



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

June 17, 2020 at 3:45 pm

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) IDENTIFIED IN MCPHERSON COUNTY

McPherson County Health Department reports 40 total confirmed cases of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in McPherson County and 1 case identified as probable by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (41 total). 30 of the total confirmed cases have now met recovery guidelines set forth by the KDHE.

The newest positive case is a male in his 20s who is currently isolating at home with unknown exposure. Nothing further about the patient will be released at this time.

The case identified on June 15th is related to a long term care facility. McPherson County is working with this facility to complete facility-wide testing, where we plan to complete over 350 specimen collections. At this time, no one in this facility is symptomatic and all families and staff have been notified and are cooperating with the testing strategy.

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 May 12: Maryland
 - On or after June 17: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas
- Traveled internationally on or after March 15
- Traveled on a cruise ship or river cruise on or after March 15

We are in Phase 3 of Reopening Kansas. Updated documents can be found on mcpersoncountyks.us on the home page, under "COVID-19: Reopening McPherson County."

McPherson County Health Department recommends McPherson County remains in Phase 3 until June 29th, 2020. The team will reevaluate the community standings and risk for spread later next week before recommending we move to Phase Out. This decision is based off of the current facility investigation, increases in positive cases over the last 14 days, and the recommendation from KDHE.

Symptoms for COVID-19 appear 2-14 days after exposure and include fever, cough, shortness of breath, malaise, sore throat, chills, and diarrhea. If you develop any of these symptoms, contact your health care provider. You must stay home for at least 10 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, urgent care or the McPherson County Health Department.

McPherson County residents are encouraged to help slow the spread of coronavirus by:

- Following Phase 3 of Reopening Kansas and McPherson County (mcpersoncountyks.us).
- Maintaining social distancing.
- Avoiding gatherings in groups greater than 45-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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