TOWA COUNTY WISCONSIN HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Iowa County Health Department

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lowa County Health Department *Director/Health Officer Debbie Siegenthaler RN, MSN*

Continued High volume of COVID-19 Cases; Dashboard Update and Modifications

lowa County – lowa County continues to see a significant volume of COVID-19 cases. "Transmission is happening so rapidly that by the time our team is able to connect with those who have tested positive, everyone is already exposed or ill ", explained Debbie Siegenthaler, Director/Health Officer of the Iowa County Health Department.

Weekly Case Total -lowa County

Week of 10/11/21	56 positive cases
Week of 10/18/21	41
Week of 10/25/21	62
Week of 11/1/21	61
Week of 11/8/21	49
Week of 11/15/21	56
Week of 11/22/21	81
Week of 11/29/21	88
Week of 12/6/21	105
Week of 12/13/21	92
Week of 12/20/21	119
Week of 12/27/21	99
Week of 1/3/2022	181
Week of 1/10/2022	231
Week of 1/17/2022	324
Week of 1/24/2022	344

Total cumulative number of cases = 4,501 (1.28.22)

Note: The numbers are positive PCR test results reported via the WI Electronic Disease Surveillance System (WEDSS). Numbers do not include home antigen tests.

Late last week, the lowa County Health Department announced a shift away from conducting case investigation on every positive case. The <u>full press release</u> details the Health Department's prioritization of vaccination, community testing support and providing technical assistance to high-priority environments to prevent severe disease and death in our most vulnerable populations, such as long-term care facilities.

The lowa County Health Department wants to assure that if you test positive through a PCR test (through a lab), there is still a mechanism to assure each positive test result is relayed to each positive case. Instructions and information on what to do if you test positive are available at the lowa County COVID-19 website https://www.iowacounty.org/LatestGuidanceforIsolationandQuarantine. The lowa County Health Department wants to assure residents that they will remain a resource for anyone who is unable to access the internet, those seeking further guidance or answers to specific questions.

The lowa County Health Department shifting away from universal contact tracing and case investigation, including in depth interviewing of all positive cases, does not take away the importance of isolating and quarantining. This is a crucial time to do the right thing and act responsibly. Honesty and commitment in the steps of isolating (if positive), quarantining (if exposed), notifying those you were around and notifying your employer, school or daycare remain critical. We must continue to use mitigation measures to move forward and prevent spread.

Iowa County COVID-19 Dashboard

As a result of the Health Department not conducting in depth interviewing of all positive cases, we are not collecting the detailed data on positive cases previously collected. As a result, we are modifying our weekly dashboard as well as our weekly case snapshot. To clarify, the lowa County Health Department will continue to track the total number of PCR positive COVID-19 cases.

The percent of positive tests jumped significantly again to 25.3% (up from 20.8%) and the average new cases per day is 52 (up from 37). Key metrics for 1/28/22 can be found on our Summary Table highlighting key dashboard metrics since July 2020 https://www.iowacounty.org/departments/COVID-19/lowaCountySpecificData. The ICHD will publish its next Dashboard Update on February 4th, 2022.

Iowa County Health Department COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics

For more information and future clinics, check our website www.iowacounty.org and/or follow us on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/iowacountyhealthdepartment/

FEBRUARY COVID-19 VACCINE CLINICS

MODERNA, J&J and PFIZER for age 12 and up

BOOSTERS available for anyone 12 or older who is 5 months out from initial series $\frac{2}{3}(2022, \frac{2}{10}(2022, \frac{2}{17}(2022, \frac{2}{17}(2022$

1-4pm at the Health and Human Services Building in Dodgeville

Children must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian OR have a note from parent <u>AND</u> be accompanied by a person over 18 years of age.

Please sign up through a sign-up genius link below:

02.03.2022: 02.03.2022 Pfizer (signupgenius.com)

02.03.2022: 02.03.22 Johnson & Johnson (signupgenius.com)

02.03.2022: 02.03.2022 Moderna (signupgenius.com)

PEDIATRIC Pfizer Vaccine Clinics (for ages 5-11): 2/10/2022, 3/3/2022, 3/24/2022

Call 608.930.9870 to schedule a pediatric Pfizer appointment.

Location: Health and Human Services Building in Dodgeville.

Community Testing

The Iowa County Health Department continues to offer drive through COVID PCR testing <u>Tuesdays & Thursdays (weather permitting)</u> at the Iowa County HHS Building; 303 W. Chapel St, Dodgeville, 9:00-11:00 AM. No appointment necessary; <u>registration required https://register.covidconnect.wi.gov/en-US/</u>

Testing is free to anyone above the age of 1 year who is symptomatic or asymptomatic. Minors must be accompanied by a parent or guardian with consent. Masks are required.

If you need help registering, you can call the health department a day or two before you'd like to test.

Additional testing options locally found at https://www.iowacounty.org/COVID-19CommunityTesting

Important Sources of Information

- o Wisconsin Department of Health Services https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/index.htm
- o lowa County website https://www.iowacounty.org
- o **Upland Hills Health** https://www.uplandhillshealth.org/patient-visitors/covid-19/
- o CDC https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html
- o 211 Wisconsin Simply call 211 from your phone https://211wisconsin.communityos.org/
- o DHS Vaccine Data https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-data.htm#summary

Social Media sites:

Iowa County Public Health on Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/iowacountyhealthdepartment/ Upland Hills Health on Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/UplandHillsHealthHospital/ Iowa County Emergency Management on Facebook - https://twitter.com/ICEMWI Iowa County Emergency Management on Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/icemwi/

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