



JACKSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

NEWS

FOR RELEASE: Immediately (4/9/20)

For more information contact:

618/684-3143

THREE COVID-19 POSITIVES, INCLUDING ONE DEATH, IN JACKSON COUNTY

Jackson County Health Department was notified in the past 24 hours of three new confirmed cases of COVID-19, including the death of a female in her nineties. This death is the second overall known from the disease in Jackson County. According to Bart Hagston, Administrator at the Health Department, "Our thoughts are with the family, as they mourn the passing of their loved one. Sadly, this disease is proving to be unforgiving in some cases, particularly in our elderly population."

The other newly confirmed positive individuals include the following:

- Male in his seventies, who is isolated and doing fair;
- Female in her eighties, who is isolated and doing fair.

All three individuals acquired the disease through local contact with a known or suspected case. To date, there have been 25 total laboratory confirmed positives of COVID-19 in Jackson County, including two deaths. The Health Department is aware of 231 tests being conducted on Jackson County residents to date. Six individuals have recovered enough to be released from isolation.

Public health officials are investigating cases, speaking with positive individuals about who they may have encountered before their diagnosis. Through investigation, public health may place other individuals on home quarantine if they are determined to have had significant exposure. Such individuals may not be symptomatic, but are quarantined for a period of time which allows symptoms to develop and pass, without posing risk to others. If you are contacted by public health officials, please respond promptly.

Health officials expect more cases to be confirmed locally in coming weeks. The number of cases can be reduced by adhering to the Governor's stay at home order, washing hands frequently, disinfecting commonly touched surfaces, and maintaining space from others when in public.

COVID-19 shares many symptoms with more common respiratory diseases. If you have a fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, call your health care provider for further guidance. In addition, Southern Illinois Healthcare (SIH) has established a 24-hour COVID-19 hotline at 1-844-988-7800. Clinicians there will answer questions, assess each caller and advise on next steps for evaluation or potential testing.

Follow the websites and social media accounts of Jackson County Health Department, Illinois Department of Public Health and CDC for trusted information on this pandemic.

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