Jackson County Public Health Announces Presumptive Cases of COVID-19 in Jackson County: Press Release

[Medford, Oregon] — The Oregon Health Authority announced two presumptive cases of COVID-19 in Jackson County. The two presumptive cases are Jackson County adult residents, between the ages of 55 and 74, have known travel-related exposure and are in one household. The individuals did not require hospitalization and remain isolated at home.

Jackson County Public Health worked diligently to identify and notify all known contacts of the presumptive cases through our case investigation process. All persons under monitoring are cooperative and following the guidance.

Importantly, these are travel-related presumptive cases. There is no identified risk to the greater community in Jackson County and there is no known community spread of COVID-19 at this time.

Many people are concerned about novel coronavirus disease, also known as COVID-19. We at Jackson County Public Health understand this concern. We will work to share the latest information with you so you can know how to best protect yourself and your family.

Jackson County Public Health continues to recommend all people in Jackson County take everyday precautions to prevent the spread of respiratory illnesses, including COVID-19 and influenza:

- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue and then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Try alternatives to shaking hands, like an elbow bump or wave.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces that are often touched.
- Take care of your health overall. Staying current on your vaccinations, including flu vaccine, eating well and exercising all help your body stay resilient.
- Consult CDC’s travel website for any travel advisories and steps to protect yourself if you plan to travel outside of the US.

It is not recommended that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves.
from respiratory illnesses, including COVID-19. A facemask should be used by people who are sick with the common cold, flu or COVID-19. This is to protect others from the risk of getting infected. The use of facemasks is crucial for health workers and other people who are taking care of someone infected with COVID-19 in close settings.

If you are feeling sick with mild symptoms and do not need to see medical care, stay home while you recover. If you are sick and plan to seek care, please call before going in for care so arrangements can be made to prevent exposing others. For urgent medical needs, call 911.

For general questions about COVID-19, the public can call 211-information.

For more information:

- OHA Emerging Respiratory Disease page: www.healthoregon.org/coronavirus

Provisional Guidance for Health Systems Regarding Approval of COVID-19 Testing

Oregon Health Authority has updated the testing and approval process for COVID-19. Please see the attached document to the body of the Flash Report email. OHA distributed to the healthcare providers through the Oregon Medical Board and the Oregon Association of Hospitals & Health Systems. This guidance is intended to streamline the process for approving tests for COVID-19.

To request testing You MUST submit an electronic request for testing through a Confidential Oregon Morbidity Report, found at healthoregon.org/howtoreport.

For medical providers that have questions about COVID-19, you can now call 971-673-1111.

The mission of Jackson County Health and Human Services is to plan, coordinate and provide public services that protect and promote the health and well-being of county residents.