Current COVID-19 case count

Scott County – Total of 2,235
Total deaths in Scott County: 21
Rock Island County – 19 new cases since Monday; total of 2,266
Currently in hospital: 15
Total deaths in Rock Island County: 63

Today's call

Dr. Louis Katz, medical director of the Scott County Health Department, did not speak from prepared remarks. A video recording of today's media briefing can be found at
https://www.scottcountyiowa.com/health/covid19/news

Tools to fight COVID-19 remain the same

Remarks from Nita Ludwig, administrator, Rock Island County Health Department

For a community to respond to a communicable disease such as COVID-19, a number of tools are needed to respond effectively and reduce the spread of illness. These tools include:

- Social distancing
- Wearing of face masks
- Contact tracing of positive cases
- Handwashing
- Quarantining of individuals who are close contacts
- Isolation of individuals who are positive for COVID-19
- Staying home when you show any signs of illness

The reopening of many schools in our community has highlighted the contact tracing process that takes place when a positive case of COVID-19 is identified. We would like to take a moment to again explain the process, the impact it can have on disease spread, and the role of individuals in making this process effective.

Contact tracing is used to identify possible spread of disease from a positive individual to any other individuals they may have been in close contact with during his/her infectious period. During a pandemic where virus is spreading throughout the community, called community spread, contact tracing has a goal of preventing further spread of illness, not pinpointing where someone got the virus.

Contact tracing basis of infection control

Remarks from Edward Rivers, director, Scott County Health Department

Contact tracing follows very similar steps in both Scott and Rock Island Counties. The contact tracing process is jump started when the local health departments receive the positive test result for an individual. This process happens regardless of how the individual may have contracted COVID-19.

All individuals will play a role in contact tracing. If you're called by the health department, PLEASE answer or return our call after we leave you a voicemail. Here's what to expect:

For positive individuals:

- You will be asked a series of questions by health department staff to determine when you would likely have been contagious and who you spent time with during that period in order to identify who may have been exposed.
- You will be asked to self-isolate for at least 10 days and will be given advice on how to take care of yourself during your self-isolation.
- You'll be free to ask any questions you might have.

For contacts to a positive case:

- You will be told you've been exposed to a positive case of COVID-19
- You will be asked to quarantine for 14 days from your last exposure to the case to make sure you don't spread the virus to others in case you develop COVID-19 during this time.
- You'll be given advice on symptoms to watch out for.
- You'll be free to ask any questions you might have.

It's not anyone's first choice to have to stay home from work or school for an extended time. However, as community spread of COVID-19 continues, this could happen to any of us. If you find yourself in a situation where you're getting contacted by public health, we simply ask you to do your part.

- Take our phone call,
- Answer our questions, AND
- Follow our guidance.

You'll be doing your part to keep the virus from spreading further.

Contact tracers from the Rock Island County Health Department are calling from the department's office in Rock Island. However, they are using a statewide system that calls from one Chicago number. If you see 312-777-1999, please pick up the call.

Contact tracers from the Scott County Health Department will call from a Davenport number that starts with 563-326 or 563-328.

More information

- www.TogetherQC.com
- coronavirus.iowa.gov
- https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19
- https://www.dph.illinois.gov/regionmetrics?regionID=2
- https://www.dph.illinois.gov/countymetrics?county=Rock%20Island
- https://www2.illinois.gov/idoc/facilities/Pages/Covid19Response.aspx
- https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/long-term-care-facility-outbreaks-covid-19

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