

## March 30, 2020 Grant County Public Information –Sandria Glasscock, RN Public Information Officer

As of March 29, 2020, **WV** reported: **124** positive cases of COVID19 **2984** Total negative

**1 Death Confirmed** (an 88-year-old lady form Marion County) **0** tests pending *at the state lab.*

Grant Memorial has tested for the Tri-County area, and to date we have NO Positive cases in Grant County. Counties with positive COVID19 cases:

Berkeley 10, Cabell 1, Greenbrier 2, Hancock 3, Harrison 7, Jackson 8, Jefferson 5, Kanawha 19, Logan 1, Marion 5, Marshall 4, Mason 3, Mercer 2, Monongalia 30, Morgan 1, Ohio 7, Pleasants 1, Preston 1, Putnam 3, Raleigh 4, Tucker 2, Upshur 1, Wetzel 1, Wirt 1, Wood 2.

### PUBLIC WARNING REGARDING SELF TREATMENT FOR COVID19

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has become aware of two individuals who ingested **non-pharmaceutical** chloroquine phosphate, a chemical for **aquarium use** that is commercially available for purchase at stores and through internet websites. One of the individuals died shortly after arrival to the hospital. The second individual was critically ill with severe gastrointestinal symptoms and cardiac conduction abnormalities.

1. Do **not** ingest aquarium use products or any other chemicals that contain chloroquine phosphate. These chemicals are **not intended for human consumption** and can lead to serious health consequences, including death.
2. **Medications** like chloroquine phosphate and hydroxychloroquine sulfate (**NOT NON PHARMACUTICAL CHLOROQUINE**) should be taken only when prescribed by and under the supervision of your healthcare provider and always according to the instructions provided.
3. Seek immediate medical attention if you are experiencing any unexpected symptoms after taking chloroquine or hydroxychloroquine by contacting your healthcare provider or your poison center (1-800-222-1222).

A reminder that a Stay-at-Home order **requiring** all West Virginians to remain in their homes and residences and leave only for essential services is in effect. This is **mandatory, not just guidance** or advice. The Governor's full order can be viewed at [www.governor.wv.gov](http://www.governor.wv.gov). The Governor has also ordered Daycares closed except to provide for children of essential workers.

Essential Services include *necessary* trips to the grocery store or gas station; picking up a prescription or receiving medical care; getting outdoor exercise for yourself, your children and your pets. They also include working jobs to provide essential services. If you must go out for essential services, you must keep at least **6 -8 feet away from others even if groups of 10 or less**. Wash your hands frequently, especially after touching any surfaces if in public. Keep your hands away from your face.

## What to do if you were exposed to someone with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

### HOW DO I KNOW IF I WAS EXPOSED?

You generally need to be in close contact with a sick person to get infected. Close contact includes any of the following:

- Living in the same household as a sick person with COVID-19
- Caring for a sick person with COVID-19
- Being within 6 feet of a sick person with COVID-19 for about 10 minutes (Remember they may not seem sick or know they were infected...some don't have many symptoms)
- Being in direct contact with secretions from a sick person with COVID-19 (e.g., being coughed on, kissing, sharing utensils, etc.)

### SHOULD I GET TESTED FOR COVID-19?

Not everyone needs to be tested for COVID-19. We currently do not have medications to treat COVID-19, so whether you test positive or negative your healthcare provider's advice for managing your symptoms will be the same. Those who are sick with fever or cough and who are at a higher risk for severe illness (e.g., older people, those with chronic medical conditions including immunosuppression and pregnant women) should call their healthcare provider to discuss whether they should be tested for COVID-19. **If you need COVID 19 testing, please do NOT leave your home**, call Grant Memorial Hospital (304) 257 1026 and press 5 to speak to an ER nurse to help determine if testing is indicated.

If you have a medical emergency and need to call 911, notify the dispatch personnel that you may have been exposed or have symptoms of COVID-19. If possible, put on a facemask before emergency medical services arrive or immediately after they arrive.

Individuals currently *prioritized* for testing for COVID 19 include:

Patients involved in an illness cluster or in a congregate setting. All suspected and confirmed outbreaks are immediately reportable to the local health department. OR Close contacts of laboratory-confirmed cases.

Other priority groups that will be considered for testing in urgent situations to protect the health and safety of others include:

Individuals with fever and/or signs of lower respiratory illness (e.g., cough or shortness of breath) who do not have another identified cause for their illness in any of the following groups: 1. Healthcare workers, 2. Patients in public safety occupations (law enforcement, firefighter, EMS, etc.), 3. Hospitalized patients, OR 4. Persons otherwise at highest risk of poor health outcomes (includes any of the following): ▪ Persons over the age of 60 ▪ Persons with serious underlying medical conditions\* or who are immunocompromised† ▪ Pregnant women

To get up to date information about COVID 19 go to [www.wvdhhr.org](http://www.wvdhhr.org), or [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) if questions call the WV Public Health hotline at 800 887 4304.

