

Choi, Candice

From: Wiesman, John (DOH)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2020 8:04 AM
To: Hayes, Patty (DOHi); Duchin, Jeffery, MD (DOHi); Frederick, Shawn (DOHi); Spitters, Christopher (DOHi); Lofy, Kathy H (DOH); Lindquist, Scott W (DOH); Worsham, Dennis (DOHi); Wickersham, Kevin P (DOH)
Cc: Postman, David (GOV); Wicker, Kelly (GOV); Daugherty, Bret D. (MIL); Ezelle, Robert (MIL)
Subject: Proposed Saturday and Sunday Community Mitigation Meetings
Importance: High

Colleagues:

(NOTE: I will reach out to our Grant County colleagues to see if they would like to/have capacity to join remotely)

Which of these three hour blocks on Saturday would be best for a meeting for each of you? Please reply back with priority order and note if there is a time period that absolutely can't work for you (your replies will automatically go to Terry Bergener and she will keep a tally)

1. 9am to noon
2. 10:30 am to 1:30 pm
3. 2pm to 5:00 pm

Yesterday I had a chance to have key in-person discussions with Ambassador Brix (now a key federal official in the COVID-19 response) and Dr. Robert Redfield (CDC director) while they joined VP Pence here in Washington.

Some key piece of information to their thinking include:

- Their belief that transmission may be occurring before folks display symptoms (evidence that the highest viral load is before one starts displaying symptoms) and perhaps the role of fomite transmission during that time
- The importance of nosocomial transmission
- That there may be reason to believe that there is a seasonality to this (when one takes out the travel associated cases in the southern hemisphere right now, they are not seeing much transmission in those countries right now).
- The importance of continuing case finding and active contact tracing while simultaneously implementing community mitigation measures.

Redfield encouraged us to be bold and thought we should be acting soon, and if we did, that we can contain this. I know this has been on all of our minds.

To that end, I am asking you to join me in two sets of meetings this weekend.

The first would be on Saturday, in Seattle. It would consist of us public health folks (along with CDC public health folks—perhaps Redfield and others via phone). I'd like us not to be at any of our work places so we have the least amount of interruptions possible. The agenda would be:

Saturday Public Health Officials Meeting (4 hours)

Outcome: Consensus recommendation(s) for elected officials on additional community mitigation measures and when to take those actions

Agenda:

1. Review of current data
 - a. Case counts, demographics
 - b. Syndromic surveillance data
 - c. Other data
 - d. COVID-19 virus features and what we think we know and what we don't know
 - e. What this telling us about our current situation?
2. Review of community mitigation measures taken so far
3. Discussion and consensus recommendation(s) on
 - a. additional community mitigation measures
 - b. resource needs to continue active case finding (how we implement testing that doesn't overwhelm our health care system and doesn't propose infection control problems)
 - c. resource needs to continue contact tracing
4. Data sources we will monitor for impact of our efforts

Sunday Public Officials Meeting

Outcome: Public Officials make decision on additional community mitigation measures and when to implement

Agenda:

1. Public health officials present their work and recommendations for consideration
2. Public officials ask questions, discuss, deliberate and decide

John Wiesman, DrPH, MPH

Gender Pronouns: He/Him/His

Secretary of Health

Washington State Department of Health

101 Israel Rd SE; MS: 47890

Tumwater, WA 98504-7890

jmwiesman@doh.wa.gov

360-236-4030 | www.doh.wa.gov

