

Summary and Action Items

- To provide interim guidance on movement restrictions for students returning from affected geographic areas that may be updated/alterd based on forthcoming CDC recommendations
- Provide information on new resources released by CDC over the weekend
- To update Local Health Departments on new procedures for managing PUIs paperwork
- To clarify appropriate use of the COVID-19 Hotline

Background

IDPH released a Health Alert on February 28th with [new clinical guidance](#) on testing and movement restrictions for travelers with Level 3 [travel restrictions](#). Currently, these countries are China, Iran, South Korea, and Italy. Particularly from Italy, student studying abroad are being sent home which has generated logistic issues and concerns for universities in terms of movement restrictions and housing accommodations.

Public Health Management of Travelers, Interim Guidance

Local health departments are asked to work with their universities to devise plans for addressing returning travelers. With medium risk for COVID-19, students should remain “at home” or in a comparable setting (equipped with restrooms and kitchen facilities not used by other students) for 14 days from date of departure, and avoid congregate settings, limit public activities and practice social distancing. This could include having students return to their parent’s/guardian’s homes or student housing options. Cohorting asymptomatic students could be an option, and provisions for distance learning arranged. Students should self-monitor for symptoms with public health or university supervision. REDCap is optional but is not a requirement due to the volume for some universities.

New CDC Resources

New guidance documents and resources from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are available on CDC website and on the IDPH Coronavirus -Novel 2019 portal (A-Z) page. The newest resources include:

[Community Mitigation Guidance for COVID-19 Response in the United States: Nonpharmaceutical Interventions for Community Preparedness and Outbreak Response](#)

Schools and Child Care Settings

[Interim Guidance for Administrators of US Childcare Programs and K-12 Schools to Plan, Prepare, and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)

Business Settings

[Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\), February 2020](#)

At Home

[Interim Guidance: Get Your Household Ready for Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)

Health Care Settings:

- [Strategies to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 in Long-Term Care Facilities \(LTCF\)](#)
- [Interim Guidance for Healthcare Facilities](#)
- [Steps Healthcare Facilities Can Take Now to Prepare for COVID-19](#)
- [Strategies for Optimizing the Supply of N95 Respirators](#)

LHD Management of PUIs

LHDs no longer need to fax the PUI form to IDPH. Please ensure, however, that all details from the PUI form are entered into REDCap. PUI test results are now coming electronically into I-NEDSS. This will generate the I-NEDSS PUI case report, so you no longer have to data enter PUIs into I-NEDSS. Additionally, we will no longer be entering lab results into REDCap; just documenting the result.

Use of COVID-19 Hotline

The hotline staff has communicated some inappropriate calls being referred to the COVID-19 Hotline. Providers with specific questions about [Patients Under Investigation](#) and/or needing testing authorization should contact their Local Health Departments. Providers with general questions unrelated to a specific patient or situation should call the hotline. As a reference, the COVID-19 hotline number is 1-800-889-3931 or by email at dph.sick@illinois.gov.

Contact

Please contact your local health department with any questions. If they are not available, please contact the IDPH Communicable Disease Section at 217-782-2016. For information after hours, please contact your local health department. If they cannot be reached, use the IDPH after hours number 800-782-7860. Local health departments should contact IDPH for consultations on PUIs.

Target Audience

Local Health Departments, Universities, Infectious Disease Physicians, Hospital Emergency Departments, Infection Preventionists, Health Care Providers, and Laboratories

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Communicable Disease Section