



DOUGLAS COUNTY COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM

JOINT INFORMATION CENTER PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 23, 2020

DOUGLAS COUNTY COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM - DAILY LOCAL UPDATE

(Douglas County, Ore.) Local COVID-19 Test Results

As of 12:00 pm, April 23, 2020, there are no new cases of COVID-19 in Douglas County. The total number of positives in Douglas County remains at twenty-three.* Of the twenty-three, fourteen have recovered. There have been zero deaths and 785 negative tests for COVID-19 in the county. Two of the twenty-three people that have tested positive are still hospitalized in different hospitals. Douglas Public Health Network continues their epidemiologic investigations, identifying individuals who may have had close contact with individuals that have tested positive for COVID-19 and advising quarantine. Fourteen of the individuals who tested positive earlier have now recovered. DPHN defines recovery as an end to all symptoms after a positive test for COVID-19.

Get Tested

If you are having symptoms of COVID-19 including cough, fever, shortness of breath, muscle aches and pains, diarrhea, sore throat or decreased sense of smell and taste, talk to your health care provider about being tested for COVID-19.

HAVE SYMPTOMS? GET TESTED.



COUGH



FEVER



SHORTNESS
OF BREATH



MUSCLE ACHES
AND PAINS



DIARRHEA



SORE THROAT



DECREASED SENSE
OF SMELL OR TASTE

If you have cough, fever, shortness of breath, muscle aches and pains, diarrhea, sore throat or decreased sense of smell or taste, talk to your Health Care Provider about getting tested.



DOUGLAS
PUBLIC HEALTH
NETWORK

douglaspublichealthnetwork.org

Given the growing availability of commercial labs and the improving availability of testing supplies and PPE DPHN has revised their guidelines to providers on testing. DPHN has sent out communications to the local health care community alerting them of the increased availability of testing for their patients. DPHN also announced yesterday that Quest labs is now offering the IgG antibody test for COVID-19 locally. Testing without a provider order is not yet available. The next drive through COVID-19 clinic, led by DPHN, will happen tomorrow, Friday April 24, in Roseburg.

"We will continue to offer the nasal swab test for acute infection of COVID-19 in our drive-through clinics. Antibody testing is also now available locally through a blood draw at a Quest Lab. Both tests must still be ordered by your provider but we are encouraging people to get tested as we now have increased availability of testing supplies and PPE. It is important to have your provider order the tests, just like any other diagnostic test such as cholesterol, so that your provider can give you follow up medical care if needed. Your primary care provider is a partner in your health and wellness, especially when diagnosing and providing treatment for COVID-19" -Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer, Public Health Officer for Douglas County



Oregon COVID-19 Case Update

Oregon Health Authority reports new cases once a day on its website at www.healthoregon.org/coronavirus. The Oregon Health Authority is also releasing the daily situation status report, which is produced jointly with Oregon Office of Emergency Management. It details the overall picture of the COVID-19 outbreak within the state and the response across government agencies. [Read more here about the daily situation status report.](#)

Funding Available Through Umpqua Health Alliance, Douglas County's Coordinated Care Organization

Umpqua Health Alliance, Douglas County's Coordinated Care Organization, is looking for opportunities to come alongside our community partners in this challenging time. **If your agency has a project or program that is experiencing a specific need relating to COVID-19, please contact us for information on how to apply for funding.** We're in this together, and UHA is here to help! Please contact Heidi Larson at hlarson@umpquahealth.com for more information.

Facebook Live with Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer

Join us tomorrow, Friday April 24, 2020 for the next virtual town hall Q&A with Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer, your Douglas County Public Health Officer at 6:00 pm, hosted by DPHN and found on the [DPHN Facebook page](#).

Elective Medical Procedures Can Resume May 1

Non-urgent medical procedures, which had been on hold in Oregon for the past month due to COVID-19, can resume starting May 1, the governor announced today. The governor issued an executive order exactly one month ago today, on March 23, suspending all elective, non-urgent medical procedures requiring the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) in order to preserve PPE and hospital capacity for a potential surge in COVID-19 patients. At a news conference this morning, the governor announced that hospitals, surgical centers, medical offices and dental offices will be able to resume such procedures on May 1, as long as they can demonstrate that they have met new requirements for COVID-19 safety and preparedness. As examples of the types of procedures that have been on hold, Dr. Dana Hargunani of the Oregon Health Authority mentioned hip replacements, sinus surgeries and certain biopsies.

"These kinds of deferred procedures have added to the suffering COVID-19 has imposed on Oregonians," she said. "While indirect, the toll has been real. We also recognize that the cancellation of elective procedures has undercut the financial stability of the health care system we depend on as our front-line defense against the virus. It is now appropriate that we begin to let these procedures move forward – but slowly, safely and with caution."

The governor noted that when the order was issued a month ago, there was great concern about a state and national supply shortage. Now that Oregon appears to have adequate hospital capacity and PPE supply to manage COVID-19 at current need levels, the restriction is being lifted. Health care providers must demonstrate they meet the criteria for COVID-19 preparedness before they resume non-urgent procedures, including that they have the ability to:

- Minimize the risk of COVID-19 transmission to patients and staff
- Maintain adequate hospital capacity in the event of a virus resurgence
- Have adequate PPE on hand to protect workers

Facilities that are ready to resume elective procedures will do so gradually. They must start at a maximum of 50 percent of their "pre-COVID volume," Hargunani said. She noted that future suspensions of elective procedures are still possible, should there be a COVID-19 resurgence.

"By staying home, Oregonians have saved lives," Hargunani said. "This is one small step toward reopening in our state, and it's only possible because of all the work we've done together to contain COVID-19."

The governor thanked medical, dental and veterinary offices that have donated PPE to hospitals. Non-urgent procedures at veterinary offices were halted under a separate order, and those restrictions have not yet been lifted.

Keeping Kids and Teens Safe Online

Children and teens may be spending more time online than they usually do due to the current stay-at-home guidelines related to COVID-19. Here are some tips from Oregon Health Authority on keeping your kids safe:

- Talk to them about online safety, even if you've done so previously.
- Monitor their online activities and know their passwords. Maintain an open line of communication.
- Review privacy settings on social networks and websites that your children frequent. Use those privacy settings to limit who can view their profile.
- Minimize the amount of publicly available personal information such as phone numbers, email addresses, street addresses, birth dates and other identifying info. Help your kids understand what information is OK and what should never be shared.

Additional tips and resources can be found on the websites of the [Oregon Department of Justice](#), the [Oregon Department of Education](#), and the [Digital Futures Initiative](#).

Video Calls Offer Support for Essential Workers

The nonprofit [Lines for Life](#) has begun hosting Zoom calls three times a week to give essential workers a place to talk to each other and share their stories. The calls are known as the "Virtual Wellness Room," and are held every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 12:30 to 1:00 pm. Anyone considered an essential worker during the COVID-19 pandemic is welcome to participate, including first responders, mental health professionals, social workers, "helpers," and others. Here is the [link](#) to participate. Calls will be guided by a facilitator.

“We are offering a place for helpers to exchange stories of hope and areas of need,” Lines for Life officials said. “We especially want to hear what things are coming up for you personally and explore how we can cheer one another on to continue the good work you are already doing.”

Separately, a coalition of local health care providers has set up a Douglas County Healthcare Worker Support Line that went live this week. Local health care workers can access this service by calling (541) 677-5800. The line is available Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. A [website](#) has also been set up that contains additional resources for protecting medical workers’ mental and emotional health.

Red Cross Prepares for Wildfire Season

While COVID-19 has been at the top of everyone’s priority list in recent weeks, the Red Cross Cascades Region is also working behind the scenes to prepare for the upcoming wildfire season.

“With health and safety at the forefront, the Red Cross strives to maintain the well-being of our workforce as we deliver our mission of alleviating human suffering in communities affected by disasters,” Red Cross officials said. “Delivering hope, comfort and support is at the core of what we do, and COVID-19 will not change the mission of the Red Cross, but it will impact the way we carry it out.”

One area of focus is ensuring that there are clean, safe temporary shelter options for people in the event of a wildfire – especially non-congregate shelter options such as hotels, motels and campgrounds. When congregate shelter is the only option available, the Red Cross will work with the local health authority to set it up in accordance with health and safety guidelines. Efforts will be made to secure pet-friendly facilities, but the Red Cross relies on community partners to manage housing/support for any household pets displaced with their owners. Service animals are always welcome in Red Cross shelters.

Daily Tips: Game Night Thursday

Bingo doesn’t have to be just for retirement homes; consider getting creative with it! If you have a computer and a printer, you can create custom Bingo sheets for your family. If you’re about to watch “Frozen 2,” for example, create a variety of “Frozen”-themed Bingo sheets; when someone says “Elsa,” “Olaf,” or “Kristoff,” mark off a square. Are you an adult having a Zoom happy hour with friends? You can create Bingo sheets for that, too; if someone’s dog barks or child interrupts, mark off a square. Of course, regular Bingo is fun too, and there are many websites that offer free, printable Bingo cards. Actor Matthew McConaughey had a blast when he played virtual Bingo with a group of seniors in Austin, Texas, recently – watch the video [here](#).

Be A Life Savor: Donate Blood

Leaving home to donate blood is considered a lifesaving need. Those who are healthy, feeling well and are eligible to give blood, platelets or convalescent plasma, are urged to participate. The COVID-19 pandemic has caused the cancellation of hundreds of Red Cross blood drives, resulting in more than 9,000 fewer blood donations. Anyone interested in donating must make an appointment by visiting www.redcrossblood.org. To save time during your donation, complete your [health history questions](#) prior to arriving. Appointments can also be made using the Red Cross Blood Donor App or calling (800) 733-2767.

Friday, April 24 - 9:00 am – 2:30 pm - Roseburg Blood Donation Ctr, 1176 NW Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg
Friday, April 24 - 10:30 am – 4:00 pm - LDS Church, 2001 West Bertha, Roseburg
Monday, April 27 - 1:00 pm – 6:30 pm - Roseburg Blood Donation Ctr, 1176 NW Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg
Tuesday, April 28 – 10:00 am – 3:30 pm – YMCA, 1151 Stewart Parkway, Roseburg

Stay Informed with the Accurate Information

Your Douglas County Board of Commissioners, Douglas County Public Health Officer, Dr. Robert Dannenhoffer and the Douglas County COVID-19 Response Team have been working hard to cooperatively provide accurate and timely information and a response to Douglas County residents. **If you have questions about resources available, call the COVID-19 hotline, staffed by local volunteers at (541) 464-6550.** Stay up to date on COVID-19 in Douglas County on the DPHN website at www.douglaspublichealthnetwork.org. Find additional information on state, federal and international COVID-19 response from the following websites: [Oregon Health Authority](#), [Centers for Disease Control](#), [World Health Organization](#) and by calling or logging onto [211Info](#).

**Local case data includes all tests done in the county, and are not exclusive to DPHN testing. Further, reporting numbers are accurate as of time listed on this release. These numbers may not match other organizations, who report at different times of the day.*

###

Contact [Tamara Howell](#), Public Information Officer, Douglas County COVID-19 Response Team, (541) 670-2804 cell/(541) 957-4896 tjhowell@co.douglas.or.us
Contact [Vanessa Becker](#), Public Information Officer, Douglas Public Health Network, (541) 817-6552 cell /(541) 440-3571 vanessa@douglaspublichealthnetwork.org