August 12, 2020

Health Department of Northwest Michigan COVID-19 Update

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is reporting one new confirmed case today in our jurisdiction with a primary residence in Charlevoix county. Case investigation and contact tracing are in progress, and relevant information will be shared once it is available.

At this time the CDC no longer recommends re-testing individuals with confirmed COVID-19 and instead recommends a symptom-based strategy to end isolation. New evidence suggests that individuals can shed detectable levels of the virus for many weeks after illness onset, but at a considerably lower level. Currently there is no evidence that individuals who have recovered from COVID-19 but test positive can transmit the virus to others. Persons whose symptoms are improving are no longer considered contagious 10 days after their symptoms started, and those without symptoms but with a positive test are considered non-infectious 10 days after the test date. For more information visit: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/duration-isolation.html

"We are continually reminded that our best protection from getting and spreading COVID-19 is to regularly follow distancing, masking, and handwashing guidelines,” shared Dr. Meyerson, Medical Director. “Because we can have and shed the virus without even knowing it, we are reminded to take the protective measures seriously to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in our communities."

As of 4:00pm, the Health Department of Northwest Michigan is reporting:

- Positive COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim – 38, Charlevoix – 47, Emmet – 57, Otsego – 115
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Charlevoix – 2, Emmet – 2, Otsego – 11.

The State of Michigan has reported 89,271 cases and 6,273 deaths.

Stay up to date on the latest information in the Health Department jurisdiction by liking and following our Facebook page and visiting our COVID-19 Data Dashboard. To locate a testing facility, visit the Michigan COVID-19 Test Finder website.