COVID-19 WEEKLY UPDATE

OVERVIEW:

CDC is responding to an outbreak of respiratory illness caused by a novel (new) coronavirus. The outbreak first started in Wuhan, China, but cases have been identified in a growing number of other international locations, including the United States. The World Health Organization is reporting that there are 79 countries with confirmed cases.

COVID-19 Confirmed Cases

**Globally:** 95,270 cases; 3,280 deaths  
**United States:** 99 cases; 10 deaths  
**Ohio:** 0 cases; 1 PUI’s*; 255 persons under supervision**  
**Holmes County:** 0 cases; 0 PUI’s*, 0 persons under supervision**

*PUI (person under investigation)= persons who have been tested for COVID-19 and whose lab results are pending. PUI's exhibited symptoms AND traveled to China or had close contact with a person known to have COVID-19  
**Persons under supervision = travelers being monitored for symptoms. These individuals do not have symptoms of COVID-19

How we're preparing

- Activated our Department Operations Center (DOC) and Incident Command Structure (ICS) to monitor the situation to coordinate public health response
- Ensuring that our local partners receive guidance published by federal and state partners
- Publishing health education messages to the community
- Participating in weekly calls with the CDC and ODH
- Providing weekly situation reports to local stakeholders (every Friday)
- Health Commissioner serves on the state Bioterrorism team (B-team) & attended Governor’s Summit on COVID-19 Preparedness

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Fear and anxiety can lead to social stigma towards certain populations or nationalities even though not everyone in that population or from a particular region is at risk for a certain disease. We can fight stigma by providing social support to those who are ill or returning home from travel.

Ensure that you communicate the facts:

- Viruses cannot target people from specific populations, ethnicities, or racial backgrounds.
- People who have returned from an area with ongoing spread of COVID-19 more than 14 days ago and who do not have symptoms ARE NOT infected with COVID-19 and contact with them with NOT give you the virus.
- Raise awareness about COVID-19 without increasing fear.
- Share accurate information about how the virus spreads.
- Speak out against negative behaviors, including negative statements on social media about groups of people, or exclusion of people who pose no risk from regular activities.

For more about stigma, [click here](#).

Washing your hands with soap and water is one of the most effective ways to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that is 60% alcohol.

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