

Main Office  
184 U.S. 41 East,  
Negaunee, MI 49866  
[www.mqthealth.org](http://www.mqthealth.org)



## PRESS RELEASE

TO: All Marquette County Media  
CONTACT: Kevin L. Piggott, MD, MPH, Medical Director  
DATE: March 18, 2020

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Update March 18, 2020

The Marquette County Health Department (MCHD) continues to work diligently alongside community partners to address the spread of COVID-19 for Marquette County.

The current situation within Marquette County is as follows:

- COVID-19 Positive Cases = 0 (morning of 3-18-20).
- Testing in Michigan is conducted through three labs (one state and two private) and requires a 5-6 day turnaround.
- Testing supplies remain limited; so, testing is focused upon patients considered to have a higher likelihood of COVID-19 illness.
- Personal protective equipment (PPE) for medical care providers is limited nationally, effecting the number of health care providers that can conduct the test.
- MCHD is providing some assistance to local healthcare providers in the process of advancing their evaluation/testing capabilities.
- Due to limitations in testing it is not possible, nor is it recommended, to test everyone wanting a test.

MCHD Recommendations:

- Stay home and avoid close contact with others.
- If you are sick with COVID-19 or think you might have it, the CDC currently recommends that *“people who are mildly ill with COVID-19 are able to recover at home. Do not leave, except to get medical care. Do not visit public areas.”*
- If symptoms worsen, avoid others and seek medical care from your healthcare provider to determine if medical evaluation and testing is recommended.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with your elbow or clean tissue.
- Wash your hands frequently.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces.
- Cancel meetings and any gatherings of 10 people or more and do not attend.

For current COVID-19 information, please visit our website at [www.mqthealth.org](http://www.mqthealth.org), or call 1-888-535-6136. If you believe you may have been exposed or are ill, call (906) 475-9977.

###