

Veterans Health Administration Senior Leadership Brief: 24 March 2020 NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

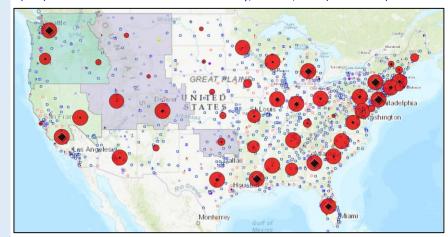
- Office of Emergency Management and Population Health Services
 - VA Public Health, Coronavirus website to provide Veterans & Staff guidance and information now active. (Below Link).
 - https://www.publichealth.va.gov/n-coronavirus/index.asp
 - As of Monday, Mar. 23: the website has been visited 147,257 times with 133,782 unique visits.
 - Work Groups established to coordinate actions/information.
 - Topic specific and technical Work Groups are gathering questions and information from the field and providing support as required.
 - As of Tuesday, Mar. 24: 354 Questions submitted; 329
 Answered; 25 Being reviewed or updated by Subject Matter Experts (SME).
 - Guidance on Requesting Government Furnished Equipment for the COVID-19 Response; Posted on SharePoint site.
 - VA Health Care Systems have launched a notification campaign to inform and educate the Veteran population visiting facilities.
- Readjustment Counseling Services (RCS)
- VA Mobile Vet Center (MVC) with counseling and outreach staff;
 Outreach teams providing direct counseling and linking additional services and benefits to Veterans, Veteran Family Members, Active Duty Service Members, and Civilians.
 - Coordinating with HHS to locate MVC in Lower Manhattan, NY.
 - Current operations for Tuesday, Mar. 24 at 1700 EDT.

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MVC Location	Daily Encounters Vet / Vet Family / Civilian	Total Encounters (To Date) Vet / Vet Family / Civilian
New York City	Paused Operations	139 / 1 / 33
San Francisco / Oakland	Suspended Operations	3/0/15
Los Angeles (Downtown)	7/0/8	16/0/20
New Orleans (Downtown)	15 / 0 / 40	15 / 0 / 40
TOTAL	22 / 0 / 48	173 / 1 / 108

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Current Situation: As of Tuesday, March 24 at 1800 EDT, the total number of confirmed coronavirus cases in the world is now 417,698 and the total number of confirmed deaths is now 18,614. On Tuesday, the Prime Minister of Japan announced the postponement of the July 2020 Summer Olympics scheduled in Tokyo for at least one year. The Prime Minister of India announced a 21 day country wide lockdown for the country's 1.3 billion people beginning today at midnight local despite reporting only 519 confirmed coronavirus cases and 10 deaths. At this time, there are at least 2.8 billion people around the world in some form of lockdown due to the coronavirus. On Tuesday, Hubei Province, China officials began removing local restrictions including the provision of mass transportation. China officials also reported that the 76 day lockdown in Wuhan, China (Hubei Province) with a population of 11 million, and were the coronavirus outbreak began, will end on April 8.

The below map provides the U.S. distribution of confirmed novel coronavirus cases (RED) and location of VHA facilities for Tuesday, Mar. 24, 2020 (VA GeoBISL).



Current Situation (U.S.):

- As of Tuesday, Mar. 24 at 1800, the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the United States is 52,145 with 677 deaths reported.
- New York state now has over 25,000 confirmed cases and over 175 deaths. New York state now accounts for 6 percent of the world's confirmed coronavirus cases. New York projects a requirement for 110,000 beds; there are currently 53,000 beds in New York.
 - The Jacob K. Javits Convention Center in Manhattan is being converted into four 250 bed (1,000 beds total) Federal Medical Stations (FMS) to combat the coronavirus. The Javits Center is expected to be operational by March 29.
 - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are designing/building three additional alternate care sites in the city that combined with the Javits Center will expand hospital capacity in the city by 6,000 beds. (FEMA/HHS)
 - The UNSN Comfort is scheduled to deploy to New York City within the next two weeks to provide relief to the city's overcrowded hospitals.
- As of Tuesday at 1800, 17 states have issued "Stay at Home" orders. 10 other states have issued "Stay at Home" orders for specific counties and cities.
 - Other states have initiated "Safe at Home," or other forms of orders that close all nonessential businesses and other public spaces and encourage people to stay home. (U.S. Map attached)
 - At this time, an estimated 167 million people in the U.S. are subject to the various orders.
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- Emergency Management Coordination Cell (EMCC) activated to <u>Level I</u>;
 Fully staffed to support a major event that requires national level resources and coordination.
- (1) Area Emergency Managers (AEM) deployed to support Population Health Services.
- (4) AEMs onsite at Travis AFB, Miramar MCAS, Lackland AFB, and JB Dobbins supporting repatriation operations.
- o 10 AEMs deployed to support FEMA Regions (OEM laydown attached)
- Logistics

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VHA

- Available 1.6 million N-95 Masks
- Shipped 414,000 N-95 Masks (Various Facilities)
- Received 20,100 BD Swabs
- Received 35,000 Face shields; Shipped 2,700
- Tuesday, Mar. 23: First shipment of PAPR's to VISN 21.
- Monday, Mar. 30: (2) Shipments of PAPR's scheduled to Vancouver, WA and Brooklyn, NY.
- Continue to coordinate with Procurement & Logistics Office on all shipments of PPE and address immediate needs.
- Coordinating contracting efforts for Alternate Care Sites; contract award expected by the end of March.



Military vehicles cross Westminster Bridge in London on Tuesday after delivering personal protective equipment to St Thomas' Hospital. (Getty) Police will start enforcing new rules compelling people to stay at home and leave only for essential shopping, daily exercise, medical care and "absolutely necessary" work. Officers will have powers to disperse gatherings after a ban on meetings of more than two people, apart from those who live together.

