

SITREP

MHA

MONTANA
HOSPITAL
ASSOCIATION

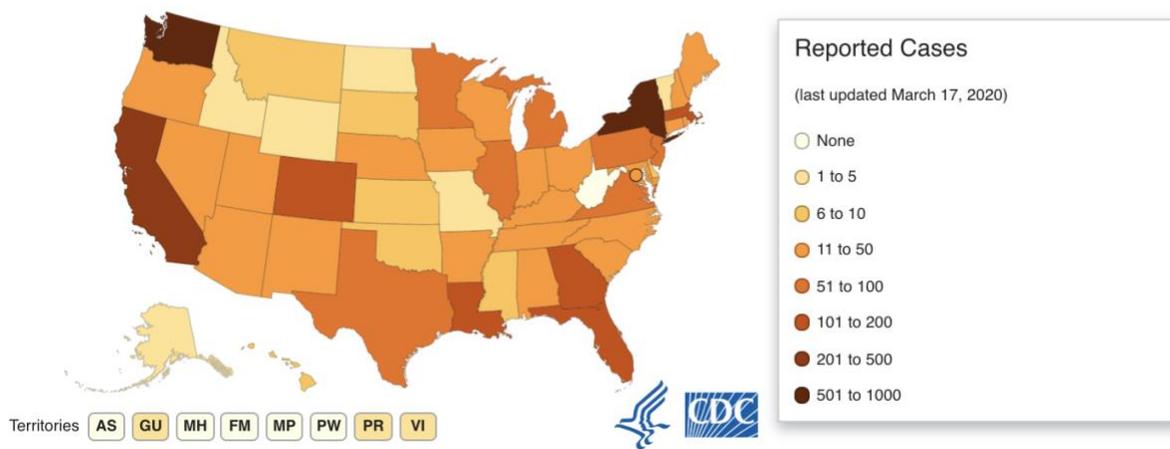
Montana Hospital Association - Situation Report

March 17, 2020

COVID-19

| REPORTED CASES | |
|--|--------------|
| Montana <i>New in last 24 hours: Unknown</i> <i>*Last update from State of Montana: 3/16/20</i> | 9* |
| United States <i>New in last 24 hours: +739 (+21%)</i> | 4,226 |
| WA | 1,012 |
| ID | 9 |
| WY | 11 |
| ND | 5 |
| SD | 11 |

States Reporting Cases of COVID-19 to CDC*



OPERATIONS

CMS broadens access to telehealth during COVID-19 public health emergency. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services today [announced several waivers](#) and policy changes to broaden access to telehealth services for Medicare beneficiaries during the COVID-19 public health emergency. These include:

- Waivers of originating and geographic site restrictions on Medicare telehealth services, permitting the delivery of these services in all areas of the country and all locations, including patients' homes.
- The ability of providers to use expanded telehealth authority for new and established patients for diagnosis and treatment of COVID-19, as well as for conditions unrelated to the pandemic.
- Permission for providers to use everyday communications technologies, such as FaceTime or Skype, during the COVID-19 public health emergency, without running afoul of HIPAA penalties.

CMS also released a [Medicare Telehealth FAQ](#) document about the changes included in its announcement.

PLANNING

Continue resource reporting to Juvare. Data will be used by the State in requesting emergency supplies and managing allocation. Please complete all daily updates by 8:00AM each morning. For assistance, contact your [Healthcare Preparedness Program \(HPP\) region coordinator](#).

LOGISTICS

Pursue alternate and higher forms of PPE. [CDC guidelines for PPE](#) remain unchanged since February 25, but recognize that strategies to conserve and optimize supplies are essential. This 2009 [position paper](#) from the Association for Professionals in Infection Control (APIC) examines how healthcare providers can extend respiratory protection during disasters. [Temporary guidance recently released by OSHA](#) recommends measures to conserve supplies of N95 respirators while safeguarding healthcare personnel (HCP), such as providing HCP with another respirator of equal or higher protection: N99 or N100 filtering facepieces, reusable elastomeric respirators with appropriate filters or cartridges, or powered air purifying respirators (PAPR).

Return-to-Work Guidance for HCP. CDC released new [criteria for return to work](#) for healthcare personnel (HCP). Criteria provides room and guidance to hospitals,

in partnership with local health authorities, to adapt it in order to meet local needs in crisis situations.

COMMUNICATIONS

Wednesday, March 18 Conference Call with Gov. Bullock. MHA is hosting a call for leaders from hospitals, long-term care providers, FQHCs, MNA, MMA and other post-acute care providers. Governor Bullock will lead the call with officials from DPHHS, Medicaid and the Governor's Office. Topics include: State direction regarding federal declaration next steps (including documentation for response reimbursement), testing, CMS waivers, resource needs, Medicaid policy adjustments, staffing and other issues raised by participants. The call is scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 18. Dial-in: 1-833-759-9780.

State of Montana COVID-19 Hotline: 1-888-333-0461

Montanans can also email questions to covid19info@mt.gov. State public health officials will be responding to inquiries from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday.

MHA Incident Management Team: esf8@mtha.org

REFERENCE LINKS

GENERAL

Contact Information: [Local & Tribal County Health Departments](#)

[MHA COVID-19 Member Resources](#)

[State of Montana COVID-19 Information](#)

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention COVID-19 Information](#)

[Healthcare Professionals Preparedness Checklist](#) (CDC)

[Hospital Preparedness Tool](#) (CDC)

EMS

[EMS Infectious Disease Playbook](#) (ASPR/TRACIE)

[Montana EMS Guidance](#) (DPHHS)

REGULATORY

[EMTALA Requirements and Implications Related to COVID-19](#) (CMS)

CLINICAL CARE

Listen Now: [March 13 | Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity \(COCA\) Call](#) (CDC)

[Guidelines for Collecting, Handling and Testing Clinical Specimens](#) (CDC)

[Clinical Guidance for Management of Patients with Confirmed COVID-19](#) (CDC)

[Criteria for Evaluation and Reporting of Persons Under Investigation](#) (CDC)

INFECTION PREVENTION & CONTROL

[Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19 in Healthcare Settings](#) (CDC)

[Additional Guidance for Infection Control and Prevention of COVID-19 in Home Health Agencies](#) (CMS)

[Additional Guidance for Infection Control and Prevention of COVID-19 in Dialysis Facilities](#) (CMS)

WORKFORCE PROTECTION & SUPPORT

[Management of Healthcare Personnel with Potential Exposure to Patients with COVID-19](#) (CDC)

[Montana Hospital Mutual Aid System Memo & Agreement](#)

COMMUNITY MITIGATION STRATEGIES

[Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#) (CDC)

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