

## **Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Response**

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Seattle City Council

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# Outline

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- King County Situation
- Update on severity of COVID-19
- Community mitigation strategies
- Questions

# King County Situation

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## Outbreak

- Case count updates
- Life Care, Kirkland – focal point
- 8 long-term care facilities impacted
- WA DOH set up ICS to support long-term care facilities

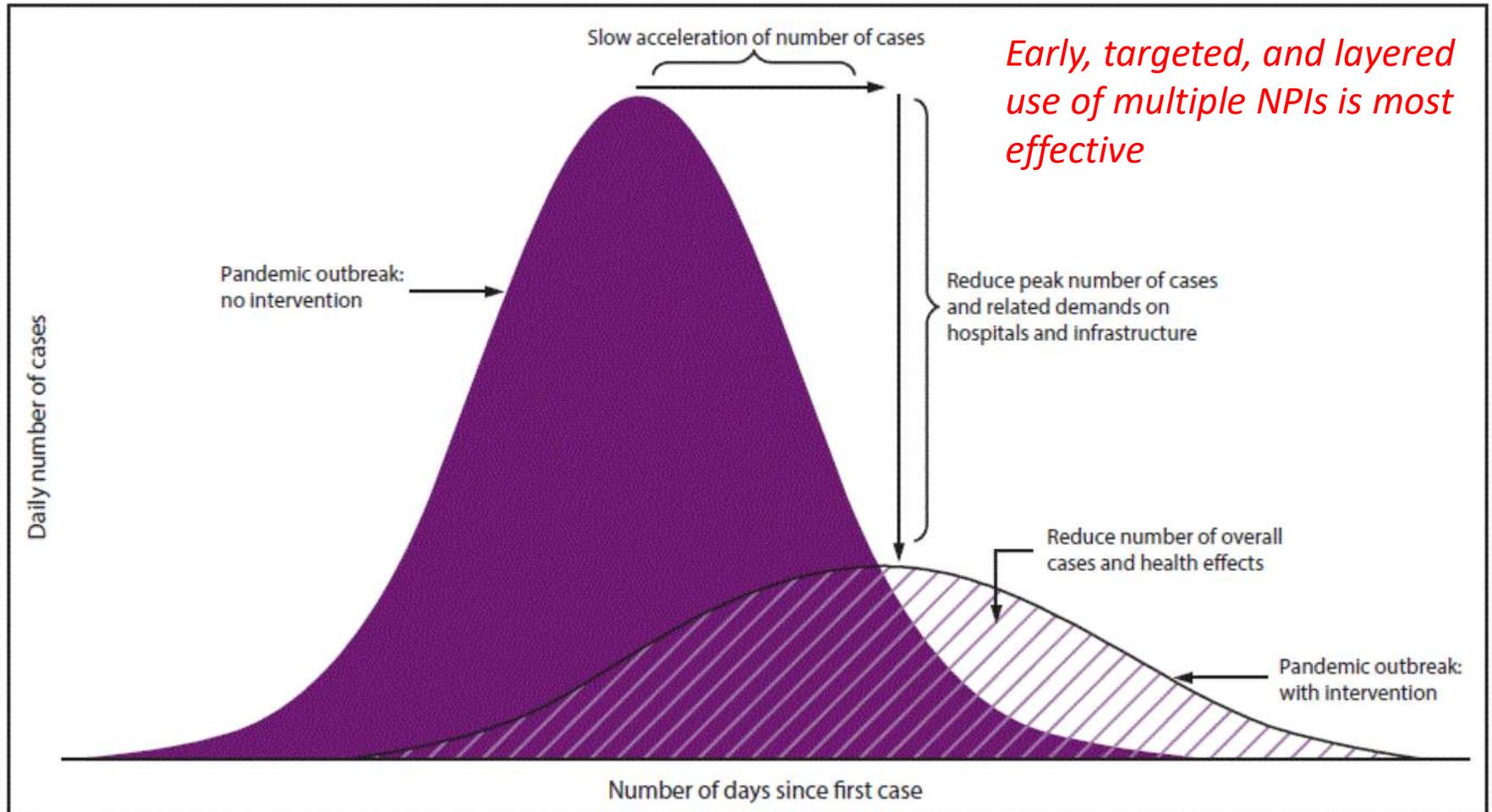
## Disease Investigation

- Contact tracing focused on long-term care facilities, healthcare settings, and other vulnerable populations
- Coordinating with health system (testing, PPE)

## Community Mitigation (to stop the spread)

- Task forces set up for every major sector
- Focus sanitation/hygiene, measures and social distancing

# Goals of Community Mitigation for Pandemic Influenza (Non-pharmaceutical Interventions [NPIs])



Source: CDC. MMWR 2017;66(1):1–34. (<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/66/rr/rr6601a1.htm>)

# What the Public Can Do

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**Public Health recommends that people at higher risk of severe illness should stay home and away from large groups of people as much as possible**, including public places with lots of people and large gatherings where there will be close contact with others. This includes concert venues, conventions, sporting events, and crowded social gatherings.

- **People at higher risk include people:**
  - Over 60 years of age
  - With underlying health conditions including include heart disease, lung disease, or diabetes
  - With weakened immune systems
  - Who are pregnant

Caregivers of children with underlying health conditions should consult with healthcare providers about whether their children should stay home. Anyone who has questions about their risk should consult with their healthcare providers.

# What the Public Can Do

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- 1) **Do not go to the emergency room unless essential.**
- 2) Stay home when sick.
- 3) Practice excellent personal hygiene habits, including handwashing, coughing into tissue or elbow, avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth.
- 4) Stay away from people who are ill, especially if you are 60 and older or have underlying health conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, lung disease, or a weakened immune system, or if you are pregnant.
- 4) Stay informed. Information is changing frequently. Check and subscribe to Public Health's website ([www.kingcounty.gov/COVID](http://www.kingcounty.gov/COVID)) or blog ([www.publichealthinsider.com](http://www.publichealthinsider.com)).

**Remember that during an outbreak with a new virus there is a lot of uncertainty. Our guidance and advice is subject to change as we learn more. We will continue to keep you updated.**

# School Recommendations

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**Public Health is not currently recommending that schools proactively close unless they have a confirmed case of COVID-19 in a staff member or student.**

School closures have significant negative impacts on our community. The considerations we have taken in our decision not to currently recommend routine closure at schools include:

- Children are not known to get seriously ill from COVID-19
- Closing schools may not be effective because some children may congregate anyway, at other locations
- Many parents, such as healthcare workers, need to be at work.
- If schools close, some children might have to stay home with alternative caregivers, such as elders, who are more vulnerable
- We don't know how effective children are in spreading this disease

# Call Centers

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- **If you are in King County and believe you were exposed to a confirmed case of COVID-19, or if you're a healthcare provider with questions about COVID-19, contact our novel coronavirus call center: 206-477-3977.**
- The call center will be open daily from 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM PT.
- For general concerns and questions about COVID-19, please call the Washington State Novel Coronavirus Call Center at 800-525-0127.

TABLE 1. Non-pharmaceutical Interventions Matrix

Assessment*		Intervention	Expected Result	Example Implementation
Transmissibility	Clinical Severity			
1	1-4	1. Increase handwashing and use of alcohol-based sanitizer	Reduce probability of direct and indirect transmission of the disease by disinfecting hands	Conduct public messaging and media campaigns to encourage and educate the public and to promote enhanced hygiene and social distancing measures. Targeted messaging to major employers may be beneficial in encouraging the enhance behaviors in the workplace.
1	1-4	2. Respiratory Hygiene/Cough Etiquette	Reduce probability of droplet transmission of the disease by reducing the range of respiratory droplets and aerosols	
1	1-4	3. Keep distance from others (>6 feet)	Reduce probability of direct and droplet transmission by reducing the number of interpersonal contacts	
1	1-4	4. Frequently clean and disinfect personal surfaces (doorknobs, phones, keyboards, etc.)	Reduce the probability of indirect transmission by disinfecting fomites	
1	1-4	5. Remain home through the duration of respiratory illness	Reduce probability of transmission by preventing contacts between well and sick people	
2	2 - 5	6. Voluntary isolation of sick persons	Reduce probability of transmission by preventing contacts between well and sick people	Health officers, medical providers, and public health personnel provide direct education to cases and contacts asking that they remain home for an established period of time.
2	2 - 5	7. Voluntary quarantine of contacts of sick persons	Reduce probability of transmission in the event that the contact becomes contagious before symptoms developed.	
3	5 – 6.5	8. Involuntary isolation of sick persons	Reduce probability of transmission by preventing contacts between well and sick people	Health officers issue emergency detention orders or seek court orders for involuntary detention in order to involuntarily isolate or quarantine those who are uncooperative
3	5 - 6.5	9. Involuntary quarantine of contacts of sick persons	Reduce probability of transmission in the event that the contact becomes contagious before symptoms develop	
4	5 - 7	10. Order cancellation of major public and large private gatherings	Reduce probability of transmission by reducing the number of the interpersonal contacts	Health officer orders to suspend all gatherings above a certain size with the intention to reduce risk of disease transmission if a subset of that population may be sick
4	5 - 7	11. Order closure of schools, childcare facilities, workplaces, and public buildings	Reduce probability of transmission by reducing the number of the interpersonal contacts	
5	5.5 - 7	12. Prevent non-emergency travel outside of the home	Reduce probability of transmission by reducing the number of the interpersonal contacts	Health officer orders to halt non-emergency travel and remain indoors in order to protect those not yet sick.
5	5.5 - 7	13. Establish a cordon sanitaire	Contain the disease within specific geographical boundaries.	

\*Assessment levels are based on the following table (Table 2).

# Questions

