

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEALTH COMMISSIONER



Dear Community Members:

One of the strongest and most effective tools in disease control is contact tracing. Contact tracing involves identifying people who are likely to get sick because of being in contact with those who have tested positive for an illness. It’s a protocol that has been done for decades by health departments for any infectious disease. During our current COVID-19 emergency, it’s a protective measure that is more important than ever.

Here’s how it works: If you’ve tested positive for COVID-19, a public health worker will reach out to you to voluntarily discuss who you may have come in contact with prior to your test. The contact tracer will then reach out to those individuals who may have been exposed to ask them to self-quarantine and begin self-monitoring for any sign of COVID-19 symptoms. If symptoms don’t develop after 14 days, the exposed individual will be cleared from self-quarantine. If they become ill, they will be asked to contact their healthcare provider on what to do next and remain in self-quarantine. The goal is to find where the virus is, and limit the chance of it spreading to someone else.

Public health calls it contact tracing, but contact notification is really the function. Done quickly and correctly it will limit the number of people who become ill. At the Medina County Health Department, we have received funds to bring on a more robust contact tracing team to help reinforce the safety measures we are already taking to protect our community. If you receive a call from us about potential exposure, please know that we handle all communication with the utmost care. There are sadly several scams circulating right now. Please never provide your information through text message, email, or if someone comes to your door. If you aren’t sure, please call the Health Department and we can help answer questions or address those concerns.

COVID-19 travels through people and by limiting people’s exposure, the virus will have nowhere to live. Monitoring those exposed to this disease is an extremely important piece of the puzzle to keeping you and your families safe.

What do we know?

<p>Medina County: 229 confirmed and probable cases; 57 hospitalizations; 18 deaths 379 released from isolation/quarantine</p> <p>0-19 years: 9; 0 hospitalized 20-29 years: 24; 2 hospitalized 30-39 years: 23; 1 hospitalized 40-49 years: 43; 5 hospitalized 50-59 years: 47; 8 hospitalized; 2 deaths 60-69 years: 29; 12 hospitalized; 2 deaths 70-79 years: 35; 13 hospitalized; 3 deaths 80+: 19; 16 hospitalized; 11 deaths Unknown: 0 cases</p>	<p>State of Ohio: Confirmed and probable cases: 28,952</p> <p>Age range: <1 - 108 Illness onset date range: 01/17/20 – 05/19/2020 Sex: 53% male; 46% female; <1% not reported; 50 median age Hospitalizations: 5,117 ICU admissions: 1,357 Deaths: 1,720 Counties: 88</p>
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Where can I find the latest information?

Medinahealth.org or Coronavirus.ohio.gov have the latest real-time information.