Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update
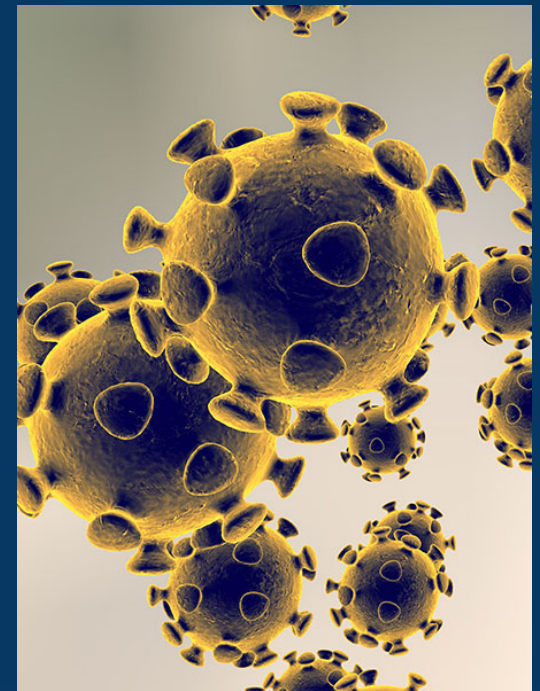
March 10, 2020

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Disclaimer

- Rapidly evolving situation
- Information and guidance updated daily
- Many variables, considerations, and expertise involved in response

Coronavirus vs. Flu

Coronavirus

- 800+ confirmed cases in US
- 28 deaths in US
- 7 confirmed cases in NC

Influenza

- 34 million+ illnesses in US
- 20,000+ deaths in US
- 127 deaths in NC

Our Role

- Monitoring returned travelers from high-risk areas

- Ensuring communication with local EMS, hospitals and healthcare providers

- Ensuring wraparound services for persons under monitoring and investigation

State & National Response

- **Daily updates and weekly conference calls with local health departments**

- **Guidance for public health, healthcare, and other sectors**

- **$8.3B passed for emergency funding**

NC Response

- **State of Emergency declared**
- **Activated state emergency operation center**
- **Additional state resources**
- **Updated guidance on large gatherings, visitation policies, work arrangements and travel**

Testing

- Providers can collect samples if patient meets criteria
- State providing additional collection kits this week
- We expect more positive tests in the coming days and are preparing to respond and monitor

Key Resources

- North Carolina Division of Public Health Coronavirus call line for general inquiries: 1-866-462-3821

- www.ncdhhs.gov/coronavirus

- www.gastongov.com/coronavirus

- Gaston DHHS Coronavirus Line launching tomorrow

High-Risk Populations

- Over 65 years of age
- Underlying health conditions including heart disease, lung disease, or diabetes with weakened immune systems
- Should avoid travel and crowds as much as possible

What the public needs to know:

- Remain calm – risk is low
- Practice good health & hygiene
- Consider practicing "social distancing"
- Monitor LOCAL conditions
- "Call before you come"

Key Takeaway:

DO
WHAT YOU DO
FOR THE FLU

Questions?

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