



Mayors and Managers Meeting Notes from 10.13.2020

Municipalities Participating: Addison, Bloomingdale, Bolingbrook, Carol Stream, Clarendon Hills, Darien, Elmhurst, Hinsdale, Lisle, Lombard, Naperville, Oakbrook, Oakbrook Terrace, Roselle, Warrenville, West Chicago, S. Quintell – DuPage Mayors and Managers

DuPage County Representatives Participants:

DuPage County Health Department Participants: Rashmi Chugh, Medical Officer; Dennis Brennan, Legislative Manager; Chris Hoff, Director of Community Health Resources; Adam Forker, Director of Client Access, Penny Chanez, Executive Asst.

Purpose of the call today with Mayors and Managers is to address updated case counts, Community and business updates and guidance. DuPage County Health Department Deputy Incident Commander, Chris Hoff facilitated the meeting.

COVID-19 UPDATE ON ILLINOIS AND DUPAGE COUNTY CASES

The Health Department's Medical Officer, Dr. Chugh provided the following case updates and remarks.

Case Counts continues to rise nationally.

- Nationally
 - Confirmed cases: 7,805,899
 - Deaths: 215,089
- State of Illinois
 - confirmed cases: 321,892
 - deaths: 8,997
 - Recovery rate of: 96%
- DuPage County
 - confirmed cases: 19,399
 - deaths: 583
 - Recovery rate of: 96%
- Average age of confirmed cases from
 - March to present was 43 years of age
 - From 9/29 -10/12 is 41 years of age
- Average age of hospitalized cases from
 - March to present was 61 years of age.

- From 9/29 -10/12 is 63 years of age
- Average age of deaths related to COVID-19 from
 - March to present was 80 years of age
 - From 9/29 -10/12 is 75 years of age

Data/DuPage County Health Department COVID-19 Dashboard Review

Dr. Chugh and Mr. Hoff reviewed with participants the current data trends from the Health Department's COVID -19 dashboard found on the department's website.

- Positivity rate case data
 - There continues to be an increase in the number of positive cases with trends not going in the right direction.
 - Positivity rate as of 10/9 is just over 6%. Updated data will be posted today.
- Severe outcomes data
 - Remains much lower than the spring, but recent daily reports from health systems are indicating increased activity
 - Increased hospital activity not related to influenza so far
 - Deaths have increased since the lows from several weeks ago
 - Increased case activity coupled with reporting lag for hospital data for severe outcomes in concerning.
- Trends by age group:
 - The age groups of 20-30 years and 40 -59 years are seeing the most increased case activity
 - 19 years and under have seen a slight increase over the last few days
- Region 8 Reporting Data
 - Region 8 is seeing an increase in positivity case activity and hospitalizations
- School Metrics
 - As of 10/3, DuPage County remains in the moderate level at 79 per 100,000 cases
 - The number of youth cases have decreased over time.
- Outbreak Reporting
 - Outbreak activity by setting is now included on the outbreak report.
 - Recent activity in the last 2 weeks indicates more outbreak activity associated with restaurants than in long term care facilities
- Influenza Activity
 - The first influenza activity report has been issued for this season with reported data through Oct. 3. Local influenza activity remains low.
<https://www.dupagehealth.org/Archive.aspx?AMID=39>
 - There are no reported ICU admissions, outbreaks, or pediatric deaths
 - School absenteeism rates for influenza-like-illness (ILI) and COVID-19-like-illness and/or infection (CLII) were reported in 132 of the 392 private and public schools in DuPage County for week 40 (ending 10/3/2020).

- Testing
 - The DuPage County community test site located at the DuPage County Fairgrounds complex will continue to operate in some capacity after October 31. . The Health Department is evaluating how best to to continue to offer community-based testing during the winter months.
 - There continues to be increased community interest in testing. Approximately 600 people were tested each day last week at the site.
 - Test results are generally received between 36-48 hours after the test is taken and since the June opening of the test site, the positivity rate is at 3.78%.

- Communication Resources

Mr. Hoff reminded participants of the resources available to them and their constituents and reviewed current ad campaigns

- The Health Department’s Business resource team is available to address any questions or complaints on business requirements and compliance of current requirements. - COVID19Business@dupagehealth.org
- The School Education and Outreach team is available to field and answer questions regarding schools and COVID -19 - COVID19Education@dupagehealth.org
- All available Public Health, COVID-19 mitigation messaging can be found at <https://www.dupagehealth.org/DocumentCenter/View/3690/COVID-19-Education-and-Outreach-Resources-PDF>

Chat box questions:

Mayor Pecak of Lisle -

We discussed a couple weeks ago that deaths are no longer being counted as COVID related when C19 is an incidental cause. In order to maintain consistency, has that same standard been applied to previous deaths? It looks to me that we are comparing inconsistent results.

- Response – Dr. Chugh: There is no change to the current reporting criteria for COVID-19 related deaths with co-morbidities. The Heath Department continues to identify cases and deaths, particularly in long-term care environments and is conducts reviews of those deaths reported.

Is there a way to break down/track the Hospitality Industry (Hotels/Restaurants/and even healthcare) in terms of Back-of-House (staff) vs Front-of-House (Customer) outbreaks?

- Response – Dr. Chugh: At this time, due to the sheer volume of case activity the focus is on providing an initial response and assistance at a setting where an outbreak has occurred. Additional insight may be provided if feasible.

Mayor Chirico of Naperville,

I received a question from a constituent, who stated that the life expectancy in the US is 79 years old and the life expectancy for a COVID death is 80 years old. Her question is how do we explain that people who die of COVID live longer on average than others in the US? Please advise.

- Response – Dr. Chugh: We are seeing COVID-19 deaths in individuals of all ages, including in adults under the age of 50. The demographic group with a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis is smaller than the whole with older individuals within that group experiencing more severe outcomes and irrespective of age, COVID-19 is contributing or causing premature death.

Matthew Beifuss

Are there any plans in the works for widespread deployment of rapid antigen tests?

- Response – Dr. Chugh: At this time, PCR testing is still the gold standard as there are still questions around antigen tests and accuracy. We are anticipating additional guidance from IDPH on the use of antigen testing.

Village Of Bartlett

If we are all wearing masks, washing and distancing - which way more people are complying now than a month ago, why are cases increasing?

- Response –Mr. Hoff: Increased community adherence to health mitigation efforts is occurring but where spread is occurring is in small gatherings where people have a false sense of security because these gatherings are with family and close friends. These settings tend to become lax with following the recommendations.

There was no further discussion. Participants were encouraged to reach out with any other concerns or questions. Mr. Hoff concluded the call at 10:57AM with no further discussion.