

Harrison-Clarksburg Health Department

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For Immediate Release

Clarksburg, WV 03-26-2020

United States West Virginia Harrison County
Confirmed cases 76,514 51 4
Total Deaths 1,093 0 0

On March 16, 2020 Governor Jim Justice issued a Stay at Home order effective March 24, 2020, at 8:00 p.m. The order directs all West Virginians to stay at home and limit movements outside of their homes beyond essential needs. Here is the link to the order https://coronavirus-wvgovstatus-cdn.azureedge.net/STAY AT HOME ORDER.pdf

Harrison Clarksburg Health Department has been working closely with all of our health, emergency, public safety agencies and workers to get resources out and share information.

Harrison County has COVID-19 in the community. People shouldn't panic. Instead, they should take commonsense measures that will keep them and their community safe. HCHD also wants to make it clear that anyone who is waiting for COVID-19 test results should remain self-quarantined to protect their family members and working partners.

Everyone who can work from home should take advantage of this opportunity, only making trips outside for essential errands.

Other measures that individuals include

- Stay at home
- Keep a safe distance (at least 6 feet)
- Wash hands often
- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Don't touch your eyes, nose or mouth

We must listen to our President, Governor and health officials and help reduce the spread of this virus.

If you are a close contact of someone with COVID-19 or have recently traveled to a community where there is ongoing spread of COVID-19 and develop <u>symptoms of COVID-19</u>, call your

healthcare provider and tell them about your symptoms and your exposure. They will decide whether you need to be tested. Currently there is no treatment for COVID-19 and people who are mildly ill may be able to isolate and care for themselves at home.

Testing can be obtained locally by calling your private provider and they can send an order for lab testing. Please call this number, **304-598-6000 option 4**, **BEFORE** going to the hospital for testing. If you **do not have a medical provider**, please call 304-598-6000 option 4 to speak to a nurse. They will tell you when and if you need be tested. Please help us keep our doctor offices and hospitals safe. The symptom of COVID-19 which may appear **2-14 days after exposure are:**

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

Individuals currently prioritized for testing by the West Virginia Office of Laboratory Services include: Patients involved in an illness cluster or in a congregate setting. All suspected and confirmed outbreaks are immediately reportable to the local health department.

OR

Close contacts of laboratory-confirmed cases.

Other priority groups that will be considered for testing in urgent situations to protect the health and safety of others include: Individuals with fever and/or signs of lower respiratory illness (e.g., cough or shortness of breath) who do not have another identified cause for their illness in any of the following groups:

- 1. Healthcare workers,
- 2. Patients in public safety occupations (law enforcement, firefighter, EMS, etc.),
- 3. Hospitalized
- 4. Persons otherwise at highest risk of poor health outcomes (includes any of the following).
 - Persons over the age of 60
 - Persons with serious underlying medical conditions* or who are immunocompromised
 - Pregnant