State and National Updates

Kelly Fine
Executive Director | Arizona Pharmacy Association
Worldwide Cases

COVID-19 Dashboard by the Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) at Johns Hopkins University (JHU)

Total Confirmed: 18,566,769

Confirmed Cases by Country/Region/Sovereignty:
- US: 4,771,846
- Brazil: 2,801,921
- India: 1,908,254
- Russia: 864,940
- South Africa: 521,318
- Mexico: 449,961
- Peru: 439,989
- Chile: 362,762
- Colombia: 334,979
- Iran: 317,483
- United Kingdom: 307,257
- Spain: 302,814

Global Deaths: 701,316

Deaths, Recovered:
- US: 156,839 deaths, 73,326 recovered
- Brazil: 95,819 deaths
- Mexico: 48,869 deaths
- United Kingdom: 46,295 deaths
- India: 39,795 deaths
- Italy: 35,171 deaths

Other Countries:
- New York US: 15,857 deaths, 32,697 recovered
- New Jersey US: 9,707 deaths, recovered
- California US: 8,657 deaths, 97,995 recovered
- Massachusetts US: 7,742 deaths, recovered

Graph showing confirmed cases from March to July.
**National Cases**

**TOTAL CASES**
4,698,818
40,716 New Cases*

**TOTAL DEATHS**
155,204
733 New Deaths*

---

**DAILY CONFIRMED NEW CASES (5-DAY MOVING AVERAGE)**

The first case of COVID-19 in US was reported 195 days ago on 1/21/2020. Since then, the country has reported 4,771,080 cases, and 156,801 deaths.

**US**

New cases confirmed each day (5-day average) ▾ DOWN

**Cumulative Cases By Date**

**US**

Yesterday's data (8/5/2020)

NEW CASES: 57,540
DEATHS: 1,399

The first case of COVID-19 in US was reported 195 days ago on 1/21/2020. Yesterday, the country reported 57,540 new confirmed cases and 1,399 deaths.
US Cases by County

Top 50 Confirmed Cases by County

179,859 confirmed
Los Angeles

114,789 confirmed
Miami-Dade

111,784 confirmed
Maricopa

107,744 confirmed
Cook

75,254 confirmed
Harris

69,556 confirmed
Queens

61,506 confirmed
Kings

56,855 confirmed
Broward

52,151 confirmed
Dallas

45,975 confirmed
Bronx

44,977 confirmed
Clark

Cases per US State (Deaths)

526,968 California (9,707)
497,330 Florida (7,402)
466,032 Texas (7,271)
417,589 New York (32,725)
197,948 Georgia (3,921)
185,993 Illinois (7,742)
182,970 New Jersey (15,857)
180,505 Arizona (3,845)
128,715 North Carolina (2,061)
124,461 Louisiana (4,051)
119,724 Pennsylvania (7,248)
115,203 Massachusetts (8,657)
112,441 Tennessee (1,117)
95,106 Ohio (3,570)
94,251 Virginia (2,244)

Total Confirmed
4,771,846
Daily confirmed new cases (3-day moving average)

How to use this graphic:

Click on a state to see more detail.

- Line shows 3-day moving average of **new cases per day** in this state. Dot corresponds to most recent day.
- The **greener** the background, the bigger the **downward trend** of new cases in this state.
- The **redder** the background, the bigger the **upward trend** of new cases in this state.
Federal guidelines advise that states wait until they experience a downward trajectory of documented cases within a 14-day period before proceeding to a phased opening. In the state-specific view of the graph, this two-week period is highlighted in **orange** if cases are trending upward, or **green** if they are trending down.
ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
Health and Wellness for All Arizonans

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Cases</th>
<th>Number of Deaths</th>
<th>Number of COVID-19 Tests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>180,505</td>
<td>3,845</td>
<td>1,203,463</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of New Cases reported today*</th>
<th>Number of New Deaths reported today*</th>
<th>Number of New Tests reported today*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,008</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>7,128</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rate of cases, per 100,000 population</th>
<th>Rate of fatalities, per 100,000 population</th>
<th>Total Percent Positive**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2,510.8</td>
<td>53.49</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total COVID-19 PCR Tests</th>
<th>New PCR Tests reported today*</th>
<th>PCR Percent Positive**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>971,244</td>
<td>6,826</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total COVID-19 Serology Tests</th>
<th>New Serology Tests reported today*</th>
<th>Serology Percent Positive**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>232,219</td>
<td>302</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Rate per 100,000

### Cases by County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Total Cases</th>
<th>Percent of State's Cases</th>
<th>Cases per 100,000</th>
<th>Total Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maricopa</td>
<td>120,960</td>
<td>67.4%</td>
<td>2,697</td>
<td>2,108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pima</td>
<td>16,741</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>1,599</td>
<td>462</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yuma</td>
<td>11,203</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
<td>5,240</td>
<td>263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinal</td>
<td>8,301</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>1,794</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navajo</td>
<td>5,284</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>4,764</td>
<td>188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apache</td>
<td>3,084</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>4,290</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohave</td>
<td>3,040</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>1,433</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coconino</td>
<td>2,997</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>2,089</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Cruz</td>
<td>2,610</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>5,613</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yavapai</td>
<td>1,858</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>790</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cochise</td>
<td>1,557</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>1,236</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gila</td>
<td>841</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>1,557</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graham</td>
<td>490</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>1,262</td>
<td>&lt;20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Paz</td>
<td>474</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>2,246</td>
<td>&lt;20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenlee</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>&lt;20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Congregate Settings with Positive COVID-19 Cases

Number of Congregate Settings with Confirmed COVID-19 Cases

869

Setting Type

- Assisted Living: 302
- Other: 176
- Long-Term Care Facility: 152
- Rehab Facility: 63
- Workplace: 57
- Prison/Jail/Detention Center: 40
- Hospital: 26
- Shelter: 14
- Private Setting (Residential): 13
- Hospice: 9
- Child/Daycare: 6
- Dialysis Clinic: 4
- College/University: 3
- Outpatient/Clinic: 3
- Religious Facility: 1

Congregate Setting with Confirmed COVID-19 Cases by Week

Date that is used for week is the date the outbreak was reported to public health
#### Which U.S. States Meet WHO Recommended Testing Criteria?

The WHO advised governments that before reopening, rates of positivity in testing should remain at 5% or lower for at least 14 days.

### States that meet positivity recommendations: 15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Percentage of Positive Tests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vermont</td>
<td>0.37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>0.82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>1.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>1.24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>1.48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>1.83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>2.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District of Columbia</td>
<td>2.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>2.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>2.99%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### States above recommended positivity: 37

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Percentage of Positive Tests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Puerto Rico</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>25.77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>19.92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nevada</td>
<td>18.96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>18.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>18.14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idaho</td>
<td>17.47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>14.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>13.95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>13.49%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The image includes a bar chart showing the percentage of positive tests for various states, with Arizona (AZ) highlighted at 18.14%.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Total % Positive</th>
<th>PCR % Positive</th>
<th>Sero % Positive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6/17/20</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/24/20</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/1/20</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/8/20</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/15/20</td>
<td>11.9%</td>
<td>14.2%</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/22/20</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/29/20</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/5/20</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COVID-19 tests completed and percent positive by week:
- 6/28/20 = 21%
- 7/5/20 = 19%
- 7/12/20 = 16%
- 7/19/20 = 13%
- 7/26/20 = 11%

PCR Positivity %
- 6/28/20 = 21%
- 7/5/20 = 19%
- 7/12/20 = 16%
- 7/19/20 = 13%
- 7/26/20 = 11%
### Hospitalizations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Total # COVID Cases In Hospital</th>
<th>% Cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6/17/20</td>
<td>3,808</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/24/20</td>
<td>4,250</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/1/20</td>
<td>4,736</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/8/20</td>
<td>5,272</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/15/20</td>
<td>5,942</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/22/20</td>
<td>6,894</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/29/20</td>
<td>9,394</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/4/20</td>
<td>13,294</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of COVID-19 Cases that are Hospitalized by Date of Hospitalization

Number of Cases Hospitalized: 13,294

Percent of Cases Hospitalized: 7%

COVID-19 Hospitalized Cases by Age Group:

- Less than 20 years: 704
- 20 - 44 years: 3,509
- 45 - 64 years: 1,968
- 65 years and older: 2,167

COVID-19 Hospitalized Cases by Gender:

- Male: 51%
- Female: 49%

COVID-19 Hospitalized Cases by Race/Ethnicity:

- White, Non-Hispanic: 35%
- Hispanic or Latino: 38%
- Native American: 9%
- Black, Non-Hispanic: 5%
- Asian/Pacific Islander: 1%
- Other, Non-Hispanic: 2%
- Unknown: 11%
Inpatient Bed Usage Due to COVID-19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Total (in use %)</th>
<th># COVID</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6/15/20</td>
<td>6,231 (81%)</td>
<td>1,506</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/22/20</td>
<td>6,469 (83%)</td>
<td>2,136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/29/20</td>
<td>6,488 (85%)</td>
<td>2,793</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/6/20</td>
<td>6,472 (82%)</td>
<td>3,356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/13/20</td>
<td>6,721 (85%)</td>
<td>3,517</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/20/20</td>
<td>6,636 (83%)</td>
<td>3,041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/27/20</td>
<td>6,386 (81%)</td>
<td>2,564</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/3/20</td>
<td>6,487 (81%)</td>
<td>2,024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Total ICU (in use%)</td>
<td># COVID</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/15/20</td>
<td>1,307 (80%)</td>
<td>502</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/22/20</td>
<td>1,412 (84%)</td>
<td>614</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/29/20</td>
<td>1,435 (86%)</td>
<td>683</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/6/20</td>
<td>1,481 (90%)</td>
<td>869</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/13/20</td>
<td>1,498 (88%)</td>
<td>970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/20/20</td>
<td>1,448 (85%)</td>
<td>865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/27/20</td>
<td>1,433 (84%)</td>
<td>814</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/3/20</td>
<td>1,443 (83%)</td>
<td>638</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Ventilator Usage Due to COVID-19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Total Ventilators (in use%)</th>
<th># COVID</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6/15/20</td>
<td>707 (38%)</td>
<td>340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/22/20</td>
<td>716 (41%)</td>
<td>386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/29/20</td>
<td>773 (45%)</td>
<td>455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/6/20</td>
<td>895 (51%)</td>
<td>544</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/15/200</td>
<td>996 (52%)</td>
<td>674</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/20/20</td>
<td>952 (49%)</td>
<td>608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/27/20</td>
<td>920 (47%)</td>
<td>574</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/3/20</td>
<td>795 (41%)</td>
<td>474</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Effective Reproduction #: $R_t$

Goal: $<1.0$
**Arizona COVID-19 Guidance ‘Release from Isolation’ Flow Chart**

At the time of testing/evaluation, was the patient experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19?

**YES**

Was the patient tested for COVID-19 by PCR or antigen?*

*If the patient is currently symptomatic and awaiting test results, they should stay home and away from others, then follow the guidance below, based on their results.

**YES**

What was the test result?

- **POSITIVE**
  - ISOLATE until ALL the following are met:
    - It has been at least 10 days* since symptoms appeared
    - No fever for 24 hours**
    - Other symptoms have improved
    *Without the use of medicines that reduce fever.
    **Without the use of medicines that reduce fever.

- **NEGATIVE**
  - ISOLATE until ALL the following are met:
    - No fever for 24 hours**
    - Other symptoms have improved
    **Without the use of medicines that reduce fever.

**NO**

Was the patient tested for COVID-19 by PCR, antigen or serology?*

**YES**

Was the test serology?

- **YES**
  - No isolation needed
- **NO**
  - Was the PCR or antigen test positive?
    - **YES**
      - No isolation needed
    - **NO**
      - ISOLATE for 10 days* from when the specimen was collected**
        ***If symptoms develop, follow guidance for symptomatic patients.

**NO**

Was the patient tested for COVID-19 by PCR, antigen or serology?*

- **YES**
  - No isolation needed
- **NO**
  - Was the PCR or antigen test positive?
    - **YES**
      - No isolation needed
    - **NO**
      - ISOLATE for 10 days* from when the specimen was collected**
        ***If symptoms develop, follow guidance for symptomatic patients.

---

*A person who had severe/critical illness or is severely immunocompromised should:
If symptomatic, stay home from others or under isolation precautions until:
- At least 20 days have passed since symptoms first appeared; AND
- At least 24 hours have passed since last fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers; AND
- Other symptoms have improved.
If asymptomatic, stay home from others or under isolation precautions until:
- At least 20 days have passed since specimen collection of the first positive COVID-19 PCR/antigen testing while asymptomatic. If symptoms develop, follow guidance for symptomatic and tested positive for COVID-19.

Outside of these criteria above, extension of isolation is not routinely recommended if an individual is retested within 3 months of onset of symptoms or date of first positive test while asymptomatic.
Have you had any symptoms consistent with COVID-19?

Tip: Symptoms consistent with COVID-19 include:
- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Yes
No

Have you been tested for COVID-19? If so, are you waiting for your test result?

Tip: Types of COVID-19 tests include:
- PCR (typically a nose, nasopharyngeal/NP, or throat swab)
- Antigen (typically a nose, nasopharyngeal/NP, or throat swab)
- Serology (a blood test)

Yes - I have my test results
Yes - I am waiting for my test result
No

What date did you start to feel any symptoms? If you’re not sure, make your best guess.

Enter a date:

08-02-2020
Were you admitted to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of the hospital for this illness?

Yes
No

Are you severely immunocompromised (do you have a depressed immune system)?

Tip - severely immunocompromised means you have:

- Been taking chemotherapy for cancer recently;
- HIV and a CD4 T-cell count <200;
- An immunodeficiency disorder;
- Been taking high-dose steroids (like prednisone 20 mg/day for >14 days); or
- Another condition that a healthcare provider has told you makes you severely immunocompromised.

Yes
No

Home Isolation Guidance

Because you:

- Have not been tested for COVID-19;
- Had symptoms consistent with COVID-19;
- Were not admitted to the ICU; and
- Are not severely immunocompromised.

You should isolate at home until:

- At least 10 days have passed since your symptoms first started and
- At least 24 hours have passed since your fever resolved (without the use of medication) and
- Your other symptoms have improved.

Your symptoms started on: 08-02-2020
You should isolate at home until at least: 08-02-2020 + 10 days
Quarantine Guidance for Household and Close Contacts (Updated 7/31/20)

If you live in the same home or were in close contact (within 6 feet for longer than 10 minutes) with someone with COVID-19, you should stay at home and quarantine. This means you should:

- Separate yourself from the ill person (people) in the home, if you live with the person with COVID-19.
- Stay at home for 14 days after your last contact with the person with COVID-19, except to get essential medical care, prescriptions, and food. This includes:
  - Not going to work (unless you work in an essential service AND do not have any symptoms consistent with COVID-19), school, or public areas
  - If you work in an essential service AND do not have any symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and must go to work during the 14 days after your last contact with the person with COVID-19, you must wear a cloth face mask when you are within 6 feet of other people.
- Not using public transportation, rideshares, or taxis
- Wash your hands and avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth AND cover your coughs and sneezes
- Avoid sharing household items like dishes, cups, eating utensils, and bedding.
- Clean high-touch surfaces (tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, toilets, etc.) daily.
- Call ahead before going to any medical appointments and tell your healthcare provider about your contact with someone who has COVID-19.
- Monitor your temperature & symptoms for 14 days after your last contact with the person with COVID-19.

If you develop any symptoms consistent with COVID-19 during the 14-day monitoring period, you should:

1) Get tested for COVID-19 with a PCR or antigen test (swab test) at a healthcare facility or other testing site.

2) If you do not get tested, are waiting for your test results OR test positive for COVID-19, you should isolate at home until:
   - At least 10 days have passed since your symptoms first started and
   - At least 24 hours have passed since your fever resolved (without the use of medication) and
   - Your other symptoms have improved.

3) If you do not get tested, are waiting for your test results OR test positive for COVID-19 AND are admitted to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) OR you are severely immunocompromised, you should isolate until:
   - At least 20 days have passed since your symptoms first started and
   - At least 24 hours have passed since your fever resolved (without the use of medication) and
   - Your other symptoms have improved.

4) If you test negative for COVID-19, you should isolate at home until:
   - At least 14 days have passed since your last exposure to the person with COVID-19 and
   - At least 24 hours have passed since your fever resolved (without the use of medication) and
   - Your other symptoms have improved.
Arizona Schools Update

- In accordance with Executive Order 2020-44, schools shall delay the start of in-person learning for the 2020-2021 school year until August 17th.
- In accordance with EO 2020-51, ADHS is developing metrics for reopening schools and are due out no later than August 7th.
- Metrics to help determine type of learning will likely include:
  - A decrease case count/rate over 14 days
  - Percent positivity as a certain threshold
- Arizona: Open For Learning
More research is needed. All stress importance of face masks, hand washing and social distancing once schools reopen.

Age-Related Differences in Nasopharyngeal Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) Levels in Patients With Mild to Moderate Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Taylor Heald-Sargent, MD, PhD; William J. Muller, MD, PhD; Xiaotian Zheng, MD, PhD; et al.

Volunteers Needed for COVID-19 Vaccine Trials

- With several possible vaccine candidates, all of which are in phases of testing for safety, dosing and response, volunteers are needed for the clinical trials.
- Pharmacies can help raise awareness with their patients of the opportunity and the need to register themselves. Not only would they be compensated and contribute to science – their participation speeds up the ability to start Phase 3 Trials.

https://coronaviruspreventionnetwork.org/
FDA may soon authorize the emergency use of blood plasma from recovered COVID-19 patients for treating those infected with the disease. Some physicians and hospitals already treat hospitalized COVID-19 patients with convalescent plasma under compassionate use and as part of studies.

If FDA implements an emergency-use authorization, hospitals could access the therapy more easily. Initial studies suggest that convalescent plasma is generally safe to use and enhances the survival of hospitalized patients.
FDA Authorizes First Diagnostic Test For Screening of People Without Known or Suspected COVID-19 Infection

- FDA revised its LabCorp COVID-19 RT-PCR Test emergency use authorization (EUA) to include two new indications for use:
  - Testing for people who do not have COVID-19 symptoms or who have no reason to suspect COVID-19 infection
  - Allows pooled sample testing
- LabCorp's test remains prescription-only and authorized for human specimen collection either at home using the Pixel by LabCorp or other home sample collection kits authorized for use with LabCorp's test, or by a health care provider

CLICK HERE
Group Of 32 State AGs Asks HHS To Invoke Federal Patent Law To Increase Supply, Lower Prices Of Remdesivir

State attorneys general: Use federal law to lower cost, increase supply of COVID-19 drug remdesivir

Ken Alltucker USA TODAY
Published 11:04 a.m. ET Aug. 4, 2020 | Updated 6:22 p.m. ET Aug. 4, 2020

As the world anxiously awaits a COVID-19 vaccine, immunization experts are still adhering to a four-phase clinical trial process.
FDA authorized two COVID-19 serology tests that estimate the quantity of antibodies present in the blood. *(Siemens' ADVIA Centaur COV2G and Atellica IM COV2G tests)*

These tests are "semi-quantitative," so instead of offering a precise measurement, they estimate the quantity of a patient's antibodies generated against the novel coronavirus.

There are still many unknowns about what the presence of SARS-CoV-2 antibodies may tell us about potential immunity, therefore the FDA cautions against using the results from these tests, or any serology test, as an indication that they can stop taking steps to protect themselves and others. *(masks, social distancing, etc.)*

FDA also stressed that serology tests should not be used to diagnose an active infection, as they only detect antibodies the immune system develops in response to the virus – not the virus itself. [Read More]
On Monday, August 3, President Trump signed executive orders with the goal of improving healthcare in rural America, for seniors, and for all Americans, by expanding telehealth, modernizing regulations, and reforming payments.

Specifically, the executive orders call on HHS to:

- Propose a Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) rule to extend parts of Medicare’s broader coverage of telehealth beyond the end of the current public health emergency.

- Propose a payment model to improve rural healthcare through the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation.

- Launch a rural health action plan with a range of actions that different components of HHS will take to 1) build sustainable models for rural communities, 2) focus on preventing disease and mortality, 3) leverage innovation and technology, and 4) increase access to care.

- Reach a memorandum of understanding with the Federal Communications Commission and the Department of Agriculture to promote rural access to telehealth via broadband.
Back to Normal
Now is the Time to Advocate for the Inclusion of Pharmacist Provider Status!

▪ Unfortunately, the testing/immunization provider status provision was not in the Senate Republicans initial proposal for the next COVID-19 Relief Bill but since the House of Representatives HEROES Act and the Senate’s HEALS Act are still far apart from each other they will have to continue to work on this legislation in the next few days in order to reach an agreement.

▪ Please contact congressional leadership and tell them to include language to authorize pharmacists to provide COVID-19 testing services to patients under Medicare Part B on an emergency basis during the pandemic in the COVID-response bill.

[APhA: CLICK HERE](#)

[NCPA: CLICK HERE](#)
Poll Questions

- Annual Convention General Session Feedback
- COVID Townhall
Questions?