

Deaths- 507 (total 13,869)

COVID-19 Tracker Site: <https://covid19tracker.health.ny.gov>

From the Feinstein Institute for Medical Research: Michael Dowling and Mariah Cuomo in attendance

- Today is Sunday
- “everyone is entitled to his own opinion, but nit his own facts” Daniel Patrick Moynihan
- Hospitalizations is down again (~16k)
- Are we past the apex? We had plateaued, if data and trend holds, we are past the high point
- Depending on what we do
- Hospitals are seeing less inflow that what it was
- Intubations is also down
- Even with all the reductions sill 1300 people yesterday hospitalized, down but still high
- Have been watching spread 63% in NYC, 21% in LI, Westchester and Rockland 8%, 7% in the rest of the state.
- Nursing homes are still #1 concern
- 507 lives lost yesterday, 474 in hospitals 33 in nursing homes
- Thank you to all the nurse’s doctors technicians facility and staff at Northwell and thank you to the 1.1 M healthcare frontline workers including the 445,000 hospital workers in our state and 160,000 nursing home workers.
- We asked hospitals to increase their capacity by 50%, workers were at their max, gave it their all, got through plateau,
- It has been a journey of pain and anguish
- Would like to thank our neighbors, many volunteers who came to help us
- NYS will never forget the generosity, reminds of the post 9/11 time
- Gave us confidence that we are not in it alone
- MA is looking at an increase, they may need 400 ventilators if they do, we will bring them on 24 hour notice
- Recent news is good, but only compared to terrible news we were living with (the constant increase)
- Don’t get cocky and arrogant
- This virus has been ahead of us every step of the way
- This is only halftime, the war is not won
- Second phase:
  - Do no harm
  - Be smarter-develop new testing
  - Learn the lessons-build back better
- Remember there is a very small margin of error (.9% infection rate)
- Any plan to un-pause has to be based on testing
- Part of how to reopen NYS is to determining how many people have been infected with the virus already
  - Antibody testing NYS will undertake the most aggressive statewide antibody testing survey in the nation over the next week
  - Will be run by DOH

- For diagnostic testing, we will continue to work with the White House to assist with the supply chain and coordinate private labs, Northwell leading this
- Federal government is talking about passing another piece of legislation to help small businesses, state and local governments need help
  - States are in charge of opening, need resources
  - If we don't get federal assistance there will be drastic cuts, could be 50% in education cuts, also cuts to hospitals
  - All Governors agree and ask for \$500B
- Also, must remember do not harm
  - Many school districts want to reopen
  - Local officials want to make reopening decisions
  - Understand the pressure, understand the political pressure
- Working with regional partners to coordinate, weather is getting warmer, cabin fever is getting worse
- Have to stay smart and coordinated
  - NY State parks OPEN
  - NY Beaches CLOSED
  - NY Marinas OPEN
  - NJ state parks CLOSED
  - NJ Beaches OPEN/CLOSED
  - NJ Marinas OPEN
  - CT State parks OPEN
  - CT Beaches OPEN
  - CT Marinas OPEN
- Government matters today in a way it hasn't in decades. Must be smart and coordinated and give the people their best government
- Now is not the time for mixed messages
- States emergency powers govern, so blame me, it's true and right
- Build back better
  - In the meantime, we will reopen and rebuild not what was but better and smarter
    - Better healthcare
    - Better transportation/telecommuting
    - Smarter telemedicine
    - Smarter tech in education
    - More social equity
    - More cohesive in our spirit of community
- Thank you to the NYers to all you have done, especially to healthcare workers and all essential workers
- Still more to do, NY Tough
- Daughter with me, just came home was quarantined, all three daughters are now with me, give great sense of comfort, but for this I would never have had my daughters with me, get a beautiful silver lining, celebrate family and bring back traditions
- Think of the essential workers who had to work in the middle of this who frankly would have much rather stayed home, higher rate of infection in communities of color because they were the essential workers, got sicker and died more than anyone else
- We are all going through a tough time but there is a lot of courage

Q&A:

Asked why tracker is not up to date?

- Will check

Asked about status of FDA request

- Approves antibody test, will roll out to do largest state survey that has been done
- Will have first real statistical number
- How to you do both antibody and diagnostic testing at a large scale
- Very complicated, many different labs
- States can do the tests but manufactures can't find re-agents, state can't do an international supply chain, also same manufactures are selling to other states
- It is hard and complex

What is at stake with getting this wrong? You have president tweeting to liberate states and protests?

- Anyone can say anything, god bless America
- Some say it is a hoax
- 600 people died two days ago, that is a fact
- 1600 people in hospitals that test positive
- You can't say it is a hoax, it is a fact
- People are anxious, see numbers coming down, exhale a little bit
- No one knew for sure if we could stop the spread, if we did everything we could and it continued to spread that would have been very frightening
- We can control the beast but the beast is still alive, can rise up again, only temporary reduction
- What you do today, effects who walks into a hospital 3 days from now
- Get people want to get back to work
- Need to start to bring people out, social distance, do it intelligently while watching infection and hospitalization rate starts to go up, you could go right back to where you wee
- If we went through all of this just to go right back that would be the worst outcome

Asked about testing (Michael Dowling):

- Antibody testing vs diagnostic testing
- Will get up to doing 10k antibody tests a day, hoping to get to 20k
- Working with all the other hospital systems
- Lab people getting together daily
- Expanding capacity
- Have to have one side to do testing other side building to scale
- Cuomo-we have accomplished more than anyone believed we can do
- Projections were 2 M hospitalized in this country (only have 1M beds in the country)
- That is what top experts were predicting
- This has been a triumph, heroic efforts changed this curve

Weddings, clerks only being able to marry people?

Efforts to alleviate bodies into nursing homes?

Faith in President?

- Actions about marriages have caused me the most grief
- Authorized marriages only by licensed legal official, all online, license online
- What feds did working with states was phenomenal, has to double hospital capacity, army corps built beds at Javits, close to 1000 people have gone through Javits, extraordinary efforts and acts
- Feds were a great partner, local Gov's and hospitals were fantastic
- Now going to phase two, testing is big challenge, can do better working together than working apart
- Feds are involved in testing, have faith that we will
- Gov signed EO to allow funeral directors from out of state and retired to get licensed
- Governor will sign new EO to allow more than clerks to do weddings (anyone licensed)

President tweeted, gov's must step up to get job done, have you talk to president

- Haven't had conversation in past day but he is right, states have to step up on testing and feds have to step up on testing
- States working with the feds
- That is partnership

On testing, there was some rationing of diagnostic testing, who will be able to get anti-body testing?

- Will be random sample
- Not a test that people can call up and get
- Right now, we can do 2k a day (14k per week) not that big a number when looking at population of state
- We have tested more than any state, more than any country, nobody is better than we are, that is 500k tests in a month, we have 9M in the workforce, 19M in the state, that is why partnership with feds is so important, we need resources to do this
- State has 10-15B deficit, have no funds for schools, will be cuts to hospitals, local governments get aid, they pay law enforcement, how can you not fund that?

Thank you again to Michael Dowling and Northwell.

Caley Taratus  
The Roffe Group, PC  
111 Washington Ave. 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Albany, NY 12202  
(518) 432-7841