

PFT COVID Update 12-2-20: Shorter Quarantines - Hospitalizations - PA ICU Beds - Testing Sites

CORONAVIRUS



Updates

Shorter CDC Guidance for Quarantine

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is set to shorten the recommended length of quarantine after exposure to someone who is positive for COVID-19, as the virus rages across the nation.

[Click here to see how certain conditions now warrant](#) a shorter quarantine period in this *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* article. But be sure to read the entire piece—these revisions are a trade-off for a demonstrated inability of a sizable portion of our citizens to abide by the original guidelines put forth months ago.

US Covid Hospitalizations at an All Time High

Experts are warning of a post-Thanksgiving surge in COVID 19 cases, with hospitalization increases lagging but predicted several weeks from now.

Please [click to review this article from *The Guardian*](#) to get a nationwide snapshot of coronavirus challenges facing regions from coast to coast as winter approaches with gusto.

... The nation's leading infectious disease expert, Dr. Anthony Fauci, warned that the travel-heavy Thanksgiving holiday could make the current [surge in Covid-19 cases even worse](#) in the coming weeks...

Growing Concerns About Pennsylvania ICU Bed Capacity

The Pennsylvania Department of Health reported Monday that 4,405 individuals are hospitalized with COVID-19 in Pennsylvania, 918 of which are in the intensive care unit.

Pennsylvania Health Secretary Dr. Rachel Levine is urging heightened collaboration regionally among health systems in the event the holiday season becomes the super spreader event many experts fear.

There are serious warnings to be heeded in this [brief update article from The Pittsburgh Courier](#).

Wolf Expands Testing Sites Across Commonwealth

Yesterday, Governor Tom Wolf and Director of Testing and Contact Tracing Michael Huff extended the Department of Health's contract with AMI Expeditionary Healthcare (AMI) to provide COVID-19 testing in five regions across Pennsylvania to help contain local spread of COVID-19.

"We have seen a rapid increase of positive case counts reaching record-high levels, which gives us significant cause for concern," said Huff "AMI has been a significant partner to the Department of Health by providing pop-up testing in counties with a high positivity-rate and other factors contributing to outbreaks of COVID-19 across the commonwealth."

These sites become available because the need demands them to become available—learn more about testing across PA in this [announcement from the Governor's website](#).

Information Links That Bear Repeating:

Below please find additional links providing helpful information you can bookmark and count on as the COVID-19 situation changes and evolves.

[AFT/AFTPA Coronavirus Resources & Updates for Members](#)

[AFT/PFT Employee Assistance Program \(EAP\)](#)

-- A Negotiated, Free Benefit to Members

[Click for EAP Information Flyer](#)

[Click for Life Skills Solutions Website](#) (*login upper right*)

[AFT Share My Lesson Stress Management Resources](#) (*searchable*)

[National Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\) Coronavirus Resources](#)

[PPS Coronavirus Resources and Links](#)

[PA Department of Health Coronavirus Resources](#)

[PA-Specific Resources from Senator Casey](#)

[Student Debt Relief Resources](#)

[Federal Emergency Management Agency \(FEMA\) Rumor Control](#)

[Coronavirus Testing Locations \(view interactive map mid page\)](#)



Coronavirus Self-Checker

A guide to help you make decisions and seek appropriate medical care

**** PFT Coronavirus Updates Released Periodically As Needed ****

Missed an update or message? [View our archive of COVID-19 Updates here](#).

Please keep in touch—keep sharing your ideas, your questions and your concerns.

In solidarity—

Nina Esposito-Visgitis
