



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Cole County
Health Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – April 1, 2020

Cole County Health Department Data Release

COLE COUNTY, MO – Yesterday, the Cole County Health Department was contacted by a local media outlet requesting the number of hospitalized individuals with COVID-19. State law mandates that the number of positive cases of COVID-19 results be reported to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services and Local Public Health Agencies. Missouri State law does not mandate healthcare facilities report the number of hospitalizations to local health departments. The number of hospitalizations related to COVID-19 remains a fluid and ever-changing number. Should the Cole County Health Department report on the number of hospitalizations, it would be pure conjecture and could cause undue panic, or a false sense of security, based on inaccurate numbers. If that data is needed, it should be requested from the local hospitals.

The Cole County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is in frequent contact on the stability and capabilities of local hospitals and Emergency Medical Services to ensure the capabilities of those organizations to meet the strategic mission of providing and maintaining healthcare within Cole County. Based on this frequent communication with those healthcare organizations, the EOC Unified Command currently does not foresee a capacity or capability degradation with the healthcare system in Cole County.

For more information please visit our website at www.colehealth.org or call the State of Missouri Hotline at 1-877-435-8411 or 1-800-392-0272.
