



Johnson County Public Health Johnson County Emergency Management



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For immediate release

Seven cases of COVID-19 confirmed in Johnson County

Johnson County Public Health (JCPH) confirmed today that there are currently seven positive cases of COVID-19 in Johnson County.

JCPH is working with the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH), State Hygienic Laboratory, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Mercy Iowa City, local schools and other public and private partners to contain the spread of COVID-19 and mitigate its potential impact.

Everyone can do their part to help respond to this emerging public health threat. Everyday prevention methods are very important. Wash your hands frequently. Stay home if you're ill. Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue. Routinely clean frequently touched surfaces like doorknobs, light switches and countertops with typically-used cleaners.

For the general public who are unlikely to be exposed to the virus at this time, the immediate health risk of COVID-19 is low. Individual risk of this virus is dependent upon exposure. This includes travelers returning from affected international locations where community spread is occurring including Italy, Japan, South Korea, China and Iran. These locations are updated by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and can be found online at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

If you have recently been to an area with ongoing spread of COVID-19 or have been exposed to someone sick with this virus in the last 14 days, you may face some limitations on your movement and activity. JCPH will specifically contact those who test positive for the virus and those who have had close contact with those individuals.

Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough and shortness of breath. If you develop COVID-19 symptoms, contact your healthcare provider, and tell them about your symptoms and your travel or exposure to a COVID-19 patient before you go to the clinic or office.

IDPH provides updates on persons being monitored, tested and test results every Monday, Wednesday and Friday on IDPH's COVID-19 webpage (<https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus>). IDPH has requested Iowans returning from a country where COVID-19 is spreading to voluntarily self-isolate for 14 days following their return.

Preparation is key. Individuals and communities should prepare for COVID-19. IDPH provides targeted recommendations for schools, businesses, long-term care facilities and more on their website. You can also call 211 with questions.

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