



March 10, 2020

COVID-19: Community Preparedness Memo

Situation

A third confirmed case of COVID-19 has been identified in Wisconsin. However, the risk to Juneau County residents for COVID-19 illness remains low.

Background

Influenza activity remains high in Juneau County with residents experiencing fevers and coughs. Influenza and COVID-19 are spread in the same manner, through droplet contact either directly by close contact with sick people or indirectly by contact with infected surfaces. It is important to take active measures to avoid the spread of illness in Juneau County:

- Wash hands frequently with soap and water for about 20 seconds
- Use of hand sanitizer gel when soap and water are not available
- Cover your coughs and sneezes
- Use tissues to wipe your nose, and dispose of the tissues in a waste basket.
- Wash common surfaces to remove dirt and bacteria
- Stay home if you are ill
- Go home if you become ill
- If you have respiratory symptoms and need to go out, cover your mouth and nose with a mask or scarf to help contain droplet contamination to others from your cough.
- If you have an underlying medical condition or are immunocompromised, make practical decisions about possible exposure in crowded events.

Guidance for Household Response to COVID-19 is posted for detailed information of actions to be taken before, during, and after COVID-19 infections of family members.

Assessment

Symptoms of influenza and the COVID-19 illness include fever, cough, chest tightness or shortness of breath, and may include body aches, headache, or fatigue.

Your health care provider is frequently updated with the most current recommendations of the Center for Disease Control, will ask screening questions to determine your risk for COVID-19 illness, and proceed with your illness assessment and testing as appropriate.

Recommendations

- Seek care immediately if you have severe symptoms, such as difficulty breathing.
- Older patients and individuals who have underlying medical conditions or are immunocompromised should contact their physician early in the course of even mild illness.
- Mildly ill patients should be encouraged to stay home and contact their healthcare provider by phone for guidance about clinical management.

The Emergency Information Page of the Juneau County Government website is activated and updated for COVID-19 preparedness and response. Go to www.co.juneau.wi.gov. On the website, select the red Emergency Information button in the top right corner.

