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**February 8, 2022**

**Health Department of Northwest Michigan COVID-19 Update**

**Health Department distributing free COVID-19 home tests**

Through a partnership with Alcona Health Center, the Health Department of Northwest Michigan will be distributing free COVID-19 home tests to community members at all office locations in its four-county jurisdiction of Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet and Otsego counties beginning on Wednesday, February 9.

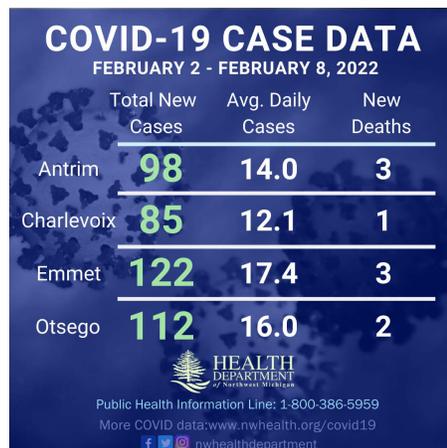
The tests, which include two per box, will be available on a first come first served basis while supplies last. In addition, the health department continues to distribute free KN95 masks at their office locations, also while supplies last. All offices are open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and are closed from 12-1 p.m. for lunch. Offices are located in Bellaire, Charlevoix, Gaylord, Harbor Springs/Petoskey, and Mancelona.

Although it is no longer necessary to report a positive home test, visit the [Michigan Department of Health and Human Services](#) for information on what to do next for isolation or to quarantine. If you continue to have questions about your test results or health, contact your primary care provider or call the health department at 800-386-5959.

In addition to the health department office locations, the health department has distributed KN95 masks to numerous partners to distribute free, including local libraries, emergency management services, food pantries and some churches. Contact your local agency for information about their distribution opportunities.

With the continuing surge of COVID-19, health department staff recommend staying up to date on your COVID-19 vaccine and upgrading your mask to a high filtration respirator like a KN95. Wearing masks in addition to vaccination are our best tools against COVID-19. If eligible, individuals can schedule their vaccination or booster dose by [clicking here](#). To schedule a COVID-19 test with the health department, [click here](#).

Stay up to date on the latest information in the Health Department of Northwest Michigan 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](#). To track the risk levels of COVID-19 pandemic indicators, visit the [MI Safe Start Map website](#). For more information regarding the COVID-19 vaccine, visit the MDHHS [vaccine website](#) or the [CDC vaccine website](#).



*The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is mandated by the Michigan Public Health Code to promote wellness, prevent disease, provide quality healthcare, address health problems of vulnerable populations, and protect the environment for the residents and visitors of Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, and Otsego counties. For more information, visit [nwhealth.org](http://nwhealth.org).*