April 21, 2020

COVID-19

REPORTED CASES	
Montana ***New in last 24 hours: 4 (+1%)*** ***Hospitalizations, Total: 59 (Last 24hrs: +2)*** ***Hospitalizations, Active: 14 (Last 24hrs: -5)*** ***Recovered: 273 (Last 24hrs: +30)*** ***Deaths: 12 (Last 24hrs: +2)*** **Source: Montana COVID-19 Dashboard**	**437**
United States ***New in last 24 hours: 32,734 (+4%)*** **Source: Johns Hopkins CSSE Global Outbreak Dashboard**	**820,104**
WA	**12,282**
ID	**1,766**
WY	**322**
ND	**644**
SD	**1,755**

Total Confirmed

820,104

Confirmed Cases by Country/Region/Sovereignty

820,104	US
204,178	Spain
183,957	Italy
156,522	France
148,291	Germany
130,172	United Kingdom
95,591	Turkey
84,802	Iran

◁ Admin0 ▷

Last Updated at (M/D/YYYY)
4/21/2020, 3:38:47 PM

Total Deaths

44,228

14,604 deaths
New York City **New York** US

1,390 deaths
Nassau **New York** US

1,148 deaths
Wayne **Michigan** US

1,002 deaths
Cook **Illinois** US

Deaths | Recovered

Total Test Conducted in U.S.

4,155,178

649,325 tested
New York US

300,100 tested
California US

277,059 tested
Florida US

205,399 tested
Texas US

184,826 tested

◁ US Tested ▷

1M

500k

0

Feb   Mar   Apr

Confirmed | Logarithmic | Daily Cases

Senate Approves COVID-19 Relief Package That Would Add Funding for Hospitals and Small Business Loan Program
Bill includes $75 billion for hospitals, $310 billion for Paycheck Protection Program

The Senate this afternoon approved by voice vote the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act – a $484 billion COVID-19 relief package – which includes an additional $75 billion for hospitals, health systems and other healthcare providers. The $75 billion, which is in addition to the $100 billion included as part of the last COVID-19 package, would reimburse eligible healthcare providers for healthcare-related expenses or lost revenues not otherwise reimbursed that are directly attributable to COVID-19.

The package also includes an additional $310 billion for the Paycheck Protection Program, which makes loan opportunities available for organizations with fewer than 500 total employees. These loans may be up to $10 million and may be forgivable if at least 75% of the loan is used for payroll costs, among other terms.

Among other provisions, the package provides $25 billion to support efforts to research, develop, validate, manufacture, purchase, administer and expand capacity for COVID-19 tests. Specifically, the funding includes $11 billion for states, localities, territories and tribes to develop, purchase, administer, process and analyze COVID-19 tests, scale-up laboratory capacity, trace contacts and support employer testing. It also provides $1.8 billion to the National Institutes of Health and $1 billion to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for additional testing efforts. In addition, the Department of Health and Human Services Secretary will be required to issue a report on the number of positive COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths disaggregated by race, ethnicity, sex, geographic region and other relevant factors within 180 days of enactment.

The House is expected to take up the package on Thursday. President Trump is expected to sign the bill.

OPERATIONS

NIH panel releases COVID-19 treatment guidelines. A panel of experts convened by the National Institutes of Health today released COVID-19 treatment guidelines for healthcare providers, which will be updated as new data become available. Based on preliminary and published data, the guidelines include recommendations for two categories of therapy currently under investigation: antivirals, such as chloroquine and remdesivir; and host modifiers/immune-based therapies, such as convalescent plasma. Each recommendation includes a rating for strength of recommendation and for quality of evidence supporting the recommendation. They also include guidance on caring for critically ill patients

and using concomitant medications for treatment, such as statins and corticosteroids.

FDA temporarily expands hospitals' access to compounded drugs, authorizes non-patient-specific orders. The FDA yesterday said that it will temporarily forgo action against 503A compounding pharmacies that provide to hospitals certain compounded drugs without patient-specific prescriptions. The agency's [temporary policy](#) outlines specific criteria that pharmacies and hospitals must meet in addition to some conditions established in section 503A of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. FDA says this new policy is intended to remain in effect for no longer than the duration of the COVID-19 public health emergency and will be modified as circumstances evolve.

FDA authorizes first at-home COVID-19 diagnostic test sampling. The FDA yesterday authorized the first diagnostic test with a home collection option for COVID-19. Specifically, the FDA [re-issued the emergency use authorization](#) for the Laboratory Corporation of America COVID-19 RT-PCR Test to permit testing of samples self-collected by patients at home using LabCorp's Pixel by LabCorp COVID-19 Test home collection kit. LabCorp said the home collection kits should be available in most states in the coming weeks to consumers with a doctor's order.

CDC updates COVID-19 laboratory testing FAQs. The CDC yesterday updated its [FAQs](#) on COVID-19 laboratory testing and reporting. Topics include accessing laboratory testing, data and reporting, serology testing and ordering supplies.

PLANNING

State of Montana announces changes, clarifies required data and resource reporting. In keeping with federal data reporting requests and requirements, and recognizing existing data collection systems already in place in Montana, DPHHS clarified data reporting by hospitals in this [memo](#) released April 16.

- **Juvare/EMResource:** Continue to report bed availability and ventilator capacity by 8:00 a.m. daily.
- **PPE Survey Tool:** PPE data will be reported to a [new PPE Survey Tool](#) instead of EMResource.
- **COVID-19 Patient Survey Tool:** Used to collect hospitalization data, and only to be used at the direction of DPHHS officials following acquisition of confirmed COVID-19 patient.

LOGISTICS

Submit PPE needs to DES coordinator in order to ensure allocation. In order to receive an allocation of emergency PPE, healthcare organizations MUST submit needs to their local DES coordinator. Allocation is ongoing and supplies are limited.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Listen Now: April 16 call with Montana health insurers. MHA hosted the conference call with insurers last week and is compiling answers to frequently asked questions. FAQs will be posted in communications later this week.

Gov. Bullock issues new directives on telehealth, expedited licensure. Governor Bullock issued today two new directives. The telehealth directive requires health insurers to provide the same coverage for telehealth services as for in-person services. It also expands access to the types of technologies that can be used to deliver telehealth services. The licensing directive allows expedited registration of licensed out-of-state providers in order to expand caregiver capacity during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

MT DPHHS receives $2 million grant for behavioral health crisis services. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration yesterday announced grants awards totaling $110 million nationwide. The funding will increase the state's capacity to provide behavioral health crisis services, including telehealth, assessment, treatment, and recovery to people impacted by COVID-19.

Report examines pandemic's early impact on hospital finances. Based on March data from more than 800 hospitals, a new report by healthcare consultancy Kaufman Hall found median operating margins fell to –8% in March, down from 4% in February. Operating earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization fell 100% compared to the same period last year, or 13 percentage points in absolute change. The report also found that bad debt and charity care increased by 13% year over year.

COVID-19 highlights crisis in U.S. rural healthcare. The Bipartisan Policy Center today released a new report examining the immense challenges facing the U.S. rural healthcare system as highlighted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The BPC's Rural Health Task Force has developed recommendations over the last year to stabilize and improve the urgent problems challenging rural communities, including improving access to telehealth, offering short-term stabilization for struggling rural hospitals and providing multiple pathways to transform into models that are designed to meet the needs of individual communities.

COMMUNICATIONS

Call recordings and webinar playbacks. Missed a call or webinar promoted in MHA's daily COVID-19 Call & Webinar Alert? Many are recorded, and are [posted here](#) once available.

COVID-19 Resource Library. MHA has built a [library](#) of helpful resources and sample material from other hospitals, healthcare organizations and states in their response to COVID-19.

HHS hospital-specific COVID-19 questions: HospitalCOVID19@hhs.gov

SITREP Archive. Daily Situation Reports archived [here](#).

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: [County & Tribal Health Departments](#)

Contact Information: [County & Tribal DES Coordinators](#)

[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)

[COVID-19 FAQs for Healthcare Providers](#) (CDC)

[MHA Consensus Statement on the Cancellation of Elective Procedures](#)

[Summary of Funding Opportunities for Hospitals](#) (Compiled by MHA)

EMS

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

[Montana EMS Guidance](#) (DPHHS)

REGULATORY

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

[PHI Guidance for COVID-19 First Responders](#) (OCR/HHS)

[Summary of COVID-19 Emergency Declaration Waivers and Flexibilities](#) (CMS)

[Provider-specific Fact Sheets on Waivers and Flexibilities](#) (CMS)

CLINICAL CARE

[March 24 Memo to Montana Healthcare Providers on COVID-19 Testing](#) (DPHHS)

[Evaluating and Testing Persons for COVID-19](#)(CDC)

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

[March 26 Diagnostic Testing Update re: Swabs](#) (FDA)

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

[COVID-19 and Underlying Medical Conditions](#) (CDC)

FAQs: [Higher Risk Persons](#) & [Underlying Conditions](#) (CDC)

[Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions of Patients with COVID-19](#) (CDC)

[Caring with Limited Resources during the COVID-19 Crisis](#) (AHA)

[Optimizing Ventilator Use during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#) (HHS)

LONG-TERM CARE & RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES

[Guidance for Retirement Communities and Independent Living](#) (CDC)

[Preventing the Spread of COVID-19 in Retirement Communities and Independent Living Facilities](#) (CDC)

[COVID-19 Checklist: Older Persons](#) (CDC)

[COVID-19 Long-Term Care Facility Guidance](#) (CMS)

TELEHEALTH

[Medicare Telehealth FAQ (CMS)](#)

[Montana Medicaid Coverage & Reimbursement Policy for Telehealth Services](#) (DPHHS)

[Telehealth Toolkit for General Practitioners](#) (CMS)

[Telehealth Toolkit for Providers of End-Stage Renal Disease Patients](#) (CMS)

Watch: ["COVID-19 Telehealth Waiver Made Simple"](#) (PYA)

[Telehealth Toolkit for Long-Term Care Nursing Home Facilities](#) (CMS)

[Informational Bulletin: Utilization of Telehealth for Treatment of SUDs](#) (CMS)

Watch: [CMS Telehealth FAQ video](#) (CMS)

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)

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

[Additional Guidance for Infection Control and Prevention of COVID-19 by Hospice Agencies](#) (CMS)

PPE

[Strategies for Optimizing the Supply of PPE](#) (CDC)

[Strategies for Optimizing the Supply of N95 Respirators](#) (CDC)

[Extending the Use and/or Reusing Respiratory Protection During Disasters](#) (APIC)

[Temporary Enforcement Guidance – Healthcare Respiratory Protection](#) (OSHA)

[PPE Supply Equivalents & Price Guide](#) (AHRMM)

[Conserving Facemasks and Respirators During a Critical Shortage](#) (TJC)

[PPE Burn Rate Calculator](#) (CDC)

[PPE Emergency Use Authorizations](#) (FDA)

[Decontamination and Reuse of Filtering Facepiece Respirators](#) (CDC)

WORKFORCE PROTECTION & SUPPORT

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

[Criteria for Return to Work for Healthcare Personnel](#) (CDC)

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

[COVID-19 Safety Training Resources](#) (NIH)

COVID-19 and the American Workplace Toolkit (US Dept. of Labor)

Memo on Registration for Out-of-State Licensees (MT DLI)

FFCRA FMLA and Paid Leave FAQs (US DOL)

MHMAS Volunteer Registration System

COMMUNITY MITIGATION STRATEGIES

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

Tips to Keep Children Healthy While School's Out (CDC)

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