



Sunday, April 26, 2020

4/26/2020 COVID-19 Updates

One new case of COVID-19 today, bringing Chautauqua County count of confirmed cases to 31

Chautauqua County statistics:

- 31 confirmed cases, including one new case of a female in her 60's;
- 4 active cases - continue to recover under orders of the Local Health Official per NYS Public Health Law;
- 24 recovered cases;
- 3 deaths;
- 42 cases under quarantine/isolation orders by the Public Health Director and being monitored. Not all of those being monitored are confirmed to have COVID-19 but have either shown symptoms, are awaiting results, or have risk factors; and
- 731 negative test results to date.

THE POSITIVE IMPACT OF PREVENTION

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought viruses, testing, lack of immunization and treatment into the forefront of the news over the past months. We should all be working towards prevention of sharing viruses:

- Avoiding close contact with people who are ill;
- Washing hands often with soap and water;
- Coughing and sneezing into an elbow or tissue (and then throwing that tissue away);
- Disinfecting frequently touched surfaces;
- Maintaining a social distance of 6 feet; and
- Avoiding sharing personal items like cups, straws, silverware, and toothbrushes.

During this rapidly changing pandemic environment, we can't forget the importance of maintaining the vaccine schedule for infants and children. For kids born 1994 – 2018, vaccines will prevent an estimated 419,000,000 illnesses in their lifetime. (CDC)

National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW), April 25-May 2, 2020, is a yearly observance highlighting the importance of protecting children two years and younger from vaccine-preventable diseases (VPDs). It's also a time to showcase the achievements of immunization programs and their partners in promoting healthy

communities.

These major achievements highlight controlling vaccine-preventable diseases among infants and young children worldwide:

- Vaccines have drastically reduced infant deaths and disability caused by preventable disease in the U.S.
- Through immunization, we can now protect infants and children from 14 vaccine-preventable diseases before age two.
- Routine childhood immunization among children born from 1994-2018 will prevent:
 - an estimated 419 million illnesses,
 - 8 million hospitalizations, and
 - 936,000 early deaths over the course of their lifetimes.

This is for a net savings of \$406 billion in direct costs and \$1.9 trillion in total economic impact.

We have addressed the importance of listening to and acting on credible information regarding COVID-19; the same standards must be followed with child vaccinations. Child vaccination coverage remains high in the U.S., but misinformation can put communities at risk. When misleading information spreads, vaccination coverage can fall and increase the risk for outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases. Childhood vaccines save lives; vaccinate your children to protect them, the community, and the nation's public health.

Healthcare providers in our communities are using strategies to separate well visits from sick visits. Please follow your healthcare provider guidelines for well child visits and vaccinations.

You can find a table of recommended child and adolescent immunization schedules here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/index.html>

Link to Chautauqua County COVID-19 Map:

<https://chautauquacounty.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/012d07321ad6415c8cf17c4f673643c9>

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