



TOOELE COUNTY
HEALTH
DEPARTMENT



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Tooele County Resident Tests Positive for COVID-19

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(Tooele, UT) – The Tooele County Health Department (TCHD) announces the County's first positive case of COVID-19. The patient is a male Tooele County resident, he is an adult younger than 60. Prior to becoming ill, he traveled to an affected area and had close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case during that travel.

The UDOH and the TCHD are working to identify and contact anyone who may have been in close contact with the confirmed case. These individuals will be monitored by public health for fever and respiratory symptoms.

The patient contacted their health care provider and notified them of his travel history and symptoms. Clinicians were able to prepare for the patient's visit, including collecting a clinical sample. Laboratories tested the patient's sample and this case was confirmed positive through the testing.

Residents and visitors of Tooele County can be assured that we've expected and prepared for COVID-19 in our community. We have a system in place for identifying, reporting, and isolating cases. We are working in partnership with the UDOH and our local healthcare network. The Tooele County Health Department will continue our response to COVID-19 in Tooele County and will continue to communicate openly and honestly with the public. We encourage residents and visitors not to be alarmed, but to take regular but important preventive health precautions such as correct handwashing, staying home when sick, and socially isolating.

The system we have in place worked just as we hoped it would. We continue to emphasize the importance of calling your provider first if you suspect you may have COVID-19. This enables us to help control the spread of this virus and better protect our patients, our staff, and the community.

The symptoms of COVID-19 are similar to what someone may be experiencing as the result of seasonal influenza – namely a fever, cough, or shortness of breath. These symptoms on their own are not worrisome and should not cause alarm. But if someone exhibits these symptoms who has recently traveled to areas with widespread COVID-19 illness or has been in close contact with a known positive case, that individual should immediately notify their health care provider, who will coordinate with the appropriate public health officials to determine next steps.

There is currently no vaccine or antiviral treatment available for coronavirus and it is flu and respiratory disease season. The UDOH recommends getting vaccinated for influenza and taking everyday preventive actions to stop the spread of germs including regular hand washing, covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue or an elbow, staying home when you're sick, and socially isolating. All nonessential travel to areas affected by COVID-19 is also discouraged.

More information about novel coronavirus can be found at <https://tooelehealth.org/coronavirus-disease-2019/> <https://coronavirus.utah.gov/> or at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>.