



## Cape Girardeau County Public Health Center

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### Weekly Provider Update--- COVID-19

This summary is to inform you of important changes to current recommendations or alert you to situations that require your awareness. It is not meant to replace the guidance documents that are being shared. Items below are simply an overview of pertinent information for the week.

- **Updated epidemiological data:**
  - The World Health Organization is working with an international network of statisticians and mathematical modelers to estimate key epidemiological parameters for COVID-19.
  - Preliminary estimates of median *incubation period* appear to be **5-6 days**, with a range of 0-14 days (hence the 14 day repatriate of US citizens and 14-day monitoring of those returning from mainland China).
  - The Case Fatality Ratio (CFR) is estimated at 2.3%; however this percent does not factor in asymptomatic or mild illness that is not reported to health facilities. Because we know there are mild cases and asymptomatic infections an estimated *infection fatality ratio (IFR)* can be calculated which is **0.3% to 1%**. The IFR is a much more accurate estimate of the true fatality rate in this outbreak.
    - For comparison, a typical flu season will have a CFR of 0.1% and a really bad flu season (pandemic years) that CFR will be around 1% to 1.6%.
- **Healthcare Supply of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):**
  - Cases of COVID-19 are being reported in China as well as other countries. Given decreases in exports from select countries (e.g., China, India, Taiwan) and increases in demand due to the outbreak, manufacturers of select types of PPE are reporting increased volume of orders and challenges in meeting order demands. CDC and WHO are strongly encouraging the judicious use of PPE to ensure those healthcare workers that need the equipment can get it.
  - CDC offers strategies for optimizing your supply of N95 respirators. Complete guidance can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/respirator-supply-strategies.html>.
- **Important phone numbers to have if you suspect that you have an individual that may have COVID-2019 or may have been a close contact to a confirmed case of COVID-2019:**
  - Cape Girardeau County Public Health Center: (573)335-7846
  - Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services: 1-800-392-0272

**\*\*Both emergency phone lines are available 24/7.**