



Tuesday, April 7, 2020

4/7/2020 COVID-19 Updates

No new cases of COVID-19 reported today in Chautauqua County

Chautauqua County statistics:

- 19 confirmed cases;
- 9 active cases - continue to recover under orders of the Local Health Official per NYS Public Health Law;
- 8 recovered cases;
- 2 deaths;
- 84 cases under quarantine/isolation orders by the Public Health Director and being monitored. Not all of those being monitored are confirmed to have COVID-19 but have either shown symptoms, are awaiting results, or have risk factors; and
- 204 negative test results to date.

ADVICE FROM A PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE:

In honor of National Public Health Week, for the rest of this week, we will be bringing you a daily COVID-19 tip.

STAY HOME.

If you go out, please start to journal the details about where you go. Coronavirus is out there, and you will encounter it. Every time you come within 6 feet of someone, you are increasing your chances of contracting the virus. When I call you, because you have come in contact with someone who has COVID-19, I am going to ask details about where you have been, so be ready. Or, better yet, JUST STAY HOME.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT POSITIVE COVID-19 CASES:

Chautauqua County Public Health staff is conducting investigations to identify close contacts of positive COVID-19 cases.

Following guidance from NYSDOH, contact tracing will begin 48 hours before the day the person with the positive test started having symptoms. NYSDOH deems this the beginning of the infectious period. Once identified, our department notifies the close contacts of their potential exposure to COVID-19 and they are placed under mandatory or precautionary quarantine to monitor for symptoms. If you do not personally hear from a public health nurse, you are not a close contact of an individual who has been confirmed to have COVID-19. Per NYSDOH, close contact refers to a person who cared for or lived with a person with COVID-19. It does not include activities such as walking by a person or sitting across a waiting room or office for a brief time.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT TESTING SUPPLIES AND PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

Testing supplies and PPE (used when doing a test and treating infected patients) continue to be in low supply across the state and especially in rural areas where population density is low. At this time, tests MUST BE prioritized for hospitalized patients, ill healthcare workers, and those who have underlying health conditions. Currently there are three locations in Chautauqua County where outpatient testing is performed: UPMC's Jones Hill Center; The Chautauqua Center in Jamestown and Dunkirk. Testing is not done without a healthcare provider's order.

Federal and state officials are NOW recommending the wearing of homemade masks or scarves by the general public. This act will protect the public from your respiratory droplets. It is now estimated that 30% of those infected with coronavirus don't know they are infected. This is one more step to try and decrease the spread of coronavirus. (Surgical masks and N-95 respirators are for healthcare workers only.)

Link to COVID-19 Map:

<https://chautauquacounty.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/012d07321ad6415c8cf17c4f673643c9>

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