Update on COVID-19 Cases in Jackson County

Jackson County Public Health reported 15 new COVID-19 cases on July 2, 2020, and an additional 9 COVID-19 cases on July 3, 2020. This update brings the total reported COVID-19 cases in Jackson County to 140. To access additional data on the total COVID-19 cases, visit the Situation in Jackson County, Oregon webpage.

Oregon Health Authority has updated the definition of recovered cases. Recovery means if a presumptive or confirmed case is alive 60 days after the earliest of illness onset or first positive test, they will be considered recovered.

Providing Isolation Guidance to Patients With COVID-19-like Symptoms

As communities across Oregon and the United States have reopened, there has been a resurgence of COVID-19 cases. Public health and medical systems must detect COVID-19 cases and isolate them immediately to minimize the spread of COVID-19.

Medical Providers

When sending a patient with symptoms, even mild symptoms, for COVID-19 testing, Jackson County Public Health requests that medical providers instruct the person to self-isolate within their home and from household members. If a medical provider is testing an asymptomatic person with risk factors for serious complications, that person should be instructed self-isolate as well.

In the event the test is positive, COVID-19 cases should remain under home isolation for at least 10 days after illness onset and until 72 hours after fever is gone, without use of antipyretics, and COVID-19 symptoms (cough, shortness of breath, and diarrhea) are improving. If a confirmed case is asymptomatic or has symptoms other than fever, cough, shortness of breath, and diarrhea, they should be isolated for 10 days after the collection date of the specimen that tested positive. At this time, replication-competent virus has not been successfully cultured >9 days after onset of illness. The statistically estimated likelihood of recovering replication-competent virus approaches zero by 10 days.

Resources for Patients with COVID-19-like Symptoms

CDC: COVID-19 Quarantine vs. Isolation
Masks, Face Shields, Face Coverings are Required Statewide

Governor Kate Brown announced that the use of face coverings are required for indoor public spaces in every county, effective July 1, 2020. Children under 12 years of age, as well as people with a disability or a medical condition that prevent them from wearing a face covering, are not required to wear one. The guidance applies to businesses and members of the public visiting indoor public spaces.

Jackson County Public Health also recommends that face coverings made from cloth or paper be worn in social settings that consist of people outside the immediate household. Face coverings are not surgical masks or respirators. Currently, surgical masks and N95 respirators are critical supplies that should be reserved for healthcare workers and other first responders. Masks with valves are not recommended; these types of masks filter air being inhaled, but do not filter the air that is exhaled and can project the germs, exposing others.

Resources:
Statewide Mask, Face Shield, Face Covering Guidance
Oregon Health Authority: Face Covering Facts
Oregon Health Authority: Masked Required Sign for Businesses
Governor Kate Brown’s office has created a toolkit of 70 social media graphics

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.
References