One New Confirmed COVID-19 Case in Jackson County

On March 25, 2020, Jackson County Public Health reported one new COVID-19 case, bringing the total to four in Jackson County. Jackson County Public Health is investigating the case to identify how the individual was exposed to the disease and identify and isolate/quarantine any individuals who may have been in close contact with the person.

Most states have executive orders in place for citizens to practice social distancing that includes sheltering in place. Social distancing is the most important and valuable tool we have to slow the spread of COVID-19. We understand the difficulties of practicing social distancing, this is not something we are used to doing, and we miss being close to family and friends. But, by practicing social distancing and staying home, we are slowing the spread of COVID-19 and protecting those who are more likely to suffer severe complications from COVID-19. Those most vulnerable are include adults 60 and older, or anyone with a serious health condition, including lung or heart disease, diabetes, or anyone who has a suppressed immune system.

Every resident should take these basic steps to protect themselves and those most at risk:

- Practice social distancing, stay home and save a life.
- It is best to not visit and stay over at older family members' homes or those that have health conditions that put them at risk, but do check on them using social distancing.
- Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Regularly clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces like bathrooms, desks, countertops, doorknobs, computer keyboards, faucet handles, toys and cell phones.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Stay home and away from others if you are ill.

Here are what individuals should and shouldn’t do under Governor Kate Brown’s executive orders that are in place to flatten the curve:

Do

- Stay home as much as possible; this includes kids
- Stay at least 6 feet away from others any time you are out
- Go out only for essentials (groceries and medical care)
Please print the Reporting Guidelines

- Exercise outside (best to walk, jog and bike in your neighborhood) and practice social distancing
- Have video and phone chats
- Drop food off to neighbors who can’t go out

Don't
- Gather in groups
- Get together with friends and family outside your immediate household (no drinks or dinners)
- Have playdates for kids
- Make unnecessary trips

For more information:
The public can call 211-information with general questions
OHA Emerging Respiratory Disease page: www.healthoregon.org/coronavirus
Jackson County Health and Human Services: http://jacksoncountyor.org/hhs/COVID-19

Southern Oregon Flight with Possible COVID-19 Case

On the evening of March 24, 2020, Jackson County Public Health learned about a situation where a possible positive COVID-19 case was on a flight from Seattle to Medford, dates 3/18/20, Delta Flight #4124.

When it comes to airline flights, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) is responsible for investigating communicable disease exposures, as many people on airline flights reside in other counties, states and even countries. They will work with the state and local public health entities on the investigations. When there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 on an airline, CDC will do the investigation, and will then share airline passenger's contact information, that were close contacts, with the state public health department, who then provide that information to the local health department to investigate further and isolate/quarantine any individuals who may have been in close contact with the person.

Jackson County Public Health has been in contact with the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to report the information Jackson County Public Health learned through a press release out of Humboldt County. Jackson County Public Health reached out to Humboldt County Public Health for more information and California State Public Health returned the call. California State Department provided information that a possible positive case was on Delta flight #4124, from Seattle to Medford on March 18th.

At this time, Jackson County Public Health does not have a list of who would be a close contact on this flight from the OHA. Even though the overall risk for most individuals on this flight is low, out of an abundance of caution, Jackson County Public Health is advising people from the Delta Flight #4124, that flew from Seattle to Medford on 3/18/20, to quarantine at home for 14 days. If you become
symptomatic (fever, cough, or difficulty breathing), please contact your health care provider.

Jackson County Public Health continues to investigate this situation and is working to get flight information from the Oregon Health Authority in order to contact those that would be a close contact.

Most states have executive orders in place for residents to practice social distancing, which includes sheltering in place and to only travel for essential items (groceries and medical care). It is recommended that individuals cancel non-essential travel. People who travel via airlines there is an increased risk that you will be exposed to COVID-19 as more community-acquired cases are occurring across the United States, and it is harder to practice social distancing on airlines.

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.