



May 12, 2020

5/12/2020 COVID-19 Updates

One New Case of COVID-19 in Chautauqua County Today

Chautauqua County statistics:

- 44 confirmed cases, including the County's first reported pediatric case;
- 8 active cases - continue to recover under orders of the Local Health Official per NYS Public Health Law;
- 32 recovered cases;
- 4 deaths;
- 131 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
- 1,451 negative test results to date.

COVID-19 IN CHILDREN – DEVELOPING INFORMATION

One of our roles, as your local health department, is to inform, educate, and empower you about health issues. With that role in mind, we want to make sure you are aware of recent displays of coronavirus in children. We follow the lead of Governor Cuomo by fighting fear with facts.

While some children and infants have been sick with COVID-19, adults make up most of the known cases to date.

In the United Kingdom and Europe, a possible link has been reported between COVID-19 and a serious inflammatory disease. Per data reviewed from several dozen cases in Europe and the US, by pediatric experts in intensive care, cardiology, rheumatology, and infectious disease, two things are clear about this mysterious pattern of illness. Per information reported by Boston Children's Hospital, thus far, it is rare.

Governor Cuomo recently announced emerging cases of COVID-19 related illness in children. NYS is currently investigating 85 reported cases where children - predominantly school-aged - are experiencing multi-system inflammatory syndrome potentially associated with COVID-19. This is what we currently know:

- Recently, the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) has been reported as possibly linked with a pediatric multi-system inflammatory syndrome disease – “Pediatric Multi-System Inflammatory Syndrome Potentially Associated with COVID-19.”
- As of May 10, 2020, 85 suspected pediatric cases compatible with multisystem inflammatory syndrome have been reported in children in New York State.
- The illness has taken the lives of three children in NYS and an additional two deaths are currently under investigation. These deaths are not in Chautauqua County.
- This syndrome has features, which overlap with Kawasaki Disease and Toxic Shock Syndrome. The child may have a persistent fever, abdominal symptoms, rash on the torso and groin, bright red swollen lips, swollen lymph nodes, and swollen hands and feet.
- This inflammatory syndrome may occur days to weeks after acute COVID-19 illness.
- If your child has had close contact with someone known to have COVID-19 or has symptoms compatible with pediatric multi-system inflammatory syndrome potentially associated with COVID-19, contact your pediatrician.

Governor Cuomo assures that NY continues to investigate the illness and get the facts quickly so we can help prevent any more children from getting sick.

Pediatric COVID-19 patients might not have fever or cough. Social distancing and everyday preventive behaviors remain important for all age groups because patients with less serious illness and those without symptoms likely play an important role in disease transmission.

As we learn new things about the coronavirus every day, it remains important that all Chautauqua County residents continue to take steps to protect children and others from getting sick. Teach children to do the same.

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds, and wash them more frequently throughout the day;
- Avoid touching your face;
- Cover your coughs or sneezes;
- Avoid close contact with others by keeping a distance of six feet;
- Wear a cloth covering over your mouth and nose when in public and when six feet of distance cannot be maintained – everyone 2 years of age and older;
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces;
- Work from home if you can;
- If you are sick, stay home and avoid contact with others. Talk to your health care provider about your symptoms and diagnostic and treatment options, including those related to COVID-19. Talk to your health care provider **before** you visit a clinic or hospital emergency department.
- Only if your symptoms are severe or you are experiencing a life-threatening emergency, call 911 and the 911 dispatcher will screen your call per established protocol.

Link to Chautauqua County COVID-19 Map:

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

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