cases: 43
- Total hospitalized: 17
- Total deaths: 2
- States reporting cases: 10

* These data represent cases detected and tested in the United States through U.S. public health surveillance systems since January 21, 2020. It does not include people who returned to the U.S. via State Department-chartered flights.

United States Situation 3/2/2020 (Con't)

- Laboratory testing for COVID-19 has been extremely limited
- Lab testing availability is supposed to be increasing soon
- Travel restrictions for China, Iran, South Korea, Italy, and Japan

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html>





Washington Situation

— *numbers current as of 3/2/2020 @ 4 pm

- Confirmed cases: 18 (King and Snohomish)
- Deaths: 6
- Number of people under public health supervision*: 231

**The number of people at risk of having been exposed to 2019-nCoV who are monitoring their health under the supervision of public health officials. This includes close contacts of laboratory confirmed cases and persons who have returned from China in the past 14 days.*

- Ongoing incident management team and command center activated January 21 at the department's Public Health Laboratories

Washington Situation (Con't)

**numbers current as of 3/2/2020 @ 4 pm*

- Availability for laboratory testing should increase soon.
- Focus on containing and slowing the spread of COVID-19
- Preserve PPE for healthcare workers
- Provide guidance and get healthcare facilities and first responders on same page for handling suspected and confirmed cases



Screening at Sea-Tac International Airport

- All travelers from China funneled to 11 airports
 - If ill → isolation and evaluation
 - If asymptomatic and from Hubei Province → quarantine with active health monitoring (none in Washington)
 - If asymptomatic from China (non-Hubei) → self-monitoring at home with public health supervision, asked to avoid public settings including school and work
- Quarantine
 - Home
 - Designated quarantine facilities prepared to receive travelers; none are there currently
- Hundreds of Americans have already returned from China and been asked to quarantine at home—438 in WA



Kitsap County Situation (3/2/2020)

- No COVID-19 cases, but assume it is here
- No PUIs, but expect cases soon
- Six community members under PH supervision
- Total supervised to date 13
- Continue to assist with physician and Navy referrals of possible PUI





Key PH Messages

EVERYONE can reduce risk of getting any respiratory infection by:

1. Washing hands frequently or use sanitizer
2. Avoid touching your mouth and eyes
3. Cover your coughs and sneezes with tissue or “elbow pit” – NOT YOUR HANDS
4. Stay away from people who are sick (6-feet)
5. STAY HOME when sick
6. Reconsider travel and being in crowded places during outbreaks





Key PH Messages (Con't)

Employers can help slow spread of respiratory infections:

1. Establish respiratory infection control policies
2. Encourage / require employees to stay home when sick
3. Provide tissues, sanitizer, and soap
4. Environmental sanitation (frequent cleaning of frequently touched surfaces)
5. Be flexible (teleworking)





Key PH Messages (Con't)

Communities can help slow spread of respiratory infections:

1. Stay calm and informed
2. Stay fact based – don't perpetuate rumors
3. Help isolate but not stigmatize ill people
4. Help family and neighbors who do isolate to protect the rest of us
5. Consider cancelling or rescheduling large events at the appropriate time



Preparing for COVID-19

Jessica Guidry
Program Manager
Public Health Emergency Preparedness & Response



KITSAP PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT

Decision for Activation

February 3rd: Emergency response team activated.



Reasons for Activation

- Staff coverage for numerous conference calls
- Efficient information flow
- Collaborative and proactive planning
- Public information



Activated ECC

“Commandeered” Sinclair Room as our Emergency Coordination Center (ECC)





Accomplishments

- Created COVID-19 page on **website**.
- Posted information on **social media**.
- Developed and maintained **talking points**.
- **Sent guidance** to various sectors, including healthcare facilities, schools, businesses, etc.
- **Clarified roles and procedures** with various agencies.
- **Updated** partners and stakeholders on our activities.





Accomplishments (cont'd)

- Developed **procedures and tools** for supervising travelers who are self-monitoring.
- **Supervised** Kitsap residents who are self-monitoring.
- **Improved communication** among programs and increased access to **subject matter expertise**.



Outreach & Partnerships

- Healthcare providers (clinics, hospitals)
- Schools (including private schools)
- Childcare Centers
- EMS Council
- Kitsap Department of Emergency Management
- Bainbridge Island EM
- Navy
- Other LHJs
- Tribes
- Jails



Costs (as of 2/25/2020)

- Staff Hours: **725**
- Staffing Costs: **\$ 53,113.11**



What Have We Set Aside So Far?

- Grant billable work (chronic disease, emergency preparedness)
- Performance management activities
- Participation in noncritical community meetings
- Other public information priorities
- Back-up coverage for clerical duties

While no critical work was dropped, this might not be the case if we have to activate again and involve more staff.



Next Steps



KITSAP PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT

Planning Efforts Underway

- Strategy is to slow the spread of the virus so that we have time to:
 - Prepare the healthcare system and the general public
 - Better characterize the infection to guide public health recommendations and development of medical countermeasures including diagnostics, therapeutics, and vaccines



KPHD's Work Plan

- **All Hazards Preparedness** – update and “socialize” all-hazards plan, continuity of operations plan, and agency policies
- **Pandemic Preparedness** – work with partner agencies on developing comprehensive county pandemic flu plan, exercises, resources, etc.
- **COVID-19 Preparedness** – *continue monitoring the situation and updating disease-specific procedures as needed*





CDC Risk Assessment 2-25-2020

- The potential threat posed by COVID-19 is high, both globally and to the US
- General American public risk of exposure today considered low
- More cases in US are likely
- Person-to-person spread is likely to continue, including in the US
- Global circumstances suggest it is likely that this virus will cause a pandemic



CDC Risk Assessment 2-25-2020

- If widespread transmission in US occurs:
 - Large numbers people needing medical care at same time—overload to healthcare system and PH
 - High levels of school and work absenteeism
 - Other critical infrastructure such as law enforcement, emergency medical services and transportation industry may also be affected

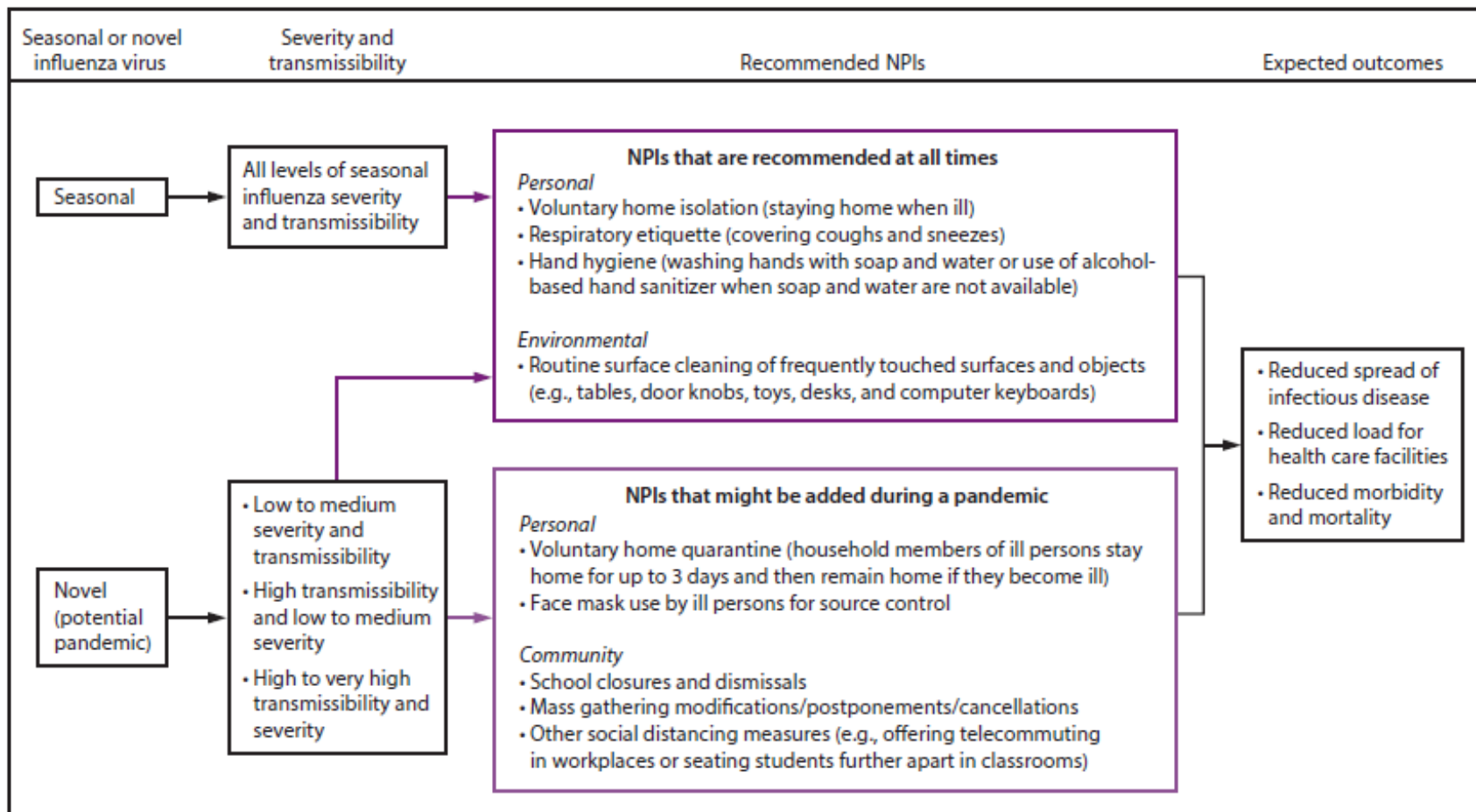




Community Mitigation Guidelines to Prevent Pandemic Influenza — United States, 2017



FIGURE 5. Phased addition of nonpharmaceutical interventions to prevent the spread of pandemic influenza in communities



Abbreviation: NPI = nonpharmaceutical intervention.



Other Items for District:

- Staff to help Kitsap agencies, businesses, schools, healthcare prepare
- Messaging public to help community prepare
- Slow spread to help prevent Healthcare system overload
- Communications overload (social media)
- When ask for EOC support when needed



Policy Issues for Board & District

- Is COVID-19 response the top priority?
- District's capacity is exceeded
- No funding for COVID-19 work at this time
- Stop doing other work that has revenue? (e.g., contracts, grants, service fees)
- Cease accepting public speaking invitations?
- Closing schools, businesses, and canceling events?
- Other?

