



McPherson County Health Department
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

From: Shalei Shea, RN BSN
McPherson County Health Department Director and McPherson County Health Officer

May 2, 2020 at 8:35 pm

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) IDENTIFIED IN MCPHERSON COUNTY

McPherson County Health Department reports 23 total confirmed cases of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in McPherson County. 16 of the total confirmed cases have now met recovery guidelines set forth by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Three of the total confirmed cases are currently hospitalized.

The newly identified positive case is a female in her 50s with unknown exposure at this time and is hospitalized. Investigation is still underway. Additional information will be released as it becomes available.

Symptoms for COVID-19 appear 2-14 days after exposure and include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Other rarer symptoms that may develop include malaise, sore throat, and diarrhea. If you develop any of these symptoms, contact your health care provider. You must stay home for at least 7 days after symptoms started or for 72 hours after fever is gone (without the use of fever-reducing medication) and with significant improvement in symptoms, whichever is longer.

If you develop symptoms that may indicate COVID-19, please call your health care provider. If you do not have a provider, please call your local hospital or the McPherson County Health Department at 620-241-1753 or email machd@mcphersoncountyks.us.

McPherson County Health Department continues to work on guidance documents and recommendations regarding the reopening of McPherson County and they will be released soon. Please look for a public release announcing these recommendations and continue to monitor the McPherson County website for more information.

KDHE and MCHD continue to mandate a 14-day home quarantine for Kansas if you have done any of the following:

- Traveled within the United States to any of the following states with known widespread community transmission:
 - On or after March 15: California, Florida, New York, Washington State
 - On or after March 23: Illinois, New Jersey
 - On or after March 27: Louisiana, Colorado
 - On or after April 6: Connecticut
- Visited any of the following counties within the state of Colorado a week prior to or after March 15:
 - Eagle, Summit, Pitkin, and Gunnison County
- Traveled internationally on or after March 15
- Traveled on a cruise ship or river cruise on or after March 15

McPherson County residents are encouraged to help the community and our health care system flatten the curve and slow the spread of coronavirus. They can do this by:

- Following the Stay-At-Home Order, which is in effect until May 4th.
- Maintaining social distancing.
- Avoiding gatherings in groups greater than 10-persons.
- Wearing cloth face coverings or homemade masks when in public.
- Practicing cough etiquette and washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

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