



Teton Valley Health
Where Everyone Matters

Press Release – For Immediate Release COVID-19 Update March 27, 2020 6:30 pm

Teton Valley Health (TVH) and Eastern Idaho Public Health (EIPH) reported no newly confirmed cases for the Teton County Community as of today, March 27, though tests are still pending. According to coronavirus.idaho.gov the total number of cases in Idaho is 230 with four deaths.

TVH is open regular hours and has sufficient capacity – if you are sick, please do not delay setting up an appointment or coming to the ER. TVH is reaching out to Medicare patients to set up tele-visits so that patients do not need to leave the house. We cannot do every visit this way, please call 208-354-6323 to schedule. TVH is using the specialty clinic to see patients who do not want to go to the regular Driggs or Victor clinics. You must be without any flu or respiratory symptoms to be seen in the Specialty clinic. Please call 208-354-6323 to schedule.

TVH still has test supplies and are testing those meeting the strict CDC and Eastern Idaho Public Health criteria. Test results take three/four days with tests sent to Idaho Bureau of Laboratories. Commercial testing can be done, but the timeframe for getting results is unknown. The TVH committee for procuring test equipment sufficient to test our population is meeting and working to identify lead times and costs for procuring the equipment for TVH.

In preparation for a potential high number of COVID patients that will require hospital care, TVH is calling out to the community to help with volunteers. Physicians, advanced practice practitioners, and registered nurses willing to volunteer their services please email: Info@tvhcare.org. Include your name, your licenses and specialties (e.g., MD family practice, MD infectious disease), your phone number, whether you are willing to provide direct patient care, and your potential availability. A list of volunteers is being assembled that may be used to meet increased hospitalization needs. TVH is also working with Teton County and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints to prepare alternate care sites should they become necessary.

The Teton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated this week and has been working diligently to prepare resources as needs arise to fight COVID-19. A Unified Command team was also activated with the Teton County Fire District, Teton County Sheriff's Office, and Teton Valley Health to provide boots on the ground services for COVID-19 patients in our community.

The EOC has received several calls asking for guidance on the Governor's stay at home order in regards to essential services and businesses in our region. A detailed list of essential services and businesses provided by the State of Idaho may be found here: https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/127/2020/03/IdahoEssentialServices_updated.pdf

A hub has been created for the latest COVID-19 information from local, state, and federal agencies at: <https://coronavirus-response-tetonidaho.hub.arcgis.com/>

Emergency management staff will be taking the weekend to recharge and prepare for what lies ahead in the coming weeks. No additional press releases or other information will be posted until Monday March 30, 2020 unless critical needs arise. We hope you all will take time as well to unplug, recharge, and enjoy time with family and pets.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, EIPH will be closed all next week except for Thursday, April 2 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. If anyone in Teton County needs assistance during the days they are closed, please call 208-522-0310.

Thank you for doing your part to stop COVID-19. TETON VALLEY STRONG!