

4-28-2020

COVID-19 Newsletter (vol. 10)

Center for Disaster Medicine, New York Medical College

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NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE

A MEMBER OF THE Touro College and University System

Center for Disaster Medicine



Tuesday April 28, 2020

During this COVID-19 pandemic and other future events, the CDM will continue to be a source of reliable information, education and models for mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.

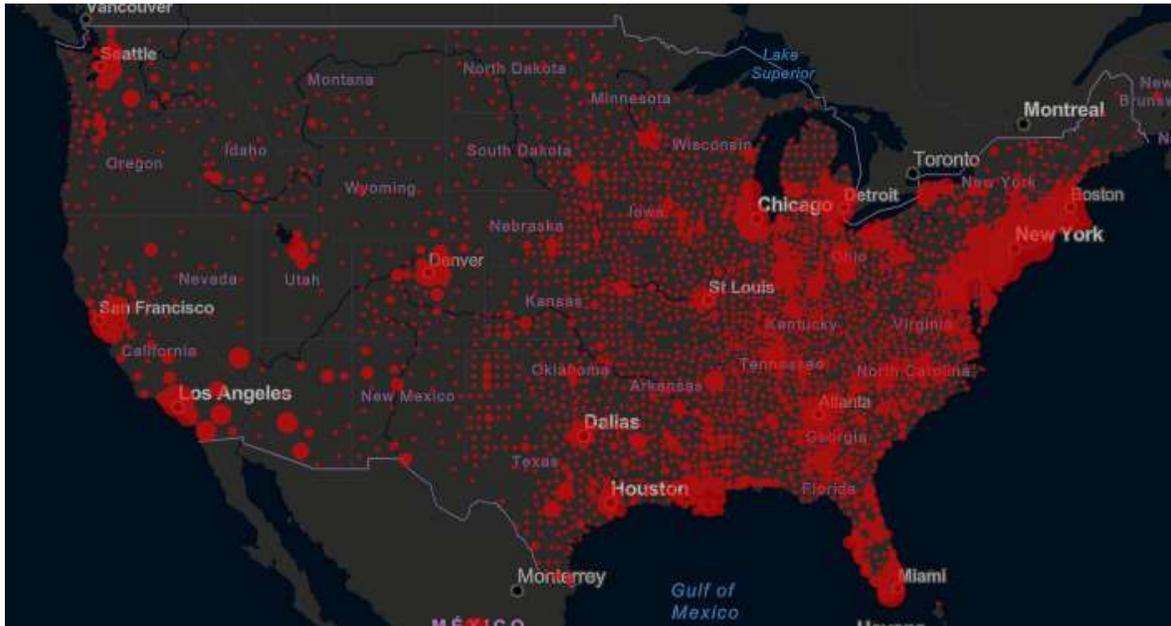
David Markenson, M.D., M.B.A.
Director
Center for Disaster Medicine

COVID-19 Statistics

	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Total Recovered	Total Tested
Worldwide	3,041,777	211,170	894,337	No Data
United States	988,451	56,245	111,509	5,593,495
New Jersey	111,188	6,044	No Data	227,775
New York	291,996	22,668	No Data	826,095
Connecticut	25,997	2,012	No Data	79,811

Information as of 4/28/20 at 0400 EDT. Source: <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>

United States COVID-19 Case Map / GIS



Center for Disaster Medicine Updates

- Coordinating volunteers to support local public health response to COVID-19.
- Conducting research and analysis of current events and COVID-19 response to identify strengths and areas for improvement in other regions.
- Updating and developing new programs to provide enhanced education on public health emergencies including pandemics.
- Redesigning summer fellowship in disaster and emergency medicine to better address preparedness skills, lessons learned and highlight the importance of high-fidelity simulation in medical education while finding new focus on pandemic-related research projects.
- Exploring course development opportunities in infection prevention and control for frontline responders in the hospital and in the field.
- Serving as a source of information for COVID-19 related concerns or questions regarding public health, emergency medical service (EMS), public safety and healthcare response.
- Local networking and pandemic response analysis for New York metropolitan tri-state area, using first-person experiences to highlight current trends.

Federal Updates

- The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued guidance for compliance safety and health officers on the reuse of filtering facepiece respirators (FFRs)

that have been decontaminated. <https://www.osha.gov/memos/2020-04-24/enforcement-guidance-decontamination-filtering-facepiece-respirators-healthcare>

- Meat and poultry processing facilities are a component of the critical infrastructure within the Food and Agriculture Sector. Workers may be permitted to continue work following potential exposure to COVID-19, provided they remain asymptomatic and additional precautions are implemented to protect them and the community. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) has issued updated guidance for this sector: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/meat-poultry-processing-workers-employers.html?deliveryName=USCDC_2067-DM26823
- ASPR/TRACIE has compiled a virtual toolkit of resources for those healthcare decision-makers responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. <https://asprtracie.hhs.gov/Workforce-Virtual-Toolkit>

The White House

- President Trump issued guidelines for the re-opening of the country in a phased approach on 4/16 and continues to work to ensure that states have the resources needed to effectively make decisions and conduct testing. The recommendations can be found at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/openingamerica/> and the WH statement on testing can be found at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/president-donald-j-trump-ensuring-states-testing-capacity-needed-safely-open-america/>
- Trump Administration Releases COVID-19 Telehealth Toolkit to Accelerate State Use of Telehealth in Medicaid and CHIP <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/trump-administration-releases-covid-19-telehealth-toolkit-accelerate-state-use-telehealth-medicaid>
- The President's 30 Days to Slow the Spread- On March 31, President Trump extended the Coronavirus Guidelines for America through April 30. https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/03.16.20_coronavirus-guidance_8.5x11_315PM.pdf

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

NIH announces NIAID strategic plan details COVID-19 research priorities:

<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/niaid-strategic-plan-details-covid-19-research-priorities>

United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

<https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/counterterrorism-and-emerging-threats/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>

- FDA announces Virtual Town Hall on April 29, 2020 - Immediately in Effect Guidance on Coronavirus (COVID-19) Diagnostic Tests
<https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/workshops-conferences-medical-devices/virtual-town-hall-series-immediately-effect-guidance-coronavirus-covid-19-diagnostic-tests-04292020>
- FDA issues COVID-19 Daily Roundup as of April 24, 2020
<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-daily-roundup-april-24-2020>
- FDA Continues to Ensure Availability of Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizer During the COVID-19 Pandemic, Addresses Safety Concerns
<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-fda-continues-ensure-availability-alcohol-based-hand-sanitizer-during>
- FDA Reiterates Importance of Close Patient Supervision for 'Off-Label' Use of Antimalarial Drugs to Mitigate Known Risks, Including Heart Rhythm Problems
<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-fda-reiterates-importance-close-patient-supervision-label-use>

Health and Human Services (HHS)

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/coronavirus/index.html>

- HHS Announces SAMHSA Awards Grants Expanding Community-Based Behavioral Health Services, Strengthens COVID-19 Response
<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/04/27/samhsa-awards-grants-expanding-community-based-behavioral-health-services-strengthens-covid-19.html>
- HHS Secretary Azar's Statement on President Trump's Signing of New Coronavirus Relief Package
<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/04/24/secretary-azar-statement-on-president-trumps-signing-of-new-coronavirus-relief-package.html>
- HHS Encourages Increased Access to PPE for Child Welfare Workers
<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/media/press/2020/hhs-encourages-ppe-for-child-welfare-workers>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/index.html>

Daily updates of cases in United States: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/cases-in-us.html>

CDC's new weekly COVID-19 surveillance report:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/covid-data/covidview.html>

CDC's updated list of Testing in the United States:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/testing-in-us.html>

CDC's travel recommendations by country:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/map-and-travel-notice.html>

CDC's guidance on Meat and Poultry Processing Workers and Employers:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/meat-poultry-processing-workers-employers.html>

CDC's guidance on Considerations for Alternate Care Sites:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/alternative-care-sites.html>

CDC's Information for Clinicians on Investigational Therapeutics for Patients with COVID-19:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/therapeutic-options.html>

Clinical Trials

View the latest information on clinical trials regarding COVID-19:
<https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/results?cond=COVID-19>

Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

To view the latest CMS update:
<https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-news-alert-april-27-2020>

CMS Reevaluates Accelerated Payment Program and Suspends Advance Payment Program
<https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-reevaluates-accelerated-payment-program-and-suspends-advance-payment-program>

American Red Cross

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/donate-blood/dlp/plasma-donations-from-recovered-covid-19-patients.html>

State Updates

New York

- USNS Comfort has discharged its remaining patients and is no longer accepting new admissions/transfers; Comfort expected to depart New York shortly.
<https://www.ny1.com/nyc/all-boroughs/news/2020/04/27/usns-comfort-discharges-last-patients-on-west-side>
- Governor Andrew M. Cuomo is issuing an executive order mandating that the NYS Board of Elections automatically mail all registered voters postage-paid applications for an absentee ballot for the June 23 elections. <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/amid-ongoing-covid-19-pandemic-governor-cuomo-issues-executive-order-make-sure-every-new-yorker>
- NYS launched a new texting program and confidential service to help New Yorkers experiencing domestic violence. www.opdv.ny.gov

- New York is expanding diagnostic testing criteria to include all first responders, healthcare workers and essential employees. <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/amid-ongoing-covid-19-pandemic-governor-cuomo-announces-expansion-diagnostic-testing-criteria>
- Governor Cuomo outlined a phased plan to re-open New York beginning with construction and manufacturing industries. <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/amid-ongoing-covid-19-pandemic-governor-cuomo-outlines-phased-plan-re-open-new-york-starting>

New York State Department of Health

<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home>

For the latest information about COVID-19 testing:

<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-testing#overview>

For a list of positive cases by county in New York State, please visit the COVID-19 tracker:

<https://covid19tracker.health.ny.gov/views/NYS-COVID19-Tracker/NYSDOHCOVID-19Tracker-Map?%3Aembed=yes&%3Atoolbar=no&%3Atabs=n>

NYS DOH Weekly healthcare provider update:

<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/weekly-healthcare-provider-update>

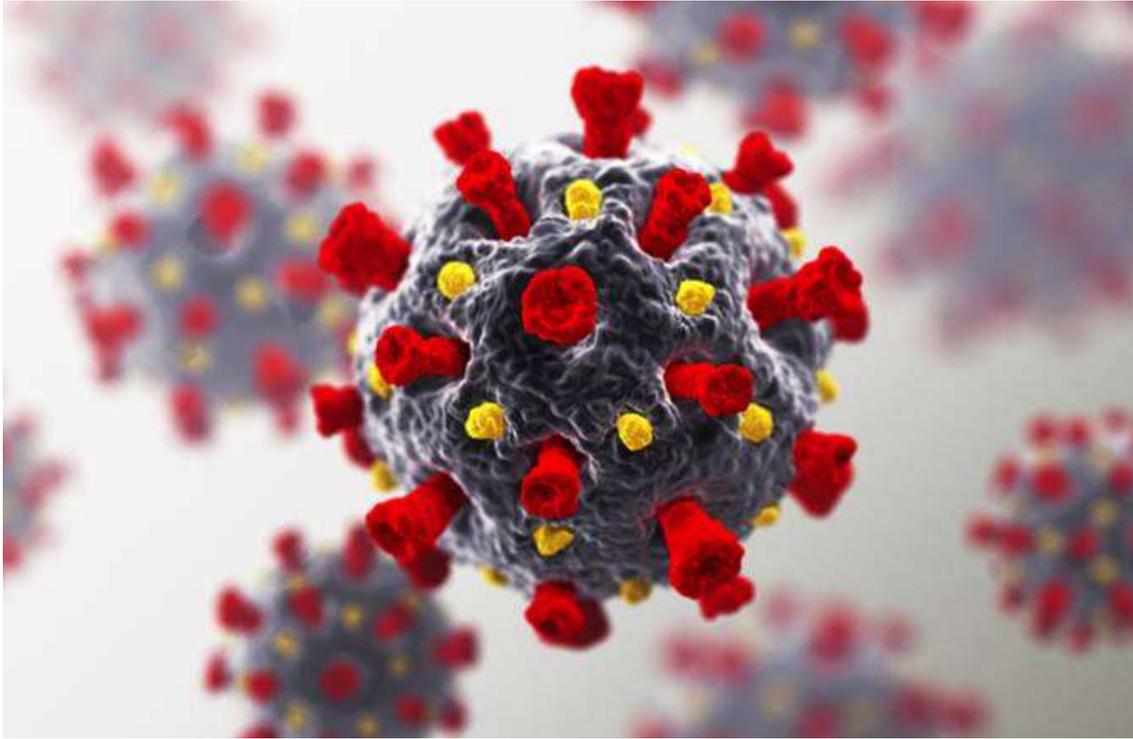
New Jersey

- All NJ motor vehicle commission offices will be closed until at least May 11. All driver licenses (including CDLs), non-driver IDs, registrations, and inspection stickers expiring before May 31 have been extended by two months. <https://www.state.nj.us/mvc/>
- Governor Phil Murphy announced his vision, to restart New Jersey and put the state on the road to recovery. Governor Murphy outlined six key principles and benchmarks to guide the process for restoring New Jersey's economic health by ensuring public health. <https://nj.gov/governor/news/news/562020/approved/20200427b.shtml>
- Governor Murphy and Superintendent of the State Police Colonel Patrick Callahan announced an Administrative Order clarifying which businesses are permitted to operate and ways in which certain businesses may operate in accordance with Executive Order 107. The Administrative Order states the following:
 - 1) Pet grooming businesses, pet daycare, and pet boarding businesses and 2) stores that principally sell items necessary for religious observation or worship shall be considered essential retail businesses.
 - Car dealerships may permit customers who have ordered and/or purchased a vehicle online or by phone to test drive the vehicle at the time of pick-up or prior to delivery, provided the dealership adopts social distancing policies, the individual is given access to the vehicle alone, and the dealership appropriately cleans and sanitizes the vehicle after such test drive if the customer does not purchase the vehicle.

- Licensees, owners, operators, employees, or independent contractors of personal care services facilities are not permitted to provide personal care services in their own homes, the homes of others, or in any facility or business setting unless the individual personal care service provider is providing the service to their household members, immediate family or other individuals with whom the personal care service provider has a close personal relationship, such as those for whom the personal care service provider is a caretaker or romantic partner. A prior business relationship alone does not qualify as a close personal relationship.
[http://d31hzlkh6di2h5.cloudfront.net/20200427/04/3a/ed/63/b5b531f4df9f5d1f84e67377/AO Clarification to EO 107.pdf](http://d31hzlkh6di2h5.cloudfront.net/20200427/04/3a/ed/63/b5b531f4df9f5d1f84e67377/AO%20Clarification%20to%20EO%20107.pdf)

Connecticut

- Executive Order 7FF enacted with the following provision:
 - Additional flexibility for Medicaid-enrolled providers to perform telehealth through audio-only methods for new patients. <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Office-of-the-Governor/Executive-Orders/Lamont-Executive-Orders/Executive-Order-No-7FF.pdf?la=en>
- Governor Ned Lamont announced that the State of Connecticut received federal approval for its plan to provide \$72.3 million in Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits to children eligible for the free and reduced-price meals program. <https://portal.ct.gov/dss/SNAP/Supplemental-Nutrition-Assistance-Program---SNAP>
- The Connecticut Office of Early Childhood has launched the CTCARES for Frontline Workers Program, which was created to help frontline workers struggling with the costs of child care during the COVID-19 pandemic. <https://www.ctoec.org/ctcares-for-frontline-workers/>



Local Updates

New York Blood Center

- PIX11 News Interviews NYBC's Chief Medical Officer About Potential COVID-19 Treatment
<https://www.nybc.org/news/articles/pix11-news-interviews-nybce-chief-medical-officer-about-potential-covid-19-treatment/>

New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-main.page>

NYC DOHMH's potential decontamination strategies for N95 respirators:

<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/imm/n95-decontamination-strategies.pdf>

NYC DOHMH's latest COVID-19 public health milestones:

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-goals.page>

NYC DOHMH's COVID-19 information for providers:

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-providers.page>

Westchester County Department of Health

<https://health.westchestergov.com/2019-novel-coronavirus>

- Latest daily COVID-19 briefing (April 27) from Westchester County Executive George Latimer: <https://www.westchestergov.com/home/all-press-releases/8415-april-27-westchester-county-executive-george-latimer-gives-covid-19-update>

Putnam County Department of Health

<https://www.putnamcountyny.com/health/coronavirus/>

Dutchess County Department of Health

<https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/DBCH/2019-Novel-Coronavirus.htm>

Orange County Department of Health

<https://www.orangecountygov.com/1906/2019-Novel-Coronavirus-Information>

Rockland County Department of Health

<https://rocklandgov.com/departments/health/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Healthcare

COVID-19 information for healthcare facilities from the Greater New York Hospital Association that covers hospitals in the tri-state area:

<https://www.gnyha.org/>

For the latest information on agency prevention and treatment guidance:

<https://www.gnyha.org/tool/cdc-doh-and-dohmh-prevention-and-treatment-guidance/>

For the latest information regarding OSHA guidance on disinfecting N95s:

<https://www.gnyha.org/news/osha-guidance-on-disinfecting-n95s/>

Center for Disaster Medicine Media

Faculty News:

More Questions Than Answers About the Racial & Ethnic Skew in COVID-19 Deaths

City Limit

4/25/2020

<https://citylimits.org/2020/04/25/more-questions-than-answers-about-the-racial-ethnic-skew-in-covid-19-deaths/>

Camille A. Clare, M.D., M.P.H. '11, associate dean of diversity and inclusion for the School of Medicine and associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology

Student News:

New Paltz High School alumnae graduate medical school together, face COVID-19 epicenter

HV1

4/27/2020

<https://hudsonvalleyone.com/2020/04/27/new-paltz-high-school-alumnae-graduate-medical-school-together-face-covid-19-epicenter/>

Erva Khan, School of Medicine Class of 2020
Giovanna K Varuzza, School of Medicine Class of 2020

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New York Medical College
Center for Disaster Medicine
7 Dana Road Suite 511
Valhalla, New York 10595
914-594-1750

<https://www.nymc.edu/center-for-disaster-medicine/>