

Deaths 207 (total 21,271)

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

- Day 71
- Hospitalizations is down
- Intubations is down
- New COVID hospitalizations down (521) back to where we started this hellish journey (3/20)
- Painful period of time, all of this progress of turning the tide is thanks to New Yorkers
- 207 Deaths (164 in hospitals, 43 in nursing homes)
- Protecting nursing homes is a top priority
- Implemented safety measures including
 - Restricting visitation, except for end of life visits
 - Require PPE for staff when interacting with COVID suspected patients or confirmed residents and facemasks when interacting with all residents
 - Required all staff be checked for COVID symptoms, including temperature checks every 12 hours
 - Requiring facilities to notify all residents and family members within 24 hours of a COVID positive test or death
 - Requiring facilities to separate residents and staff in the event of an outbreak
- Provided with millions of pieces of PPE
- NY has the highest population of nursing home residents (101,518)
- And yet 34th highest percentage of any state (12%)
- Today we are taking additional steps:
 - Most vulnerable population in the most venerable place
 - The rule is simple: a nursing home can only serve a resident if they are fully capable of providing the level of individual care-staff, facilities, equipment
 - If they can't care for COVID positive, they must call DOH to transfer
 - All nursing home staff must be tested twice a week
 - Hospitals cannot discharge patient to nursing home unless they test negative for COVID-19
- Remember we have alternative facility for nursing home patient
- We created 90k hospital beds for surge capacity, we have beds available
- We have constructed COVID only facilities suitable for nursing home residents
- We are operating all and are not reducing bed capacity until this is over/end of year
- COVID only facilities upstate and downstate
- If you do not follow these procedures, they will lose their license, this is the essence of their responsibility and obligation
- NYS is investigating 85 cases of COVID related illness in children, does not present as normal COVID case, this is inflammation of blood vessels and heart, 3 deaths so far
- Possible these cases were coming in and not diagnosed
- There are two additional deaths being investigated
- We are putting all other states departments of health on notice
- NYS is also looking at treatment, Remdesivir
- CDC has started testing and working with HHS to administer to 2900 people at 15 hospitals
- This week is May 15th, pause order expires, looking region to region about reopening
- Clear criteria, science and data based

- Local Governments should start to look at, does the data indicate the spread is under control
- Does the region have their operation in place? Hospital capacity, Test/Trace/Isolating and compliance function to monitor businesses
- Will talk about more tomorrow
- Also, this week Washington is considering additional legislation that is essential to what we are trying to accomplish
- States are doing what they need to do but they have limits, the loss of revenue in the economy
- Due to the impact of COVID-19 NYS revenues will decline by 61B
- We then have to pay for all this COVID work another \$5B
- Then essential state agencies that are taking a tremendous loss, MTA, Port Authority, not tolls tremendous loss, losses at airports
- If Federal Government doesn't help, Schools reduced 20%, 20% Local Governments and 20% Hospitals, anywhere we don't cut means deeper cuts somewhere else
- 35B this year to compensate for total losses
- Last bill, was supposed to compensate for COVID but everyone put money for their home state
- Alaska got 100 times what NY got per COVID case
- Washington also bailed out corporate America, we should be funding working Americans
- Don't make the same mistake twice, no corporate bailouts that don't protect workers
- There should be no subsidy for corporation what lays off employees
- Propose the Americans first law, if corporation doesn't not rehire the same number of employees, no government money, not going to subsidize to lay off workers
- Today is Mother's Day, you want to talk about Love the personification of love has always been my mother

Matilda Cuomo, guest with Cuomo's daughters

Q&A:

Why is the State not testing all nursing home residents?

- We are testing residents as much as we can

Why not have nursing homes transfer patients back in March, they said they were overwhelmed?

- Nursing homes, if they can't provide care, they call the DOH and they transfer
- We have always had more beds than we needed, had to create 40k beds
- It was true from day one

Court system on virtual function when will new non-essential law suits be allowed?

- Working hand and glove with courts
- Grand juries are also an issue, secrecy laws
- Trying to get online as soon as possible
- Managing courts is not an executive decision
- Working with Chief Judge and following her recommendations

Sounds like you are rescinding March 25th order for nursing homes saying they can't discriminate against an COVID positive patients?

- Still can't discriminate on COVID status, now saying they should test negative before discharge
- Patients come from other placed
- This says hospitals can't release COVID patients into a nursing home until they test negative
- This is binding home a hospital
- Nursing home can't say they don't take COVID positive people
- They can say they are not equipped to handle COVID patients they can refer them to DOH
- Hospital can either hold the patient or discharge to COVID only facility
- They can take a COVID positive patients ONLY if they can handle it

Was March 25th order flawed?

- If you look at the facts, what we are doing is working, we have much lower nursing home deaths
- When we started this, hospital beds were precious, the last thing you would be doing it saying you need to keep someone in a hospital bed who didn't need to be there
- Today, we have excess capacity and the hospital can discharge to another one of our facilities
- If nursing homes couldn't handle the discharged patient, they should have said that

You have said putting a COVID patient into "dry grass" wasn't that what happened

- You have COVID and Non-COVID, have to treat that person without infecting other people, that is what nursing homes had to do, and if they can't do it, they had to say that

On issue on children illness can we get more information? Where they are? How old?

- This is a mother's nightmare, virus had been ahead of us every step, depends on what we can tell to keep privacy
- Notified other states, CDC will communicate
- They don't look like COVID cases
- 85 children being evaluated, looking at charts
- Ages of 2 elementary school age, one adolescent (one is 5 years old)
- We weren't looking for this, CDC has sent people up as well, getting to the bottom of it
- Three that died, we have not heard of underlying issues
- Would tell parents, if child has any symptoms, call doctor and get evaluated, will have more information and be cautious
- Symptoms are very broad, common dominator is that they had coronavirus antibodies or are positive
- Getting as much info as we can as quickly, we can

Have any regions met the standards to reopen?

- Tomorrow inviting all the county execs to be part of the briefing, there will be regions that are eligible, will go through in detail tomorrow
- Think if you took Rockland and Westchester out of the region, still would not qualify (Dutchess)