

This is an important message from Clay County Kansas Emergency Management
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Local Partners,

The State EOC notified local Emergency Management offices last week that we can no longer provide PPE for Long Term Care Facilities (LTC) and Schools unless we can show proof that the LTC or school district has attempted to purchase those items through their normal procurement chains and routine vendors and has been unable to do so.

So far, this is only affecting LTC and School requests, I sent a question to the SEOC asking if they anticipated that same process being required from first responder and other medical facilities requesting PPE and was told “not at this time.”

Right after that exchange I submitted a resource request for surgical masks for CCMC and it was denied with a comment stating that the county share of the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) had to be used before the county could request additional resources.

As you may remember, our county’s share of the SNS was a pitifully small amount of PPE and most of the boxes contain size S N-95 masks which are rarely used. I was able to give CCMC the surgical masks we had in the SNS stockpile but it was less than ½ of what they requested. I sent another resource request to the state late yesterday requesting the balance of what CCMC had requested and my request is marked that is approved and being processed. Hopefully that will continue through the process and actually be shipped.

I wanted to let you all know of this issue, because some PPE, especially N-95 masks and size M-XL gloves seem to be getting harder to find through regular vendors. I would suggest that you continue to try to order to keep a good supply on hand and stockpiled in your facility following your usual procurement process. **If you run into out of stock issues or extended back order notifications, save those notices for submission with any resource request you make through the county.**

And **BEWARE** that the problem of counterfeit PPE is still there and hand sanitizers listed at this link should not be used due to Methanol content <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/drug-safety-and-availability/fda-updates-hand-sanitizers-methanol#products>. See the attached document EMR-ISAC InfoGram for July 16 for direct links to information about counterfeit PPE and more on the hand sanitizer issue.

We were also informed yesterday that the state is moving to a monthly report of the PPE inventory we have been required to submit weekly, I will let you know when we hear more on that. In the meantime, please continue to send those to me weekly using the attached report form. Thanks all! Have a good weekend and stay safe!

Pam Kemp, Director

Clay County Emergency Management

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Please watch for updates on this situation. Call 911 for emergency only.