

6-23-2020

COVID-19 Newsletter (vol. 25)

Center for Disaster Medicine, New York Medical College



NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE

A MEMBER OF THE Touro College and University System

Center for Disaster Medicine



Tuesday, June 23, 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. As the pace of new information and changes has slowed and out of respect for the volume of everyone's communications, we will be decreasing the frequency of our newsletter to once per week.

David Markenson, M.D., M.B.A.

Director

Center for Disaster Medicine

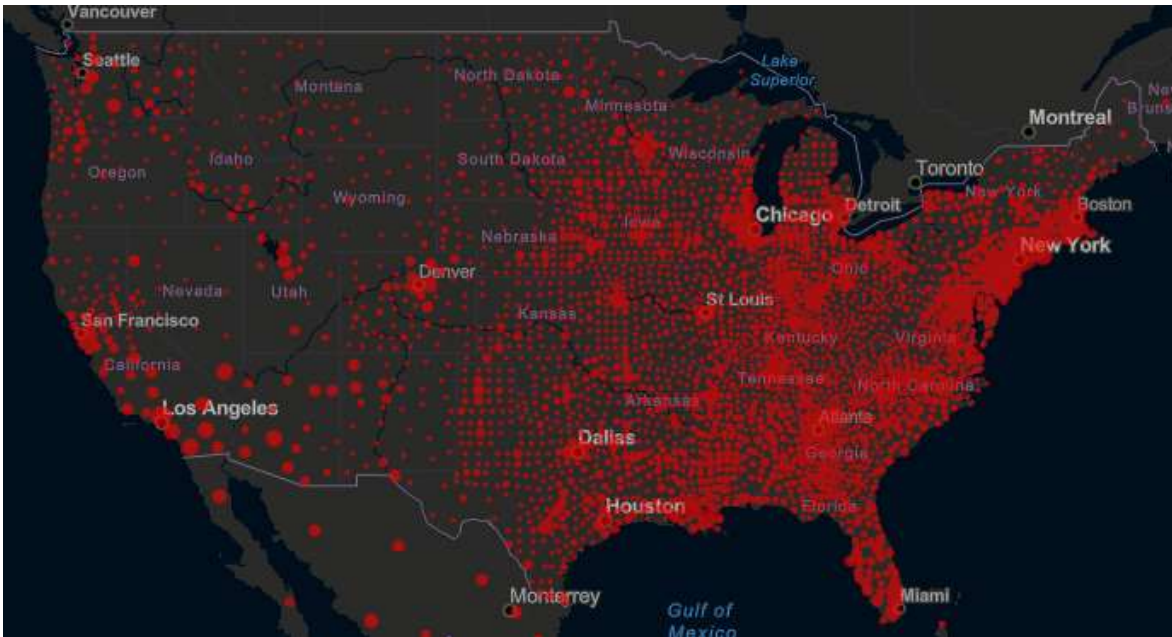
COVID-19 Statistics

	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Total Recovered	Total Tested
Worldwide	9,073,386	471,591	4,511,603	No Data
United States	2,310,786	120,393	640,198	27,553,581
New Jersey	169,415	12,974	29,522	1,267,399
New York	388,488	31,176	69,710	3,452,099

Connecticut	45,782	4,263	7,842	397,552
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Information as of 6/23/20 at 0000 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's tri-state area, using first-person experiences to highlight current trends.

Federal Updates

- Due to the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) public health emergency response, FEMA will not conduct a national test of the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) this year. FEMA is moving the next national test of the system to 2021 out of consideration for the unusual circumstances and working conditions for those in the broadcast and cable industry. Although systems remain in place for rapid automatic transmission of the test message by broadcast and cable operators, the follow-on reporting activities associated with a national test place additional burdens on technical staff that are already quite busy maintaining as close to normal operations as possible. <https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/06/19/fema-cancels-2020-integrated-public-alert-warning-system-national-test-due>
- The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced it will begin implementing a Trump Administration proclamation to protect American workers in the wake of unprecedented unemployment caused by COVID-19. The proclamation unveiled by President Trump directs the Department of Homeland Security to undertake a two-part approach to ensure employers put Americans first.
 - First, the proclamation uses presidential authority under Section 212(f) of the Immigration and Nationality Act to temporarily pause the issuance of certain new nonimmigrant visas until December 31, 2020, which could be extended as necessary.
 - Second, DHS is also directed to use all available tools to transition to a merit-based immigration system, ending often-exploited avenues for fraud and abuse. New provisions include non-displacement provisions, which prohibit companies from laying off American workers only to replace citizen employees with foreign nationals, and new efforts to prevent illegal aliens from obtaining work permits.
 - <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2020/06/22/trump-administration-dhs-prioritizes-american-citizens-american-jobs>

The White House

- The President's 30 Days to Slow the Spread ended on April 30. President Trump has unveiled Guidelines for Opening Up America Again, a three-phased approach based on the advice of public health experts. These steps will help state and local officials when reopening their economies, getting people back to work, and continuing to protect American lives. To review the Guidelines and obtain additional information regarding Opening Up America Again: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/openingamerica/>

Health and Human Services (HHS)

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

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

NIH halts clinical trial of hydroxychloroquine

<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/nih-halts-clinical-trial-hydroxychloroquine>

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 Issues Daily Update for June 22, 2020, including FDA-authorized 145 tests under EUAs, which include 122 molecular tests, 22 antibody tests, and 1 antigen test.
<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-daily-roundup-june-22-2020>
- FDA issues Effects of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency on Formal Meetings and User Fee Applications for Medical Devices - Questions and Answers
<https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/effects-covid-19-public-health-emergency-formal-meetings-and-user-fee-applications-medical-devices>
- FDA Takes Additional Action to Harness Real-World Data to Inform COVID-19 Response Efforts
<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-fda-takes-additional-action-harness-real-world-data-inform-covid-19>
- FDA announces Webinar Series - Respirators for Health Care Personnel Use during COVID-19 Pandemic on June 23 at 12:00PM EDT
<https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/workshops-conferences-medical-devices/webinar-series-respirators-health-care-personnel-use-during-covid-19-pandemic-06232020-06232020>
- FDA announces Virtual Town Hall on June 24 at 12:15PM EDT - 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-06242020>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

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

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

CDC's updated weekly COVID-19 surveillance report:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/covid-data/covidview.html>

CDC's updated information on Testing in the United States:

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

CDC's guidance on Contact Tracing: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/open-america/contact-tracing.html>

Updated CDC's Frequently Asked Questions: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html>

Updated CDC COVID-19 forecasts: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/covid-data/forecasting-us.html>

The latest CDC Clinical Care Guidance for Healthcare Professionals about Coronavirus (COVID-19): <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/clinical-care.html>

CDC's latest guidance on Staffing Resources:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/open-america/staffing.html>

Clinical Trials

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

Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

Medicare Coverage of COVID-19 Testing for Nursing Home Residents and Patients
<https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-news-alert-june-19-2020>

CMS Announces Membership of Independent Coronavirus Commission on Safety and Quality in Nursing Homes
<https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-announces-membership-independent-coronavirus-commission-safety-and-quality-nursing-homes>

American Red Cross

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

State Updates

New York

- Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced he will issue an Executive Order strengthening state enforcement during the phased reopening to protect New Yorkers and ensure business compliance. Businesses that violate the reopening rules and guidelines are subject to immediate loss of their liquor license and a shutdown order. The Governor also announced he will issue an Executive Order to expand the enforcement areas of the State Liquor Authority by giving bars responsibility for the area immediately outside their locations.
<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-issues-executive-order-strengthening-state-enforcement-during-phased-reopening>
- New York City entered Phase Two of reopening on Monday, June 22; the Mid-Hudson region remains on track to enter Phase Three on Tuesday, June 23; Long Island is on track to enter Phase 3 of reopening Wednesday, June 24. The number of new cases, percentage of tests that were positive and many other helpful data points are available at forward.ny.gov.

New York State Department of Health (DOH)

<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:

<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-health-provider-webinar>

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's Plan to Reopen New York:

<https://www.governor.ny.gov/programs/new-york-forward>

New York State's Regional Monitoring Dashboard regarding the seven metrics needed to reopen:

<https://forward.ny.gov/regional-monitoring-dashboard>

New York State's NY Forward Phase 1:

<https://forward.ny.gov/phase-one-industries>

New Jersey

- Residents of long-term care facilities were able to have outdoor visits with loved ones in designated outdoor space starting Sunday, June 21, under a directive to long-term care facilities issued by the state Department of Health. The Health Department has received input and worked collaboratively with long-term care

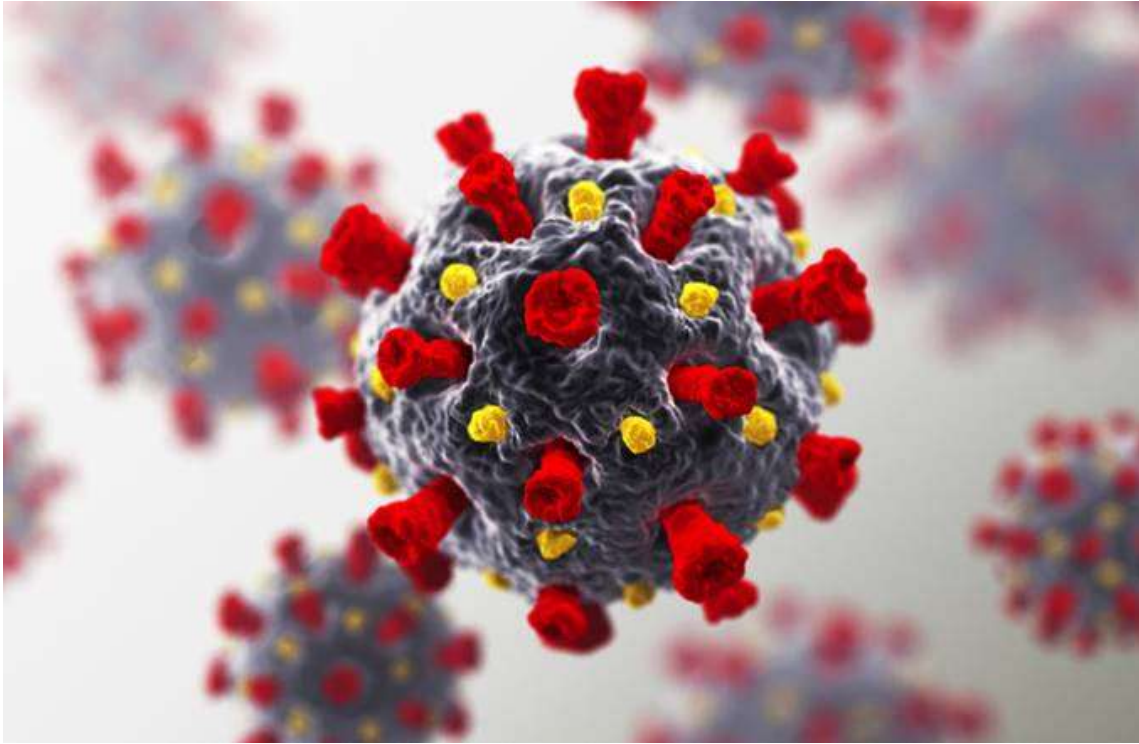
providers on developing this directive to accommodate visitors. Prior to transporting a long-term care resident to a designated outdoor space, visitors must be screened for COVID-19 symptoms – including a temperature check – and facilities must follow safety and infection prevention and control measures in order to allow visitation.

https://nj.gov/health/legal/covid19/6-19-20_ExecutiveDirectiveNo20-017_StandardsProtocolsVisitorsFacilityStaff.pdf

- Governor Phil Murphy announced increased indoor and outdoor gathering capacity limits as COVID-19 cases in New Jersey continue to decline. Effective immediately, indoor gatherings are now limited to 25% capacity of the rooms in which they will take place, with a maximum of 100 persons. Outdoor gatherings are now limited to 250 persons, and outdoor religious services and political activities will continue to have no numerical limits. <https://nj.gov/infobank/eo/056murphy/pdf/EO-156.pdf>

Connecticut

- The State of Connecticut has received an extension from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for approval to apply for reimbursement for statewide emergency feeding efforts until July 20. These vital efforts will continue to be coordinated by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture in partnership with the many state and local agencies and nonprofit providers, including community food banks. <https://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/News/Press-Releases/2020/06-2020/Governor-Lamont-Coronavirus-Update-June-19>
- Governor Ned Lamont announced his support for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program and its statewide expansion. The program provides free help for Connecticut's low-income and ALICE families to file tax returns, allowing them to receive tax credits and Coronavirus economic impact checks and to file for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) benefits. All residents making up to \$56,000 in income are eligible for the services. Administered by the Connecticut Association for Human Services (CAHS), the virtual VITA program is the first IRS-approved end-to-end digital portal to carry out these services, allowing it to rapidly scale operations statewide. https://www.cahs.org/covid_relief



Local Updates

New York Blood Center (NYBC)

What Is Convalescent Plasma & What Role Does It Play in the COVID-19 Pandemic?

<https://www.nybc.org/news/articles/what-convalescent-plasma-what-role-does-it-play-covid-19-pandemic/>

New York City (NYC) Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH)

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

NYC DOHMH's COVID-19 information for providers:

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

NYC DOHMH's COVID-19: Restart for Businesses:

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-businesses-and-facilities.page>

NYC DOHMH's Reopening NYC FAQs:

<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/imm/covid-19-reopening-nyc-faq.pdf>

Westchester County Department of Health

For the latest COVID-19 information including how to become a contact tracer in Westchester:

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

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

The latest 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/>

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

Updated GNYHA Public Health Agency Surveillance and Testing Guidance:

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

GNYHA Public Health Agency Surge Planning Guidance:

<https://www.gnyha.org/tool/agency-surge-planning-guidance/>

Center for Disaster Medicine Media

Faculty News:

A plea that resonates in policing reform and vigilance against the coronavirus

New York Daily News

6/19/2020

<https://www.nydailynews.com/opinion/ny-oped-i-cant-breathe-20200619-wowkuy6vs5gn3pdrojxdwgfabm-story.html>

George W. Contreras, M.E.P., M.P.H., M.S., CEM, FAcEM, assistant director of the Center for Disaster Medicine and assistant professor in the Institute of Public Health

The Trump rally in Tulsa is a recipe for disaster

STAT

6/20/2020

<https://www.statnews.com/2020/06/20/trump-rally-tulsa-recipe-for-disaster/>

George W. Contreras, M.E.P., M.P.H., M.S., CEM, FAcEM, assistant director of the Center for Disaster Medicine and assistant professor in the Institute of Public Health

New York Medical College Leadership News:
COVID-19 Travel Tips: How to Stay Safe in Airports and on Planes

Men's Journal Online

6/22/2020

<https://www.mensjournal.com/travel/covid-19-travel-tips-how-to-stay-safe-on-planes/>

Robert W. Amler, M.D., M.B.A., vice president for government affairs, dean of the School of Health Sciences and Practice, and professor of public health, pediatrics and environmental health science.

Opinion: Don't Disparage the Pace of COVID-19 Research

The Scientist Online

6/22/ 2020

<https://www.the-scientist.com/news-opinion/opinion-dont-disparage-the-pace-of-covid-19-research-67653>

Salomon Amar, D.D.S., Ph.D., vice president for research at NYMC and provost for biomedical research at Touro College and University System

John Loike, Ph.D., professor of biology, Touro College and University System

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