

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2021 11:10 AM
To: Keefer, Aimee
Subject: RE: MDOC STATS

Thx this is helpful

From: Keefer, Aimee <akeefer@ioniacounty.org>
Sent: Sunday, January 31, 2021 3:24 PM
To: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: MDOC STATS

SO FOR MDOC WE HAVE:

8/25	BELLAMY CREEK (IBC)- 376 INMATES; UP 27 SINCE 12/15	EMPLOYEES- 48	STARTED-
9/16	IONIA CORRECTIONAL (ICF)- 292 INMATES; UP 13 SINCE 12/15	EMPLOYEES- 21	STARTED-
10/17	RICHARD HANDLON (MTU)- 877 INMATES; UP 10 SINCE 12/15	EMPLOYEES- 28	STARTED-
10/28	MICHIGAN REFORMATORY (RMI)- 836 INMATES; UP 793 SINCE 12/15	EMPLOYEES- 13	STARTED-

I WANTED TO FIGURE OUT PERCENTAGES OF THE POPULATION AFFECTED, BUT CANNOT FIND GOOD INFORMATION ABOUT TOTAL INMATE POPULATIONS IN EACH FACILITY.

I AM THINKING THERE ARE PROBABLY MORE EMPLOYEES THAT WE DON'T HAVE THE OUTBREAK IDENTIFIER ON THEIR CASE- I WENT THROUGH ALL THE CASES ON THE SURVEY LIST SINCE WE STARTED IT, BUT THERE MAY BE SOME WE MISSED DUE TO NOT ANSWERING CALLS OR SURVEY.

Aimee Keefer BSN, RN

Maternal Infant Health Program
Children's Special Health Care
Communicable Disease/STD & HIV

Ionia County Health Department
175 E. Adams St.
Ionia, MI 48846
616-527-5341 ext 443
akeefer@ioniacounty.org

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2021 9:40 AM
To: Bevington, Jamie; Shaw, Chad; Shaull-Norman, Peggy
Subject: FW: Notification of Moderna Vaccine Order for MDOC Staff

From: Waterman, Autumn (DHHS) <WatermanA@michigan.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:31 AM
To: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: Notification of Moderna Vaccine Order for MDOC Staff

Good morning,

MDHHS has submitted an order for distribution of the Moderna vaccine for Ionia. Your facility will be receiving 500 Moderna doses in the upcoming week:

- 500 are designated as FIRST doses for staff at Ionia, Michigan Reformatory, Bellamy Creek & Richard Handlon Correctional Facilities.

These doses are anticipated to arrive on Wednesday or Thursday.

Distributors utilize the shipping hours as entered in the MCIR VFC Shipping tab. Please ensure your shipping hours and address correctly reflect your ability to receive orders. To check shipping information in your MCIR site (hours, address, etc.), please [utilize this tip sheet](#).

Ancillary kits for Moderna vaccine will arrive within 24 hours of the vaccine.

Temperature reminder: Keep in mind that Moderna is stored at a *more narrow frozen temperature range than other frozen vaccines such as varicella-containing vaccines*, so please ensure your freezer is within the appropriate range: It is to be stored frozen between -25°C and -15°C (-13°F and 5°F). It can also be stored at refrigerated temperatures between 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) for up to 30 days before vials are punctured.

Sign up to Review Order Details and Receive Shipment Emails with Tracking IDs

- Review this [new tip sheet](#) to see how you can review order details and receive email notifications for shipments, including tracking IDs. This allows you to add “e-order contacts” to your MCIR site for this enhanced order review ability. These emails will come from mcir@michigan.gov. Moderna does not send direct shipment notices, so please be sure to add appropriate users to your MCIR site accordingly. This guidance is also included on [our website](#), along with additional inventory support.

Reminders and Resources for Support:

- Please review our new MDHHS website [COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Guidance & Educational Resources](#). Save/bookmark this site as it will be updated frequently.
 - **Moderna-specific materials are available on this website**
- VaccineFinder: CDC is registering users in VaccineFinder in phases, but an email will be sent to your “organizational contact” for such registration, so that you can perform daily reporting. For tip sheets and videos on using VaccineFinder, please visit <https://vaccinefinder.org/covid-provider-resources>.

○ Contact Information for VaccineFinder Provider Support

▪ Please contact:

- eocevent522@cdc.gov for registration / email change help and for general COVID VaccineFinder inquiries, or
- vaccinefinder@castlighthhealth.com for technical assistance with account log-in problems, password resets, file upload errors, etc.

If you have questions, please email checcimms@michigan.gov.

Thank you.

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2021 2:38 PM
To: Bevington, Jamie; Shaw, Chad; Shaull-Norman, Peggy
Subject: Fwd: questions

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Travelbee, Brent (MDOC)" <TravelbeeB@michigan.gov>
Date: February 3, 2021 at 2:37:10 PM EST
To: "Bowen, Ken" <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Cc: "Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC)" <SHERRYM@michigan.gov>, "Shaw, Chad" <cshaw@ioniacounty.org>, "Bevington, Jamie" <jbevington@ioniacounty.org>, "Smith, Douglas E MAJ USARMY NG MIARNG (USA)" <douglas.e.smith13.mil@mail.mil>, "Macauley, Matthew (MDOC)" <MacauleyM@michigan.gov>, "Blackman, Lloyd W. (MDOC)" <BlackmanL@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: questions

Good afternoon Ken, I hope you are well. I can answer your questions.

Vaccine Drop Off

Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility

1727 E Bluewater Hwy, Ionia, MI 48846

Warden Matt Macauley will be the primary point of contact. Matt's cell number is [REDACTED]

ADW Lloyd Blackman will be the secondary contact. Llyod's cell number is [REDACTED]

I can be contacted as a third option if necessary.

Call ahead the morning of and Matt will arrange for a facility representative to meet you in the administration building and escort you to the vaccination site located in the parking lot area where the vaccine can be dropped.

Cooler Return

There is no problem for the facility to hold the cooler until it is able to be picked up. This can also be coordinated with Matt or Lloyd. No problem for us to hold it. We may also be able to coordinate return of the cooler to your location if necessary.

Ancillary Supplies

No additional supplies are required beyond what arrives with the vaccine. We will not need PPE, only the items necessary to deliver the vaccine. (needles, syringes, vaccination cards, alcohol swabs)

MICR Entry

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Thank you again for your assistance! You may contact me for any additional questions you may have.

Take care,

Brent

From: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:17 PM
To: McIntyre, Carmen (MDOC-Contractor) <McIntyreC1@michigan.gov>
Cc: Travelbee, Brent (MDOC) <TravelbeeB@michigan.gov>; Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC) <SHERRYM@michigan.gov>; cshaw <cshaw@ioniacounty.org>; Bevington, Jamie <jbevington@ioniacounty.org>
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Hello Dr. McIntyre,

Regarding MCIR, if you want to enter under your ID that is perfectly fine. However, the doses are currently under our ID. For you to enter them under your ID we will need to officially transfer them to you in the system. MDOC also has to be a registered provider. There is paperwork associated with this. Just let me know how you want to handle it.

Thank You,

Ken

On Feb 3, 2021, at 2:08 PM, McIntyre, Carmen (MDOC-Contractor) <McIntyreC1@michigan.gov> wrote:

Responses below in [blue](#).

C. M. McIntyre Leon, M.D.
Chief Medical Officer
Michigan Department of Corrections
(517)249-0817
206 E Michigan Ave
Lansing, MI 48933-1431

From: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
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4. If MING is entering doses into MCIR under our ID, we need personal information for those who will be doing the entry. When we can expect that and from whom will it be coming? [They will be using our MCIR IDs.](#)

Just a reminder that I can unfortunately not lend staff to this endeavor. We already have a clinic scheduled for that day.

Thank You,

Ken

Ken Bowen
Health Officer/Director of Environmental Health
Ionia County Health Department
(616) 527-5341
(616) 527-8202 (fax)

Gaines, Rachelle

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Received thank you

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Health Officer/Director of Environmental Health
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(616) 527-5341
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Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2021 2:49 PM
To: Macauley, Matthew (MDOC)
Subject: Re: questions

I have forwarded info to my staff and they will call you morning of.

On Feb 3, 2021, at 2:45 PM, Macauley, Matthew (MDOC) <MacauleyM@michigan.gov> wrote:

I believe ADW Blackman and myself will be here at 0500. We would like to begin administering at 0600 hrs. Depending on weather...

From: Travelbee, Brent (MDOC) <TravelbeeB@michigan.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:37 PM
To: kbowen@ioniacounty.org
Cc: Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC) <SHERRYM@michigan.gov>; cshaw <cshaw@ioniacounty.org>; Bevington, Jamie <jbevington@ioniacounty.org>; Smith, Douglas E MAJ USARMY NG MIARNG (USA) <douglas.e.smith13.mil@mail.mil>; Macauley, Matthew (MDOC) <MacauleyM@michigan.gov>; Blackman, Lloyd W. (MDOC) <BlackmanL@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: questions
Importance: High

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Responses below in blue.

C. M. McIntyre Leon, M.D.
Chief Medical Officer
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Cc: Travelbee, Brent (MDOC); Shaw, Chad; Bevington, Jamie; Smith, Douglas E MAJ USARMY NG MIARNG (USA); Macauley, Matthew (MDOC); Blackman, Lloyd W. (MDOC)
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The signup closes Thursday at 8 PM so we will have a final number at that time. I will send out the list via encrypted email so that you have it the morning of.

On Feb 3, 2021, at 2:49 PM, Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC) <SHERRYM@michigan.gov> wrote:

Do we have a number of vaccines that will be used?
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Subject: Re: questions

I can cut it off sooner - whatever the group wants. I wanted to maximize the sign up time it can be whatever makes the most sense for MDOC and MING.

On Feb 3, 2021, at 3:54 PM, Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC) <SHERRYM@michigan.gov> wrote:

Once we have the final number at 8:00 p.m. that will be the vaccines that we need and the rest can remain with the health department.

Thanks.

From: Macauley, Matthew (MDOC) <MacauleyM@michigan.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:57 PM
To: kbowen@ioniacounty.org; Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC) <SHERRYM@michigan.gov>
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We were at 214 slots filled this morning. We are beating the bushes here at IBC so I am having the numbers checked again right now.

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Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility

1727 E Bluewater Hwy, Ionia, MI 48846

Warden Matt Macauley will be the primary point of contact. Matt's cell number is [REDACTED]

ADW Lloyd Blackman will be the secondary contact. Lloyd's cell number is [REDACTED]
I can be contacted as a third option if necessary.

Call ahead the morning of and Matt will arrange for a facility representative to meet you in the administration building and escort you to the vaccination site located in the parking lot area where the vaccine can be dropped.

Cooler Return

There is no problem for the facility to hold the cooler until it is able to be picked up. This can also be coordinated with Matt or Lloyd. No problem for us to hold it. We may also be able to coordinate return of the cooler to your location if necessary.

Ancillary Supplies

No additional supplies are required beyond what arrives with the vaccine. We will not need PPE, only the items necessary to deliver the vaccine. (needles, syringes, vaccination cards, alcohol swabs)

MICR Entry

MING can provide the user IDs to you so they may be added as users under your site. I will copy Major Smith's team and they will send the information to you.

Thank you again for your assistance! You may contact me for any additional questions you may have.

Take care,

Brent

From: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:17 PM
To: McIntyre, Carmen (MDOC-Contractor) <McIntyreC1@michigan.gov>
Cc: Travelbee, Brent (MDOC) <TravelbeeB@michigan.gov>; Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC) <SHERRYM@michigan.gov>; cshaw <cshaw@ioniacounty.org>; Bevington, Jamie <jbevington@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: Re: questions

CAUTION: This is an External email. Please send suspicious emails to
abuse@michigan.gov

Hello Dr. McIntyre,

Regarding MCIR, if you want to enter under your ID that is perfectly fine. However, the doses are currently under our ID. For you to enter them under your ID we will need to officially transfer them to you in the system. MDOC also has to be a registered provider. There is paperwork associated with this. Just let me know how you want to handle it.

Thank You,

Ken

On Feb 3, 2021, at 2:08 PM, McIntyre, Carmen (MDOC-Contractor) <McIntyreC1@michigan.gov> wrote:

Responses below in blue.

C. M. McIntyre Leon, M.D.
Chief Medical Officer
Michigan Department of Corrections
(517)249-0817
206 E Michigan Ave
Lansing, MI 48933-1431

From: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 12:01 PM
To: Travelbee, Brent (MDOC) <TravelbeeB@michigan.gov>; McIntyre, Carmen (MDOC-Contractor) <McIntyreC1@michigan.gov>; Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC) <SHERRYM@michigan.gov>
Cc: cshaw <cshaw@ioniacounty.org>; Bevington, Jamie <jbevington@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: questions

CAUTION: This is an External email. Please send suspicious emails to abuse@michigan.gov

Hello All,

We just received our 500 doses of vaccine for Friday. We have a few questions:

1. We plan to drop the vaccine off Friday morning at 5:30. What is the exact location for drop off? [Will get back to you shortly.](#)
2. We will drop off the vaccine in a cooler that can maintain temperature. Temperature must be logged every hour. We need the cooler back. What is the best way accomplish return of the cooler? [I'm thinking someone could come get it the next day or next week but will verify and get back to you shortly.](#)
3. Are any supplies needed besides what is in the ancillary kit (see my previous email for ancillary kit supplies)? [No, we don't need anything else.](#)
4. If MING is entering doses into MCIR under our ID, we need personal information for those who will be doing the entry. When we can expect that and from whom will it be coming? [They will be using our MCIR IDs.](#)

Just a reminder that I can unfortunately not lend staff to this endeavor. We already have a clinic scheduled for that day.

Thank You,

Ken

Ken Bowen
Health Officer/Director of Environmental Health
Ionia County Health Department
(616) 527-5341
(616) 527-8202 (fax)

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2021 6:11 AM
To: WohlscheidA@michigan.gov
Subject: Re: Vaccine

Not at this time. Over-65 individuals can sign up for our notification list on our website or call our staff will sign them up.

On Feb 4, 2021, at 5:51 AM, Anthony Wohlscheid <info@signupgenius.com> wrote:



Group Organizing Made Easy

You've received a message

Hi, Ken Bowen! Someone recently sent you a message regarding your sign up

"MDOC Mass Vaccination Clinic 2/5/21."



From: Anthony Wohlscheid

Subject: Vaccine

Ken,

I saw there were still a lot of spots available for Vaccination at Bellamy Creek tomorrow and I know vaccines have to be used once they have gotten them out. Is there a sign up list for non MDOC employees for leftovers? I have a father with diabetes that is looking to get one, 68 yrs old and 63 yr old mother. Thanks

Anthony Wohlscheid

 **Reply to Anthony Wohlscheid**

8008 Corporate Center Dr, Suite 410, Charlotte, NC 28226
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Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2021 10:24 AM
To: Bevington, Jamie
Subject: RE: postcards

I think we better – but we can discuss if you disagree. Technically we vaccinated them.

From: Bevington, Jamie <jbevington@ioniacounty.org>
Sent: Monday, February 8, 2021 10:23 AM
To: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: postcards

Do you want us to send postcards out to the DOC employees that were vaccinated at Bellamy?

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2021 10:47 AM
To: Bevington, Jamie
Subject: Re: postcards

Yes from what I understand, but I will verify.

On Feb 8, 2021, at 10:32 AM, Bevington, Jamie <jbevington@ioniacounty.org> wrote:

No, I agree, we should. Will they be doing second doses the same way?

From: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Sent: Monday, February 8, 2021 10:24 AM
To: Bevington, Jamie <jbevington@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: RE: postcards

I think we better – but we can discuss if you disagree. Technically we vaccinated them.

From: Bevington, Jamie <jbevington@ioniacounty.org>
Sent: Monday, February 8, 2021 10:23 AM
To: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: postcards

Do you want us to send postcards out to the DOC employees that were vaccinated at Bellamy?

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 3:29 PM
To: Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC); McIntyre, Carmen (MDOC-Contractor); Smoyer, Stephanie A. (MDOC)
Subject: Corrections cases

PRISON	PATIENT	OCCUPATION	POS vs CONTACT	ONSET	EARLIEST RETURN DATE
Bellamy Creek					
		Corrections	POS	2/8/21	2/19/21
		wife to above	Contact	Last DOE 2/18/21	2/29/21
		Corrections	POS	2/8/21	2/19/21

PRISON	PATIENT	OCCUPATION	POS vs CONTACT	ONSET	EARLIEST RETURN DATE
RMI		Inspector	POS	2/2/21	2/13/21

Ken Bowen
Health Officer/Director of Environmental Health
Ionia County Health Department
(616) 527-5341
(616) 527-8202 (fax)

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 3:44 PM
To: Brummette, Brittni; Nethercott, Tori; Keefer, Aimee; May, Christine; Brinks, Laura
Cc: Shaull-Norman, Peggy; Shaw, Chad
Subject: FW: MDOC variant

See below - FYSA

From: LyonCallo, Sarah (DHHS) <lyoncallos@michigan.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 8, 2021 9:47 PM
To: Bagdasarian, Natasha (DHHS) <BagdasarianN@michigan.gov>; McIntyre, Carmen (MDOC-Contractor) <McIntyreC1@michigan.gov>; Collins, Jim (DHHS) <CollinsJ12@michigan.gov>; Johnson, Shannon (DHHS) <JohnsonS61@michigan.gov>; Sutfin, Lynn (DHHS) <SutfinL1@michigan.gov>; Washington, Heidi E. (MDOC) <WashingtonM6@michigan.gov>; Khaldun, Joneigh (DHHS) <KhaldunJ@michigan.gov>
Cc: Gautz, Chris (MDOC) <GautzC@michigan.gov>; Henderson, Tiffany (DHHS) <HendersonT1@michigan.gov>; Weinberg, Meghan (DHHS) <WeinbergM1@michigan.gov>; Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC) <SHERRYM@michigan.gov>; Smoyer, Stephanie A. (MDOC) <SmoyerS@michigan.gov>; Hertel, Elizabeth (DHHS) <HertelE@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: MDOC variant

SUBJECT: SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.7

On February 7, 2021, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Bureau of Laboratories confirmed a positive COVID-19 case in a Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) employee as the SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.7 variant.

Compared to the wild-type virus, the B.1.1.7 variant is approximately 50 percent more transmissible, leading to faster spread of the virus, potentially increased numbers of cases, additional hospitalizations, and deaths. Therefore, enhanced surveillance to identify this variant, particularly in a congregate setting, requires additional levels of public health intervention and mitigation measures.

In light of the recent increase in positive COVID-19 screening test results at the Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility (IBC) and given the potential for transmission of the variant strain within the IBC facility along with the possibility of further spread to other MDOC facilities or the community, MDHHS is recommending an aggressive response and mitigation strategy including the following:

- Cease all inmate transfers into and out of IBC
- Limit movement of inmates and staff within IBC
- Continue to restrict MDOC staff to a single facility
- Develop plans to allow transport staff to work safely in the instance that an emergency transfer is necessary
- For at least the next 14 days, test all staff and all inmates at IBC daily using BinaxNOW antigen tests
 - Transportation officers (IBC to MRF and DW) should be PCR tested as soon as possible
 - Include inmates and staff who have previously tested PCR or antigen positive in the past month
 - MDHHS will provide Binax antigen kits, with an initial shipment of 50,000 kits
- For any positive BinaxNOW tests, submit a second collected specimen to MDHHS Bureau of Laboratories for PCR and whole genome sequencing, if PCR positive
- Coordinate with the appropriate Local Health Department for positive employee case investigation and contact tracing using enhanced follow-up and quarantine (14-day).

- Coordinate with appropriate local health department for positive parolee cases (isolate per CDC guidance) and assumed close contact among parolees (14-day)
- Develop and distribute messaging to MDOC employees regarding the variant identification and outbreak status including recommendations on how to help protect their family and community

For further discussion and guidance, MDHHS is requesting the following:

- Floor plans and location descriptions of all IBC units
 - Especially important for units with current confirmed cases, including Units 3, 6, and 7
- A description of the HVAC system and type of ventilation currently being employed, including the potential for recirculated, unfiltered air to other cells or facility locations
- A heat map of rooms of positive cases to assist in identifying close contacts and help to characterize transmission

While it has been established that the B.1.1.7 variant is circulating in Michigan, MDHHS continues to recommend an aggressive public health response, especially in a congregate-type setting and the with the concern of increased transmissibility of the B.1.1.7 variant. A prompt response is critical and we look forward to continued discussions and information sharing between MDHHS and MDOC.

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Bagdasarian, Natasha (DHHS) <BagdasarianN@michigan.gov>

Sent: Monday, February 08, 2021 4:42 PM

To: Bagdasarian, Natasha (DHHS); McIntyre, Carmen (MDOC-Contractor); LyonCallo, Sarah (DHHS); Collins, Jim (DHHS); Johnson, Shannon (DHHS); Sutfin, Lynn (DHHS); Washington, Heidi E. (MDOC); Khaldun, Joneigh (DHHS)

Cc: Gautz, Chris (MDOC); Henderson, Tiffany (DHHS); Weinberg, Meghan (DHHS); Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC); Smoyer, Stephanie A. (MDOC); Hertel, Elizabeth (DHHS)

Subject: MDOC variant

When: Monday, February 08, 2021 5:00 PM-5:30 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

Where: Microsoft Teams Meeting

Importance: High

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 248-509-0316,,580984821#](#) United States, Pontiac

Phone Conference ID: 580 984 821#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 4:26 PM
To: Karen Bota
Subject: FW: NEWS RELEASE: COVID Variant Detected in MDOC Facility in Ionia Prisoners, staff to begin daily testing

From: Jodie Shaver <jshaver@malph.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 4:25 PM
To: mho <mho@malph.org>; board <board@malph.org>; forumchairs <forumchairs@malph.org>
Subject: FW: NEWS RELEASE: COVID Variant Detected in MDOC Facility in Ionia Prisoners, staff to begin daily testing

Jodie Shaver, MPA, GMS
Member Services Director/Event Coordinator
Michigan Association For Local Public Health
P.O. Box 13276
Lansing, MI 48901
Office: 517-485-0660
Cell: 517-604-0101
Fax: 517-485-6412
www.malph.org



From: Michigan State Police <MichStatePolice@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 4:22 PM
To: Jodie Shaver <jshaver@malph.org>
Subject: NEWS RELEASE: COVID Variant Detected in MDOC Facility in Ionia Prisoners, staff to begin daily testing



NEWS RELEASE
STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

COVID Variant Detected in MDOC Facility in Ionia

Prisoners, staff to begin daily testing

IONIA, MICH. The Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) has learned of the detection of the SARS-CoV-2, B.1.1.7 variant at the Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility in Ionia.

This is the first known case of the variant inside a MDOC facility. After consultation with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), all prisoners and employees there will now be tested daily, rather than the weekly testing they have been conducting.

B.1.1.7. is believed to be more contagious, but there has been no indication that it affects the clinical outcomes or disease severity compared to the SARS-CoV-2 virus that has been circulating across the United States for months. However, a higher rate of transmission could increase the number of people who need to be hospitalized or who lose their lives to COVID-19 should the new variant begin circulating widely in Michigan. To date, the virus has been identified in at least 34 other states and jurisdictions in the U.S. As of Wednesday, Feb. 10, there were 61 cases in 11 jurisdictions in Michigan.

"The MDOC will be taking extra steps to identify where this variant is present amongst staff and the prisoner population and we will continue to do everything we can to keep the prisoners, our staff and the community safe," MDOC Director Heidi Washington said.

Under an [Emergency Public Health order issued by MDHHS today](#), it requires daily testing of all employees at a facility where an outbreak of special concern has been declared for at least 14 days.

This new testing regimen will consist of a daily rapid antigen test. If a test result comes back positive, then a PCR test will be taken and sent to the state lab for testing for the variant. This will also apply to certain prisoners and staff at Duane Waters Health Center and Macomb Correctional Facility.

Prior to the detection of the variant at IBC, several prisoners who tested positive for COVID-19 were transferred to Duane Waters Health Center and Macomb Correctional Facility. The department has designated COVID positive facilities to address COVID positive prisoners with health risk factors that may place them at higher risk for hospitalization or negative outcomes.

Those prisoners will also be subject to the daily testing, as well as all prisoners and staff in the COVID positive unit at Duane Waters Health Center and Macomb Correctional Facility. Based on available evidence, current tests and vaccines for COVID-19 also work against this new variant. Protective actions that prevent the spread of COVID-19 will also prevent the spread of the new variant, B.1.1.7.

Michiganders should: • Wash hands often. • Wear a mask around others. • Stay 6 feet apart from others. • Ventilate indoor spaces. • Make a plan to get the vaccine when the opportunity becomes available. Information around this outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus and CDC.gov/Coronavirus. To learn more about the COVID-19 vaccine, visit Michigan.gov/COVIDVaccine.

###

MEDIA CONTACT: [Chris Gautz](#), 517-256-3790

- [JIC News Release 431 - MDOC variant.pdf](#)



SUBSCRIBER SERVICES:

This email was sent to jshaver@malph.org using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: Michigan State Police · P.O. Box 30634 · Lansing, MI 48909

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 4:31 PM
To: Everyone
Subject: FW: NEWS RELEASE: COVID Variant Detected in MDOC Facility in Ionia Prisoners, staff to begin daily testing

FYI



NEWS RELEASE

STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

COVID Variant Detected in MDOC Facility in Ionia *Prisoners, staff to begin daily testing*

IONIA, MICH. The Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) has learned of the detection of the SARS-CoV-2, B.1.1.7 variant at the Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility in Ionia.

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###

MEDIA CONTACT: [Chris Gautz](#), 517-256-3790

- [JIC News Release 431 - MDOC variant.pdf](#)



SUBSCRIBER SERVICES:

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 11:05 AM
To: Shaw, Chad; Shaull-Norman, Peggy; Keefer, Aimee; May, Christine; Brinks, Laura; Nethercott, Tori; Brummette, Brittnei
Subject: FW: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

From: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 11:03 AM
To: Adenike Shoyinka <ashoyinka@ingham.org>; Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: RE: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

Hi Dr. Shoyinka –

Binax testing from testing of all staff and prisoners at IBC on 2/9/2020 revealed 1 staff positive out of 245 staff and 87 prisoners who are positive out of 1528.

From the spreadsheet it looks like there were also 27 staff samples and 221 prisoner samples that have been sent to BOL and we don't have the results yet. I may be able to take a look to see how many are positive.

All positive Binax samples have been sent to BOL for PCR testing and sequencing.

Sequencing should be done in 7 days. BOL has said that there are some "S-drops" on the samples they have tested so far (that can be shown by PCR testing) so I would expect there is going to be a good proportion of those prisoners who are infected with the B.117 variant when sequencing is complete.

I am supposed to hear directly from BOL when those sequencing results are done so I will make sure I let you and Ken know those results.

If there is anything I can do in the meantime please let me know.

Thanks!
Fatema

From: Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 9:57 AM
To: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>; kbowen@ioniacounty.org
Subject: Re: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

CAUTION: This is an External email. Please send suspicious emails to abuse@michigan.gov

Hi Fatema!
Checking in to see how many confirmed B117 variant cases at Bellamy prisons and if there are any other updates.
Thanks!

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 9:47:41 AM
To: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>; kbowen@ioniacounty.org <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: Re: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

Thank you, Fateema, I am trying to get the ingham case retested.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 9:33:18 AM
To: kbowen@ioniacounty.org <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>; Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>
Subject: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

Hi Ken and Dr. Shoyinka –

You may hear directly from MDOC or someone higher up at MDHHS but I wanted make sure you know that Eaton County had their first B.1.1.7 variant in a client who was originally lost to follow-up (19698000510) and finally able to be reached yesterday. She is an MDOC employee at IBC in Ionia. When MDOC was notified they said they've had 90 new inmate cases at IBC in the past week, suggesting potential B.1.1.7 transmission. According to MDOC, they haven't had any positive inmate cases in prior recent weeks.

The Eaton case has a complicated testing history. She had a presumptive positive PCR result (it was reported as inconclusive) collected on 1/4/21. It looks like she was retested on 1/5/21 and was negative. She had a PCR positive result collected on 1/27/21. She told MDOC she was negative on 1/5/21 (she did not share the inconclusive result) and they allowed her to work. She was asymptomatic at that time. She says she was exposed to another MDOC employee (Ingham 19703489145) on 1/26 and became symptomatic on 1/27. Started quarantine/isolation on 1/26.

There was an MDHHS/MDOC call late yesterday to discuss recommendations (I was not on it). I have been told that MDHHS is recommending an aggressive response and mitigation strategy given the potential for transmission of the variant strain within the IBC facility along with the possibility of further spread to other MDOC facilities or the community. This will include daily testing of all staff and prisoners for at least the next 14 days.

MDOC is planning a press release regarding this variant case in the prison.

If I get additional information I will share it. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you!
Fatema

Fatema Mamou, MPH
Region 6 Epidemiologist
Surveillance and Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section
Bureau of Epidemiology and Population Health, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Physical Address: Kent County Health Department, 700 Fuller Ave NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Ph: 616-632-7245 - Cell: [REDACTED] E-mail: mamouf@michigan.gov

**Due to COVID-19, I am working remotely. Please contact me via cell # or e-mail for the most prompt response.*

"Confidentiality Notice: This message, including any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the named recipient(s) and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution of this communication(s) is expressly

prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by reply e-mail and destroy any and all copies of the original message."

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 5:38 PM
To: McIntyre, Carmen (MDOC-Contractor); Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC); Smoyer, Stephanie A. (MDOC)
Subject: positive staff - some may be duplicates

PRISON	PATIENT	OCCUPATION	POS vs CONTACT	ONSET	EARLIEST RETURN DATE	
Bellamy Creek						
		Corrections	POS	2/8/2021	2/19/2021	
		Corrections	POS	2/8/2021	2/19/2021	
		Corrections	POS	2/8/21?	2/19/21?	Unable to c
		Corrections	POS	2/10/21?	2/21/21?	Unable to c
		Corrections	POS			Unable to c
		Corrections	POS	2/6/2021	2/17/2021	

Ken Bowen
Health Officer/Director of Environmental Health
Ionia County Health Department
(616) 527-5341
(616) 527-8202 (fax)

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2021 4:05 PM
To: Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC); McIntyre, Carmen (MDOC-Contractor); Smoyer, Stephanie A. (MDOC)
Cc: Adenike Shoyinka
Subject: Bellamy Creek Cases

We have identified no new cases today. Please let us know if you have any and we can follow up.

Thanks,

Ken

Ken Bowen
Health Officer/Director of Environmental Health
Ionia County Health Department
(616) 527-5341
(616) 527-8202 (fax)

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2021 7:30 PM
To: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS)
Cc: May, Christine; Keefer, Aimee; Brinks, Laura; Adenike Shoyinka
Subject: Re: COVID-19 Positive MDOC IBC Employees

Hello Fatema,

Respectfully, it isn't realistic to send this out on a Friday night and expect it happen quickly. My staff are home for the weekend and we only have one nurse on call. This is a lot of work for that individual.

We will do our best but realistically this will not be complete until later next week, as the HD is closed Monday and we have a clinic Tuesday.

That being said, I believe we have done this at least for the cases that have come in over the last couple of days, except for specimen collection. I expect very few contacts will be willing to provide specimens. Many cases still refuse to even give contacts.

Thank You,

Ken

On Feb 12, 2021, at 7:12 PM, Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov> wrote:

Hello –

Due to the variant case found among a MDOC employee at the Bellamy Creek facility MDHHS is asking that LHDs re-visit the case investigations of employees who have recently tested positive for COVID-19. We are asking that LHDs confirm that isolation was met appropriately, re-check for contacts, actively confirm quarantine and collect specimens from close contacts for testing/sequencing. At the MDHHS we are of course, available to discuss further at your convenience. Below I have copied information from the MIHAN message regarding variant's that was sent on January 26th.

Additionally, going forward we are asking that any future cases among employees be followed by public health as described in the MIHAN below.

Specimens from positive employees are being sent to the MDHHS BOL for sequencing and we will inform LHDs of any cases whose specimens are positive for the variant strain.

Here is a list of recent positive IBC employees who live in Ionia

Reportable_Condition	Case_Status	Investigation_Status	Investigation_ID	Onset_Date	Referral_Date	Investigator
Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Completed	19702560770		1/22/2021	Ionia
Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Completed	19704997399		2/2/2021	Ionia

Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Completed	19705572244	2/3/2021	2/4/2021	Ionia
Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Active	19706241831		2/9/2021	Ionia
Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Active	19706265199		2/9/2021	Ionia
Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Completed	19706266784	2/8/2021	2/9/2021	Ionia
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If there is anything I can do please let me know.

Thank you!
Fatema

On January 26, MDHHS shared a Health Alert Network message about the introduction of the B.1.1.7 variant to Michigan's population that included the following messaging:

The SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.7 variant is thought to have emerged in the United Kingdom and has since been detected in many countries and states. This variant is concerning because it is associated with increased transmissibility. Compared to the wild-type virus, the B.1.1.7 variant is approximately 50 percent more transmissible, leading to faster spread of the virus and potentially increasing numbers of cases, hospitalizations, and deaths. Therefore, additional levels of public health intervention are required once the variant has been identified.

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Fatema Mamou, MPH
Region 6 Epidemiologist
Surveillance and Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section
Bureau of Epidemiology and Population Health, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Physical Address: Kent County Health Department, 700 Fuller Ave NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Ph: 616-632-7245 - Cell: [REDACTED] E-mail: mamouf@michigan.gov

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Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Saturday, February 13, 2021 10:39 AM
To: Brinks, Laura
Cc: May, Christine; Keefer, Aimee
Subject: Re: COVID-19 Positive MDOC IBC Employees

All good questions. I suppose we'd have to ask Fatema. I'd be surprised if MDHHS has thought it through.

On Feb 13, 2021, at 10:01 AM, Brinks, Laura <lbrinks@ioniacounty.org> wrote:

Any guidance on how/when we will be collecting specimens on contacts? Will we be doing the collection at ICHD or will we be sending them somewhere to have this done? Do we wait until confirmation of the variant is obtained for the positive case prior to testing contacts?

*Laurie Brinks BSN, RN, IBCLC
Ionia County Health Dept.
175 E. Adams
Ionia MI 48846
616-522-7357*

From: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2021 7:54 PM
To: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Cc: May, Christine <cmay@ioniacounty.org>; Keefer, Aimee <akeefer@ioniacounty.org>; Brinks, Laura <lbrinks@ioniacounty.org>; Adenike Shoyinka <ashoyinka@ingham.org>
Subject: RE: COVID-19 Positive MDOC IBC Employees

Hi Ken –

You are absolutely correct. I was not sending this out as an expectation that this would be done immediately.

I agree that some of these cases have had the appropriate follow-up done. There are also others who are already aware of the potential contact to a variant case and have received instructions from their employer.

Regarding specimen collection on contacts that is understandable that it cannot be done until next week and dependent on the response of cases and contacts.

If there is anything I can do or relay up to MDHHS please let me know.

Thank you!
Fatema

From: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2021 7:30 PM
To: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Cc: May, Christine <cmay@ioniacounty.org>; Aimee Keefer <akeefer@ioniacounty.org>; Brinks, Laura <lbrinks@ioniacounty.org>; Adenike Shoyinka <ashoyinka@ingham.org>
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Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Saturday, February 13, 2021 4:24 PM
To: Brinks, Laura
Subject: RE: IBC CO

thx

From: Brinks, Laura <lbrinks@ioniacounty.org>
Sent: Saturday, February 13, 2021 2:45 PM
To: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: IBC CO

PRISON	PATIENT	OCCUPATION	POS vs CONTACT	ONSET	EARLIEST RETURN DATE
Bellamy Creek					
		CO	POS	2/11/2021	2/22/2021
		CO	HH CONTACT		2/26/2021

This positive CO lives with his father who is also a CO at IBC. Reports his Father is his only contact. Positive pt last worked a full shift on 2/07/2021. Went home after testing positive on 2/11/2021.

Laurie Brinks BSN, RN, IBCLC
Ionia County Health Dept.
175 E. Adams
Ionia MI 48846
616-522-7357

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Saturday, February 13, 2021 4:23 PM
To: Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC); McIntyre, Carmen (MDOC-Contractor); Smoyer, Stephanie A. (MDOC)
Subject: IBC CO

PRISON	PATIENT	OCCUPATION	POS vs CONTACT	ONSET	EARLIEST RETURN DATE
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		CO	HH CONTACT		2/26/2021

Ken Bowen
Health Officer/Director of Environmental Health
Ionia County Health Department
(616) 527-5341
(616) 527-8202 (fax)

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 9:46 AM
To: Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC); McIntyre, Carmen (MDOC-Contractor); Smoyer, Stephanie A. (MDOC)
Subject: IBC CO

These came in late yesterday, unable to contact yet.

PRISON	PATIENT	OCCUPATION	POS vs CONTACT	ONSET	EARLIEST RETURN DATE
Bellamy Creek					
			POS	LVM	
			POS	LVM	

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From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 12:13 PM
To: Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC); McIntyre, Carmen (MDOC-Contractor); Smoyer, Stephanie A. (MDOC)
Subject: POSITIVE EMPLOYEES

<i>PRISON</i>	<i>PATIENT</i>	<i>OCCUPATION</i>	<i>POS vs CONTACT</i>	<i>ONSET</i>	<i>EARLIEST RETURN DATE</i>	
Bellamy Creek						
		RN	POS	02/11/2021	2/22/2021	
		RN-IMR	HH CONTACT		*SYMPTOMATIC TEST PENDING	WIFE OF
		MAINTINANCE	POS	02/12/2021	2/23/2021	
			HH CONTACT		2/27/21	

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Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 3:39 PM
To: Shaw, Chad
Subject: FW: COVID-19 Positive MDOC IBC Employees

From: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2021 7:30 PM
To: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Cc: May, Christine <cmay@ioniacounty.org>; Keefer, Aimee <akeefer@ioniacounty.org>; Brinks, Laura <lbrinks@ioniacounty.org>; Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>
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- Promote testing of individuals who have traveled out of Michigan in last 14 days, especially to areas in which the new variants are widely circulating. This should be emphasized in all regions, even those in which the variant has not yet been identified.

Fundamentally,

Fatema Mamou, MPH
 Region 6 Epidemiologist
 Surveillance and Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section
 Bureau of Epidemiology and Population Health, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
 Physical Address: Kent County Health Department, 700 Fuller Ave NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
 Ph: 616-632-7245 - Cell: [REDACTED] E-mail: mamouf@michigan.gov

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Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 3:38 PM
To: Shaull-Norman, Peggy
Subject: FW: COVID-19 Positive MDOC IBC Employees

From: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2021 7:12 PM
To: May, Christine <cmay@ioniacounty.org>; Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>; Keefer, Aimee <akeefer@ioniacounty.org>; Brinks, Laura <lbrinks@ioniacounty.org>; Adenike Shoyinka <ashoyinka@ingham.org>
Subject: COVID-19 Positive MDOC IBC Employees

Hello –

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Specimens from positive employees are being sent to the MDHHS BOL for sequencing and we will inform LHDs of any cases whose specimens are positive for the variant strain.

Here is a list of recent positive IBC employees who live in Ionia

Reportable_Condition	Case_Status	Investigation_Status	Investigation_ID	Onset_Date	Referral_Date	Investigation_
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Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Completed	19705572244	2/3/2021	2/4/2021	Ionia
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Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Completed	19706266784	2/8/2021	2/9/2021	Ionia
Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Completed - Follow Up	19706315901	2/6/2021	2/9/2021	Ionia
Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Completed	19706344976		2/9/2021	Ionia

If there is anything I can do please let me know.

Thank you!
Fatema

On January 26, MDHHS shared a Health Alert Network message about the introduction of the B.1.1.7 variant to Michigan's population that included the following messaging:

The SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.7 variant is thought to have emerged in the United Kingdom and has since been detected in many countries and states. This variant is concerning because it is associated with increased transmissibility. Compared to the wild-type virus, the B.1.1.7 variant is approximately 50 percent more transmissible, leading to faster spread of the virus and potentially increasing numbers of cases, hospitalizations, and deaths. Therefore, additional levels of public health intervention are required once the variant has been identified.

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Public health mitigation measures aimed to minimize the impact of this variant strain in our communities include the following recommendations.

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- The collection of all travel, exposure, and contact information during case investigations is critical in evaluating risk of variant infection.
- Strictly enforce isolation and quarantine protocols

During the isolation of B.1.1.7 variant infections and the quarantine of associated contacts, enhanced monitoring, including twice daily check-ins, is strongly recommended. Cases and close contacts should be educated about the increased risk of transmission with the variant strain.

Strict enforcement and assurance of full 14-day quarantine period with monitoring, regardless of the symptom status of any close contacts of possible variant infections.

Employ active efforts to identify all possible contacts of cases with consideration to expanding the infectious period based on symptoms and testing. The inclusion of an extra day before onset may help identify additional persons infected with the variant virus.

- Emphasize testing in affected areas
- Expand testing capacity in areas where the variant has been detected.
- Work closely with affected communities on messaging around testing.
- Actively work to obtain testing for exposed individuals, particularly those that are known to have been exposed to the variant strain.
- Promote submission of isolates for genetic sequencing
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Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 10:23 AM
To: May, Christine; Brummette, Brittini; Nethercott, Tori; Keefer, Aimee; Brinks, Laura
Cc: Shaul-Norman, Peggy; Shaw, Chad
Subject: FW: COVID-19 Positive MDOC IBC Employees

Do we need to have a nurse meeting to discuss this or are we good to go with the extra steps?

From: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2021 7:54 PM
To: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Cc: May, Christine <cmay@ioniacounty.org>; Keefer, Aimee <akeefer@ioniacounty.org>; Brinks, Laura <lbrinks@ioniacounty.org>; Adenike Shoyinka <ashoyinka@ingham.org>
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Hi Ken –

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I agree that some of these cases have had the appropriate follow-up done. There are also others who are already aware of the potential contact to a variant case and have received instructions from their employer.

Regarding specimen collection on contacts that is understandable that it cannot be done until next week and dependent on the response of cases and contacts.

If there is anything I can do or relay up to MDHHS please let me know.

Thank you!
Fatema

From: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2021 7:30 PM
To: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Cc: May, Christine <cmay@ioniacounty.org>; Aimee Keefer <akeefer@ioniacounty.org>; Brinks, Laura <lbrinks@ioniacounty.org>; Adenike Shoyinka <ashoyinka@ingham.org>
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Hello Fatema,

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Thank You,

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Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 10:33 AM
To: Keefer, Aimee; May, Christine; Brummette, Brittini; Nethercott, Tori; Brinks, Laura
Cc: Shaull-Norman, Peggy; Shaw, Chad
Subject: RE: COVID-19 Positive MDOC IBC Employees

Should we set up a call with Fatema?

From: Keefer, Aimee <akeefer@ioniacounty.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 10:31 AM
To: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>; May, Christine <cmay@ioniacounty.org>; Brummette, Brittini <bbrummette@ioniacounty.org>; Nethercott, Tori <tnethercott@ioniacounty.org>; Brinks, Laura <lbrinks@ioniacounty.org>
Cc: Shaull-Norman, Peggy <psnorman@ioniacounty.org>; Shaw, Chad <cshaw@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: RE: COVID-19 Positive MDOC IBC Employees

PROBABLY WE DO....I AM NOT 100% CLEAR & THIS ALL SEEMS EXCESSIVE

From: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 10:23 AM
To: May, Christine <cmay@ioniacounty.org>; Brummette, Brittini <bbrummette@ioniacounty.org>; Nethercott, Tori <tnethercott@ioniacounty.org>; Keefer, Aimee <akeefer@ioniacounty.org>; Brinks, Laura <lbrinks@ioniacounty.org>
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Cc: May, Christine <cmay@ioniacounty.org>; Keefer, Aimee <akeefer@ioniacounty.org>; Brinks, Laura <lbrinks@ioniacounty.org>; Adenike Shoyinka <ashoyinka@ingham.org>
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From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 4:25 PM
To: Shaull-Norman, Peggy; Shaw, Chad; Brummette, Brittni; Brinks, Laura; Nethercott, Tori; Keefer, Aimee; May, Christine
Subject: FW: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

From: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 4:19 PM
To: Adenike Shoyinka <ashoyinka@ingham.org>; Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: RE: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

Hello –

We just received some variant test results from the IBC testing. Of the current batch of 94 specimens from IBC, 90 were positive for the B117 variant. From what I can tell 2 are employees and the rest are prisoners. The other 4 that were not positive were not necessarily negative for the variant but rather it was just that BOL could not obtain sequencing data on the sample. The 2 employees are from Clinton County. I am going to let MMDHD know about these results as well.

MDOC is aware of these test results. They are planning to release this data to the media but I am not sure when or how. If you do get questions you can refer them to MDHHS or MDOC.

If there is anything I can do please let me know.

Thank you!
Fatema

From: Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 11:57 AM
To: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>; kbowen@ioniacounty.org
Subject: Re: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

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Thanks, Fatema!

This is helpful. I am just curious as to how many of the jail inmates are confirmed B117 cases. I'll be on the look out for the sequencing results.

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From: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 11:03:29 AM
To: Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>; kbowen@ioniacounty.org <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: RE: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

Hi Dr. Shoyinka –

Binax testing from testing of all staff and prisoners at IBC on 2/9/2020 revealed 1 staff positive out of 245 staff and 87 prisoners who are positive out of 1528.

From the spreadsheet it looks like there were also 27 staff samples and 221 prisoner samples that have been sent to BOL and we don't have the results yet. I may be able to take a look to see how many are positive.

All positive Binax samples have been sent to BOL for PCR testing and sequencing.

Sequencing should be done in 7 days. BOL has said that there are some "S-drops" on the samples they have tested so far (that can be shown by PCR testing) so I would expect there is going to be a good proportion of those prisoners who are infected with the B.117 variant when sequencing is complete.

I am supposed to hear directly from BOL when those sequencing results are done so I will make sure I let you and Ken know those results.

If there is anything I can do in the meantime please let me know.

Thanks!
Fatema

From: Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 9:57 AM
To: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>; kbowen@ioniacounty.org
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Hi Fatema!

Checking in to see how many confirmed B117 variant cases at Bellamy prisons and if there are any other updates.
Thanks!

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From: Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 9:47:41 AM
To: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>; kbowen@ioniacounty.org <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: Re: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

Thank you, Fateema, I am trying to get the ingham case retested.

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To: kbowen@ioniacounty.org <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>; Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>
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MDOC is planning a press release regarding this variant case in the prison.

If I get additional information I will share it. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you!
Fatema

Fatema Mamou, MPH
Region 6 Epidemiologist
Surveillance and Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section
Bureau of Epidemiology and Population Health, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Physical Address: Kent County Health Department, 700 Fuller Ave NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Ph: 616-632-7245 - Cell: [REDACTED] E-mail: mamouf@michigan.gov

Due to COVID-19, I am working remotely. Please contact me via cell # or e-mail for the most prompt response.

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Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
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Ken

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To: Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>; kbowen@ioniacounty.org <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
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Gaines, Rachelle

From: Michigan Health Alert Network <b553dfe1-0005-3000-80c0-fceb55463ffe@notify.michiganhan.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 12:36 PM
To: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS)
Subject: B.1.1.7 variant detected in Kent County

CAUTION: This is an External email. Please send suspicious emails to abuse@michigan.gov

Fatema Mamou,

Dear colleagues,

On February 6th, the B.1.1.7 variant was detected in a specimen from an individual in Kent County, a patient whose symptoms began in late January.

The SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.7 variant is thought to have emerged in the United Kingdom and has since been detected in many countries and states. This variant is associated with increased transmissibility. Compared to the wild-type virus, the B.1.1.7 variant is approximately 50 percent more transmissible, leading to faster spread of the virus and potentially increasing numbers of cases, hospitalizations, and deaths. There is no indication that this variant impacts the effectiveness of vaccines.

This is a race for coverage of our population; a race that pits vaccination efforts against the transmission of infections. The B.1.1.7 variant offers the infection a speed boost in this race, which must be accounted for in our public health response. Efforts to slow transmission will allow for more of our population to be protected through vaccination. Public health mitigation measures to minimize the impact of this variant strain in our communities include the following.

- When KCHD is evaluating a COVID-19 case or a contact with any possible epidemiologic links to a confirmed variant case, variant infection is assumed
- Strictly enforce isolation and quarantine protocols with a 14-day quarantine period with monitoring, regardless of the symptom status of any close contacts of possible variant infections
- Cases and close contacts should be educated about the increased risk of transmission with the variant strain.

- Actively work to obtain testing for exposed individuals
- Promote testing of individuals who have traveled out of Michigan in last 14 days.
- Promote submission of isolates for genetic sequencing
 - Guidance and forms supporting specimen collection have been provided to Michigan Laboratory Directors and are attached to this communication.
 - Acceptable specimens for the Novel 2019 Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) sequencing analysis are
 - Nasopharyngeal swabs in viral transport medium, Amies Transport Media, or PBS;
 - Nasal swabs in viral transport medium, Amies Transport Media, or PBS;
 - OP swabs in viral transport medium, Amies Transport Media, or PBS;

- Nasal aspirates;
- Mid-turbinate swabs in viral transport medium, Amies Transport Media, or PBS;
- Sputum.

For questions, please contact Cathy Armstrong, RN, Communicable Disease Program Supervisor at cathy.armstrong@kentcountymi.gov.

For further information: New Variants of the Virus that Causes COVID-19
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/transmission/variant.html>

This HAN is being sent to the following roles in Region 6 and Allegan, Barry, and Eaton Counties:

CD/Infection Prevention, Communications/Public Information, Emergency Preparedness, EMS/First Responder, Epidemiology, Healthcare, Health Officer, and Physician/Medical Director.

You may respond by doing one of the following:

- Click the appropriate response in the following list of response options,
- Or, reply via email with your response option. Please note that you must include the number of your response option, such as 1, in the body of your email in order for your response to be recorded.

Option# Response:

1. [Message Received.](#)

Thank you,
 Michigan Health Alert Network

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 4:46 PM
To: May, Christine; Keefer, Aimee
Subject: FW: Variant Case among a IBC Employee
Attachments: B.1.1.7 variant detected in Kent County

Chris we should send something out to our providers.

From: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 4:45 PM
To: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>; Adenike Shoyinka <ashoyinka@ingham.org>
Subject: RE: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

I don't think there is anything specific that you need to do. I think this was not unexpected given that first case among the employee and the subsequent outbreak among prisoners.

In response to the variant case in Kent they did send out a MIHAN to their providers (attached). It may be something to consider sending to your providers as well.

From: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
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Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 7:12 AM
To: Sasiela, Evan; Karen Bota
Subject: FW: NEWS RELEASE: MDHHS Identifies 90 Cases of COVID Variant

FYI

From: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 7:11 AM
To: Everyone <EveryoneDL@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: NEWS RELEASE: MDHHS Identifies 90 Cases of COVID Variant



MDHHS Identifies 90 Cases of COVID Variant

IONIA, MICH. Results from the daily testing of prisoners and staff at the Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility, in Ionia, has resulted in the detection of 90 cases of the SARS-CoV-2, B.1.1.7 variant.

This testing occurred after an employee at the prison was found to have the variant and the Michigan Department of Corrections immediately began to test daily, all prisoners and staff.

Of the first set of samples provided to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Bureau of Laboratories, 90 of the 95 were found to have the variant. Of the 90, there were 88 prisoners and two employees. There are more than 100 lab results still pending.

This variant is believed to be more contagious compared to the SARS-CoV-2 virus, and as soon as it was detected in the prison, additional precautions were put in place, along with the daily testing.

Since the daily testing results have come in, the number of COVID-19 positive cases at the facility has been on the decline, which indicates the swift efforts undertaken to reduce the spread is working.

Based on available evidence, current tests and vaccines for COVID-19 also work against this new variant. Protective actions that prevent the spread of COVID-19 will also prevent the spread of the new variant, B.1.1.7.

Michiganders should:

- Wash hands often.
- Wear a mask around others.
- Stay 6 feet apart from others.
- Ventilate indoor spaces.
- Make a plan to get the vaccine when the opportunity becomes available.

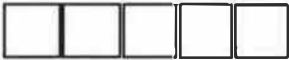
Any Michigander who has traveled or has possibly been exposed to an individual infected with COVID-19 should get tested for the virus. Visit. [Michigan.gov/coronavirustest](https://michigan.gov/coronavirustest) to find the nearest test site.

Information around this outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at [Michigan.gov/Coronavirus](https://michigan.gov/Coronavirus) and CDC.gov/Coronavirus. To learn more about the COVID-19 vaccine, visit [Michigan.gov/COVIDVaccine](https://michigan.gov/COVIDVaccine).

###

MEDIA CONTACT: [Chris Gautz](#), 517-256-3790

- [JIC News Release 435 - MDOC variant.pdf](#)



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Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 2:37 PM
To: McIntyre, Carmen (MDOC-Contractor); Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC); Smoyer, Stephanie A. (MDOC)
Cc: Adenike Shoyinka
Subject: Prison cases

<u>Prison</u>	<u>Patient</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>POS vs Contact</u>	<u>Onset</u>
<u>Bellamy Creek</u>	[REDACTED]	Maintenance	POS	2/15/2021
	[REDACTED]	Counselor	POS	2/12/2021
	[REDACTED]	n/a	Contact	Last contact 2/15/2021
	[REDACTED]	n/a	Contact	Last contact 2/15/2021
	[REDACTED]	Maintenance	POS	2/16/2021

Ken Bowen
Health Officer/Director of Environmental Health
Ionia County Health Department
(616) 527-5341
(616) 527-8202 (fax)

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 3:21 PM
To: Hon. Ronald J. Schafer
Subject: Re: prison numbers

No they are not - there is an option to do it with or without. Unless they changed it on the website and I missed it (possible) you have to specifically choose to include prison data.

On Feb 18, 2021, at 3:19 PM, Hon. Ronald J. Schafer <rschafer@ioniacounty.org> wrote:

Ken,

Do you know if the prison population is factored into the county's case numbers? If these positives are considered within the broader county numbers as a whole, we might never see jury trials.

Ron

Ionia prison fights nation's largest cluster of contagious UK COVID-19 variant

Oralandar Brand-WilliamsSarah Rahal

The Detroit News

[View Comments](#)

Michigan prison officials are working to contain what appears to be the nation's largest cluster of cases of a highly contagious coronavirus variant after 90 were confirmed in an Ionia state penitentiary.

Michigan officials are also trying to confirm if the U.K. variant has spread to facilities in Jackson and Macomb County, where COVID-positive patients were transferred before it was identified in Ionia.

Only the states of Florida and California have more confirmed cases than those found at Ionia's Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility, according to the most recent statistics from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

<image001.jpg>

And just one California county, San Diego, has publicly reported a higher number of cases than those found at the Ionia facility, but it has not disclosed an unusually high number tied to any group setting.

"I am unaware of outbreaks of the variant forms of coronavirus of the scale observed in the Michigan prison elsewhere in the U.S.," said Stephen Hawes, chairman of the University of Washington's Department of Epidemiology.

"This is not unexpected, given the increased infectiousness of the variant and the closed population of susceptible, unvaccinated people in the prison."

About 100 additional lab tests taken at Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility were pending Wednesday, said Chelsea Wuth, a spokeswoman for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Those test results are expected "sometime this week," state health department spokeswoman Lynn Sutfin said in an email.

Two other state prisons, the Macomb Correctional Facility in Macomb County and the Duane Waters Health Center in Jackson, "both received (COVID-19) positive prisoners from Bellamy Creek before we learned of the variant," Corrections Department spokesman Chris Gautz said in an email.

Daily testing is being conducted in the areas of the two facilities where the prisoners with the positive tests are being held, Gautz added. Results have not yet been released.

Complicating efforts is that while there are rapid tests available for COVID-19, B.1.1.7. diagnoses have to be confirmed in a lab.

The Bellamy Creek prison had just one confirmed case just over a week ago — identified as a prison employee.

No inmates or prison employees have been hospitalized or died from the variant, Gautz said.

Forty-two states had confirmed 1,277 cases, according to the CDC on Wednesday. The prison outbreak brought Michigan's total to 157 cases, or third highest in the country, trailing only California at 186 cases and Florida at 416 cases.

Michigan has 67 cases of the variant in addition to the prison outbreak, including 39 cases in Washtenaw County, where the first case was discovered among the University of Michigan community.

The outbreak of the widely spreading variant comes as Michigan's prison system has been hard hit by COVID-19. Four staff members and 138 inmates have died from the virus, according to a Michigan Department of Corrections. There are 930 active COVID-19 cases, and more than 22,500 prisoners are considered recovered.

B.1.1.7. is 50-70% more transportable than COVID-19 and cases are doubling in the United States every 10 days, said Dr. Hana Akselrod, assistant professor of medicine at George Washington University School of Medicine.

There are 1,613 prisoners and 425 employees at the Bellamy Creek facility, and Gautz said the agency is being more aggressive with personal protective equipment in an effort to stave off a larger outbreak. The prison already had 315 prisoner COVID-19 cases and 82 staff cases before B.1.1.7. was discovered.

Previously, only staff working directly with prisoners who tested positive wore full-body suits, protective eyewear and N-95 masks and other protective gear, Gautz said in an email.

"At Bellamy Creek, every employee is now in full PPE (personal protection equipment), from the maintenance staff, to officers, to the warden himself," Gautz said.

Inmates are also confined to their unit and cannot mix with other prisoners during meals, time outside or in classes. Staff members, who typically could be assigned to different units each day, are now working in a single assigned unit.

Gautz said the strategy is believed to be working, pointing to rapid tests for COVID-19 that determine if a person is positive or negative. A positive test swab is sent to a lab to find out "what strain it is," he said, adding that it takes multiple days of testing at the lab to de.

"On the first day of daily testing last week, we had 87 prisoners test positive. Yesterday there were 7," Gautz wrote.

The variant was discovered at Bellamy Creek on Feb. 8 when a worker tested positive.

Inmate visitation by family members and others has been suspended since March.

George Washington's Akselrod said the variant is an emerging concern. The viral airway loads are higher, making it more contagious, and there are more cases in children and possibly higher mortality rates overall than COVID-19.

Akselrod said it's unclear how many cases are in the United States because not every lab has the capacity to do viral sequencing, which is typically conducted in pharmaceutical and research labs.

The University of Washington's Hawes agreed, noting that "in some places that there is a backlog of samples to be genotyped, making tracking of the numerous variants in real time challenging."

Akselrod said the only testing is being done is through public health departments and tracking is on the CDC database.

"We don't, frankly, have the capacity," Akselrod said. "We have an under-powered public health system for years to decades heading into this, and this is part of why we are relatively speaking, how the virus got so many steps ahead of us last spring. We now know where our deficiencies lie and we are actively learning species ... so it's not just the virus that's evolving, it's our response to it."

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Friday, February 19, 2021 8:01 AM
To: Hon. Ronald J. Schafer
Subject: Re: prison numbers

They can jump around quite a bit as numbers from different sources come in to the system over several days. That is why I usually report numbers from 5-6 days prior in my updates.

On Feb 19, 2021, at 7:34 AM, Hon. Ronald J. Schafer <rschafer@ioniacounty.org> wrote:

Good news. Also happened to speak with our SCAO regional administrator late yesterday afternoon and he indicated SCAO does not count prison numbers. Not sure how they separate them out if included in the number by the state, but regardless helpful to getting us back open for trials.

Actually yesterday the regional administrator looked up our numbers and said we were under 70 per million. I was driving and said I would follow up today and get him the stuff from our health departments to move into phase two. I checked the state cite this morning and it's says 92 per million. I'm not sure where he obtained his info but I will follow up with him. I know last week you said they can jump around but that much? Is it a matter of refreshing that page enough times until we hit one under seventy and running with it before it changes the next hour?

Ron

On Feb 18, 2021, at 3:21 PM, Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org> wrote:

No they are not - there is an option to do it with or without. Unless they changed it on the website and I missed it (possible) you have to specifically choose to include prison data.

On Feb 18, 2021, at 3:19 PM, Hon. Ronald J. Schafer <rschafer@ioniacounty.org> wrote:

Ken,
Do you know if the prison population is factored into the county's case numbers? If these positives are considered within the broader county numbers as a whole, we might never see jury trials.

Ron

Ionia prison fights nation's largest cluster of contagious UK COVID-19 variant

Oralandar Brand-WilliamsSarah Rahal

The Detroit News

[View Comments](#)

Michigan prison officials are working to contain what appears to be the nation's largest cluster of cases of a highly contagious coronavirus variant after 90 were confirmed in an Ionia state penitentiary.

Michigan officials are also trying to confirm if the U.K. variant has spread to facilities in Jackson and Macomb County, where COVID-positive patients were transferred before it was identified in Ionia.

Only the states of Florida and California have more confirmed cases than those found at Ionia's Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility, according to the most recent statistics from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

<image001.jpg>

And just one California county, San Diego, has publicly reported a higher number of cases than those found at the Ionia facility, but it has not disclosed an unusually high number tied to any group setting.

"I am unaware of outbreaks of the variant forms of coronavirus of the scale observed in the Michigan prison elsewhere in the U.S.," said Stephen Hawes, chairman of the University of Washington's Department of Epidemiology.

"This is not unexpected, given the increased infectiousness of the variant and the closed population of susceptible, unvaccinated people in the prison."

About 100 additional lab tests taken at Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility were pending Wednesday, said Chelsea Wuth, a spokeswoman for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Those test results are expected "sometime this week," state health department spokeswoman Lynn Sutfin said in an email."

Two other state prisons, the Macomb Correctional Facility in Macomb County and the Duane Waters Health Center in Jackson, "both received (COVID-19) positive prisoners from Bellamy Creek before we learned of the variant," Corrections Department spokesman Chris Gautz said in an email.

Daily testing is being conducted in the areas of the two facilities where the prisoners with the positive tests are being held, Gautz added. Results have not yet been released.

Complicating efforts is that while there are rapid tests available for COVID-19, B.1.1.7. diagnoses have to be confirmed in a lab.

The Bellamy Creek prison had just one confirmed case just over a week ago — identified as a prison employee.

No inmates or prison employees have been hospitalized or died from the variant, Gautz said.

Forty-two states had confirmed 1,277 cases, according to the CDC on Wednesday. The prison outbreak brought Michigan's total to 157 cases, or third highest in the country, trailing only California at 186 cases and Florida at 416 cases.

Michigan has 67 cases of the variant in addition to the prison outbreak, including 39 cases in Washtenaw County,

where the first case was discovered among the University of Michigan community.

The outbreak of the widely spreading variant comes as Michigan's prison system has been hard hit by COVID-19. Four staff members and 138 inmates have died from the virus, according to a Michigan Department of Corrections. There are 930 active COVID-19 cases, and more than 22,500 prisoners are considered recovered.

B.1.1.7. is 50-70% more transportable than COVID-19 and cases are doubling in the United States every 10 days, said Dr. Hana Akselrod, assistant professor of medicine at George Washington University School of Medicine.

There are 1,613 prisoners and 425 employees at the Bellamy Creek facility, and Gautz said the agency is being more aggressive with personal protective equipment in an effort to stave off a larger outbreak. The prison already had 315 prisoner COVID-19 cases and 82 staff cases before B.1.1.7. was discovered.

Previously, only staff working directly with prisoners who tested positive wore full-body suits, protective eyewear and N-95 masks and other protective gear, Gautz said in an email.

"At Bellamy Creek, every employee is now in full PPE (personal protection equipment), from the maintenance staff, to officers, to the warden himself," Gautz said.

Inmates are also confined to their unit and cannot mix with other prisoners during meals, time outside or in classes. Staff members, who typically could be assigned to different units each day, are now working in a single assigned unit.

Gautz said the strategy is believed to be working, pointing to rapid tests for COVID-19 that determine if a person is

positive or negative. A positive test swab is sent to a lab to find out "what strain it is," he said, adding that it takes multiple days of testing at the lab to de.

"On the first day of daily testing last week, we had 87 prisoners test positive. Yesterday there were 7," Gautz wrote.

The variant was discovered at Bellamy Creek on Feb. 8 when a worker tested positive.

Inmate visitation by family members and others has been suspended since March.

George Washington's Akselrod said the variant is an emerging concern. The viral airway loads are higher, making it more contagious, and there are more cases in children and possibly higher mortality rates overall than COVID-19.

Akselrod said it's unclear how many cases are in the United States because not every lab has the capacity to do viral sequencing, which is typically conducted in pharmaceutical and research labs.

The University of Washington's Hawes agreed, noting that "in some places that there is a backlog of samples to be genotyped, making tracking of the numerous variants in real time challenging."

Akselrod said the only testing is being done is through public health departments and tracking is on the CDC database.

"We don't, frankly, have the capacity," Akselrod said. "We have an under-powered public health system for years to decades heading into this, and this is part of why we are relatively speaking, how the virus got so many steps ahead

of us last spring. We now know where our deficiencies lie and we are actively learning species ... so it's not just the virus that's evolving, it's our response to it."

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2021 7:54 PM
To: Bowen, Ken
Cc: May, Christine; Keefer, Aimee; Brinks, Laura; Adenike Shoyinka
Subject: RE: COVID-19 Positive MDOC IBC Employees

Hi Ken –

You are absolutely correct. I was not sending this out as an expectation that this would be done immediately.

I agree that some of these cases have had the appropriate follow-up done. There are also others who are already aware of the potential contact to a variant case and have received instructions from their employer.

Regarding specimen collection on contacts that is understandable that it cannot be done until next week and dependent on the response of cases and contacts.

If there is anything I can do or relay up to MDHHS please let me know.

Thank you!
Fatema

From: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2021 7:30 PM
To: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Cc: May, Christine <cmay@ioniacounty.org>; Aimee Keefer <akeefer@ioniacounty.org>; Brinks, Laura <lbrinks@ioniacounty.org>; Adenike Shoyinka <ashoyinka@ingham.org>
Subject: Re: COVID-19 Positive MDOC IBC Employees

CAUTION: This is an External email. Please send suspicious emails to abuse@michigan.gov

Hello Fatema,

Respectfully, it isn't realistic to send this out on a Friday night and expect it happen quickly. My staff are home for the weekend and we only have one nurse on call. This is a lot of work for that individual.

We will do our best but realistically this will not be complete until later next week, as the HD is closed Monday and we have a clinic Tuesday.

That being said, I believe we have done this at least for the cases that have come in over the last couple of days, except for specimen collection. I expect very few contacts will be willing to provide specimens. Many cases still refuse to even give contacts.

Thank You,

Ken

On Feb 12, 2021, at 7:12 PM, Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov> wrote:

Hello –

Due to the variant case found among a MDOC employee at the Bellamy Creek facility MDHHS is asking that LHDs re-visit the case investigations of employees who have recently tested positive for COVID-19. We are asking that LHDs confirm that isolation was met appropriately, re-check for contacts, actively confirm quarantine and collect specimens from close contacts for testing/sequencing. At the MDHHS we are of course, available to discuss further at your convenience. Below I have copied information from the MIHAN message regarding variant's that was sent on January 26th.

Additionally, going forward we are asking that any future cases among employees be followed by public health as described in the MIHAN below.

Specimens from positive employees are being sent to the MDHHS BOL for sequencing and we will inform LHDs of any cases whose specimens are positive for the variant strain.

Here is a list of recent positive IBC employees who live in Ionia

Reportable_Condition	Case_Status	Investigation_Status	Investigation_ID	Onset_Date	Referral_Date	Investi
Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Completed	19702560770		1/22/2021	Ionia
Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Completed	19704997399		2/2/2021	Ionia
Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Completed	19705572244	2/3/2021	2/4/2021	Ionia
Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Active	19706241831		2/9/2021	Ionia
Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Active	19706265199		2/9/2021	Ionia
Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Completed	19706266784	2/8/2021	2/9/2021	Ionia
Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Completed - Follow Up	19706315901	2/6/2021	2/9/2021	Ionia
Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Completed	19706344976		2/9/2021	Ionia

If there is anything I can do please let me know.

Thank you!
Fatema

On January 26, MDHHS shared a Health Alert Network message about the introduction of the B.1.1.7 variant to Michigan's population that included the following messaging:

The SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.7 variant is thought to have emerged in the United Kingdom and has since been detected in many countries and states. This variant is concerning because it is associated with increased

transmissibility. Compared to the wild-type virus, the B.1.1.7 variant is approximately 50 percent more transmissible, leading to faster spread of the virus and potentially increasing numbers of cases, hospitalizations, and deaths. Therefore, additional levels of public health intervention are required once the variant has been identified.

Fundamentally, this is a race for coverage of our population; a race that pits vaccination efforts against the transmission of infections. In this effort, public health is working to minimize both the known serious consequences of COVID-19 infections, as well as the over-all impacts on our limited healthcare resources. The B.1.1.7 variant offers the infection a speed boost in this race, which must be accounted for in our public health response. Efforts to slow transmission will allow for more of our population to be protected through vaccination.

Public health mitigation measures aimed to minimize the impact of this variant strain in our communities include the following recommendations.

When evaluating a confirmed or probable COVID-19 case or a contact with any possible epidemiologic links to a confirmed variant case, variant infection should be assumed -- an assumption that requires immediate and decisive action involving case isolation, identification of all possible contacts, and quarantine.

- The collection of all travel, exposure, and contact information during case investigations is critical in evaluating risk of variant infection.
- Strictly enforce isolation and quarantine protocols

During the isolation of B.1.1.7 variant infections and the quarantine of associated contacts, enhanced monitoring, including twice daily check-ins, is strongly recommended. Cases and close contacts should be educated about the increased risk of transmission with the variant strain.

Strict enforcement and assurance of full 14-day quarantine period with monitoring, regardless of the symptom status of any close contacts of possible variant infections.

Employ active efforts to identify all possible contacts of cases with consideration to expanding the infectious period based on symptoms and testing. The inclusion of an extra day before onset may help identify additional persons infected with the variant virus.

- Emphasize testing in affected areas
- Expand testing capacity in areas where the variant has been detected.
- Work closely with affected communities on messaging around testing.
- Actively work to obtain testing for exposed individuals, particularly those that are known to have been exposed to the variant strain.
- Promote submission of isolates for genetic sequencing
 - Guidance and forms supporting specimen collection have been provided to Michigan Laboratory Directors and are attached to this communication.
 - Appropriate Specimens for Sequencing
 - SARS-CoV-2 residual samples, at least 500 ul, to be frozen and sent to the state laboratory in the specimen tube on a weekly basis.
 - Acceptable specimens for the Novel 2019 Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) sequencing analysis are
 - Nasopharyngeal swabs in viral transport medium, Amies Transport Media, or PBS;
 - Nasal swabs in viral transport medium, Amies Transport Media, or PBS;
 - OP swabs in viral transport medium, Amies Transport Media, or PBS;
 - Nasal aspirates;

- Mid-turbinate swabs in viral transport medium, Amies Transport Media, or PBS;
- Sputum.
- Promote testing of individuals who have traveled out of Michigan in last 14 days, especially to areas in which the new variants are widely circulating. This should be emphasized in all regions, even those in which the variant has not yet been identified.

Fundamentally,

Fatema Mamou, MPH
 Region 6 Epidemiologist
 Surveillance and Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section
 Bureau of Epidemiology and Population Health, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
 Physical Address: Kent County Health Department, 700 Fuller Ave NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
 Ph: 616-632-7245 - Cell: [REDACTED] E-mail: mamouf@michigan.gov

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Gaines, Rachelle

From: Michigan Health Alert Network <b553dfe1-0005-3000-80c0-fceb55463ffe@notify.michiganhan.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 12:36 PM
To: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS)
Subject: B.1.1.7 variant detected in Kent County

CAUTION: This is an External email. Please send suspicious emails to abuse@michigan.gov

Fatema Mamou,

Dear colleagues,

On February 6th, the B.1.1.7 variant was detected in a specimen from an individual in Kent County, a patient whose symptoms began in late January.

The SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.7 variant is thought to have emerged in the United Kingdom and has since been detected in many countries and states. This variant is associated with increased transmissibility. Compared to the wild-type virus, the B.1.1.7 variant is approximately 50 percent more transmissible, leading to faster spread of the virus and potentially increasing numbers of cases, hospitalizations, and deaths. There is no indication that this variant impacts the effectiveness of vaccines.

This is a race for coverage of our population; a race that pits vaccination efforts against the transmission of infections. The B.1.1.7 variant offers the infection a speed boost in this race, which must be accounted for in our public health response. Efforts to slow transmission will allow for more of our population to be protected through vaccination. Public health mitigation measures to minimize the impact of this variant strain in our communities include the following.

- When KCHD is evaluating a COVID-19 case or a contact with any possible epidemiologic links to a confirmed variant case, variant infection is assumed
- Strictly enforce isolation and quarantine protocols with a 14-day quarantine period with monitoring, regardless of the symptom status of any close contacts of possible variant infections
- Cases and close contacts should be educated about the increased risk of transmission with the variant strain.

- Actively work to obtain testing for exposed individuals
- Promote testing of individuals who have traveled out of Michigan in last 14 days.
- Promote submission of isolates for genetic sequencing
 - Guidance and forms supporting specimen collection have been provided to Michigan Laboratory Directors and are attached to this communication.
 - Acceptable specimens for the Novel 2019 Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) sequencing analysis are
 - Nasopharyngeal swabs in viral transport medium, Amies Transport Media, or PBS;
 - Nasal swabs in viral transport medium, Amies Transport Media, or PBS;
 - OP swabs in viral transport medium, Amies Transport Media, or PBS;

- Nasal aspirates;
- Mid-turbinate swabs in viral transport medium, Amies Transport Media, or PBS;
- Sputum.

For questions, please contact Cathy Armstrong, RN, Communicable Disease Program Supervisor at cathy.armstrong@kentcountymi.gov.

For further information: New Variants of the Virus that Causes COVID-19
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/transmission/variant.html>

This HAN is being sent to the following roles in Region 6 and Allegan, Barry, and Eaton Counties:

CD/Infection Prevention, Communications/Public Information, Emergency Preparedness, EMS/First Responder, Epidemiology, Healthcare, Health Officer, and Physician/Medical Director.

You may respond by doing one of the following:

- Click the appropriate response in the following list of response options,
- Or, reply via email with your response option. Please note that you must include the number of your response option, such as 1, in the body of your email in order for your response to be recorded.

Option# Response:

1. [Message Received.](#)

Thank you,
 Michigan Health Alert Network

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 4:45 PM
To: Bowen, Ken; Adenike Shoyinka
Subject: RE: Variant Case among a IBC Employee
Attachments: B.1.1.7 variant detected in Kent County

I don't think there is anything specific that you need to do. I think this was not unexpected given that first case among the employee and the subsequent outbreak among prisoners.

In response to the variant case in Kent they did send out a MIHAN to their providers (attached). It may be something to consider sending to your providers as well.

From: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 4:25 PM
To: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>; Adenike Shoyinka <ashoyinka@ingham.org>
Subject: RE: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

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Hello Fatema,

Is there anything specific that you suggest we do?

Ken

From: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 4:19 PM
To: Adenike Shoyinka <ashoyinka@ingham.org>; Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: RE: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

Hello –

We just received some variant test results from the IBC testing. Of the current batch of 94 specimens from IBC, 90 were positive for the B117 variant. From what I can tell 2 are employees and the rest are prisoners. The other 4 that were not positive were not necessarily negative for the variant but rather it was just that BOL could not obtain sequencing data on the sample. The 2 employees are from Clinton County. I am going to let MMDHD know about these results as well.

MDOC is aware of these test results. They are planning to release this data to the media but I am not sure when or how. If you do get questions you can refer them to MDHHS or MDOC.

If there is anything I can do please let me know.

Thank you!
Fatema

From: Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 11:57 AM
To: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>; kbowen@ioniacounty.org
Subject: Re: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

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Thanks, Fatema!

This is helpful. I am just curious as to how many of the jail inmates are confirmed B117 cases. I'll be on the look out for the sequencing results.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 11:03:29 AM
To: Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>; kbowen@ioniacounty.org <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: RE: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

Hi Dr. Shoyinka –

Binax testing from testing of all staff and prisoners at IBC on 2/9/2020 revealed 1 staff positive out of 245 staff and 87 prisoners who are positive out of 1528.

From the spreadsheet it looks like there were also 27 staff samples and 221 prisoner samples that have been sent to BOL and we don't have the results yet. I may be able to take a look to see how many are positive.

All positive Binax samples have been sent to BOL for PCR testing and sequencing.

Sequencing should be done in 7 days. BOL has said that there are some "S-drops" on the samples they have tested so far (that can be shown by PCR testing) so I would expect there is going to be a good proportion of those prisoners who are infected with the B.117 variant when sequencing is complete.

I am supposed to hear directly from BOL when those sequencing results are done so I will make sure I let you and Ken know those results.

If there is anything I can do in the meantime please let me know.

Thanks!
Fatema

From: Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 9:57 AM
To: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>; kbowen@ioniacounty.org
Subject: Re: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

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Hi Fatema!

Checking in to see how many confirmed B117 variant cases at Bellamy prisons and if there are any other updates.
Thanks!

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From: Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 9:47:41 AM
To: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>; kbowen@ioniacounty.org <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: Re: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

Thank you, Fateema, I am trying to get the ingham case retested.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 9:33:18 AM
To: kbowen@ioniacounty.org <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>; Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>
Subject: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

Hi Ken and Dr. Shoyinka –

You may hear directly from MDOC or someone higher up at MDHHS but I wanted make sure you know that Eaton County had their first B.1.1.7 variant in a client who was originally lost to follow-up (19698000510) and finally able to be reached yesterday. She is an MDOC employee at IBC in Ionia. When MDOC was notified they said they've had 90 new inmate cases at IBC in the past week, suggesting potential B.1.1.7 transmission. According to MDOC, they haven't had any positive inmate cases in prior recent weeks.

The Eaton case has a complicated testing history. She had a presumptive positive PCR result (it was reported as inconclusive) collected on 1/4/21. It looks like she was retested on 1/5/21 and was negative. She had a PCR positive result collected on 1/27/21. She told MDOC she was negative on 1/5/21 (she did not share the inconclusive result) and they allowed her to work. She was asymptomatic at that time. She says she was exposed to another MDOC employee (Ingham 19703489145) on 1/26 and became symptomatic on 1/27. Started quarantine/isolation on 1/26.

There was an MDHHS/MDOC call late yesterday to discuss recommendations (I was not on it). I have been told that MDHHS is recommending an aggressive response and mitigation strategy given the potential for transmission of the variant strain within the IBC facility along with the possibility of further spread to other MDOC facilities or the community. This will include daily testing of all staff and prisoners for at least the next 14 days.

MDOC is planning a press release regarding this variant case in the prison.

If I get additional information I will share it. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you!
Fatema

Fatema Mamou, MPH
Region 6 Epidemiologist
Surveillance and Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section
Bureau of Epidemiology and Population Health, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Physical Address: Kent County Health Department, 700 Fuller Ave NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Ph: 616-632-7245 - Cell: [REDACTED] E-mail: mamouf@michigan.gov

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Gaines, Rachelle

From: Waterman, Autumn (DHHS) <WatermanA@michigan.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2021 9:31 AM
To: Bowen, Ken
Subject: Notification of Moderna Vaccine Order for MDOC Staff

Good morning,

MDHHS has submitted an order for distribution of the Moderna vaccine for **Ionia**. Your facility will be receiving **500** Moderna doses in the upcoming week:

- **500** are designated as FIRST doses for staff at **Ionia, Michigan Reformatory, Bellamy Creek & Richard Handlon Correctional Facilities**.

These doses are anticipated to arrive on Wednesday or Thursday.

Distributors utilize the shipping hours as entered in the MCIR VFC Shipping tab. Please ensure your shipping hours and address correctly reflect your ability to receive orders. To check shipping information in your MCIR site (hours, address, etc.), please [utilize this tip sheet](#).

Ancillary kits for Moderna vaccine will arrive within 24 hours of the vaccine.

Temperature reminder: Keep in mind that Moderna is stored at a *more narrow frozen temperature range than other frozen vaccines such as varicella-containing vaccines*, so please ensure your freezer is within the appropriate range: It is to be stored frozen between -25°C and -15°C (-13°F and 5°F). It can also be stored at refrigerated temperatures between 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) for up to 30 days before vials are punctured.

Sign up to Review Order Details and Receive Shipment Emails with Tracking IDs

- Review this [new tip sheet](#) to see how you can review order details and receive email notifications for shipments, including tracking IDs. This allows you to add “**e-order contacts**” to your MCIR site for this enhanced order review ability. These emails will come from mcir@michigan.gov. Moderna does not send direct shipment notices, so please be sure to add appropriate users to your MCIR site accordingly. This guidance is also included on [our website](#), along with additional inventory support.

Reminders and Resources for Support:

- Please review our new MDHHS website [COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Guidance & Educational Resources](#). Save/bookmark this site as it will be updated frequently.
 - **Moderna-specific materials are available on this website**
- VaccineFinder: CDC is registering users in VaccineFinder in phases, but an email will be sent to your “organizational contact” for such registration, so that you can perform daily reporting. For tip sheets and videos on using VaccineFinder, please visit <https://vaccinefinder.org/covid-provider-resources>.
 - Contact Information for VaccineFinder Provider Support
 - Please contact:
 - eocevent522@cdc.gov for registration / email change help and for general COVID VaccineFinder inquiries, or
 - vaccinefinder@castighthouse.com for technical assistance with account log-in problems, password resets, file upload errors, etc.

If you have questions, please email checcimms@michigan.gov.

Thank you.

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Travelbee, Brent (MDOC) <TravelbeeB@michigan.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2021 2:37 PM
To: Bowen, Ken
Cc: Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC); Shaw, Chad; Bevington, Jamie; Smith, Douglas E MAJ
USARMY NG MIARNG (USA); Macauley, Matthew (MDOC); Blackman, Lloyd W. (MDOC)
Subject: RE: questions
Importance: High

Good afternoon Ken, I hope you are well. I can answer your questions.

Vaccine Drop Off

Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility

1727 E Bluewater Hwy, Ionia, MI 48846

Warden Matt Macauley will be the primary point of contact. Matt's cell number is [REDACTED]

ADW Lloyd Blackman will be the secondary contact. Lloyd's cell number is [REDACTED]

I can be contacted as a third option if necessary.

Call ahead the morning of and Matt will arrange for a facility representative to meet you in the administration building and escort you to the vaccination site located in the parking lot area where the vaccine can be dropped.

Cooler Return

There is no problem for the facility to hold the cooler until it is able to be picked up. This can also be coordinated with Matt or Lloyd. No problem for us to hold it. We may also be able to coordinate return of the cooler to your location if necessary.

Ancillary Supplies

No additional supplies are required beyond what arrives with the vaccine. We will not need PPE, only the items necessary to deliver the vaccine. (needles, syringes, vaccination cards, alcohol swabs)

MICR Entry

MING can provide the user IDs to you so they may be added as users under your site. I will copy Major Smith's team and they will send the information to you.

Thank you again for your assistance! You may contact me for any additional questions you may have.

Take care,
Brent

From: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:17 PM
To: McIntyre, Carmen (MDOC-Contractor) <MclntyreC1@michigan.gov>
Cc: Travelbee, Brent (MDOC) <TravelbeeB@michigan.gov>; Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC) <SHERRYM@michigan.gov>;
cshaw <cshaw@ioniacounty.org>; Bevington, Jamie <jbevington@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: Re: questions

CAUTION: This is an External email. Please send suspicious emails to abuse@michigan.gov

Hello Dr. McIntyre,

Regarding MCIR, if you want to enter under your ID that is perfectly fine. However, the doses are currently under our ID. For you to enter them under your ID we will need to officially transfer them to you in the system. MDOC also has to be a registered provider. There is paperwork associated with this. Just let me know how you want to handle it.

Thank You,

Ken

On Feb 3, 2021, at 2:08 PM, McIntyre, Carmen (MDOC-Contractor) <McIntyreC1@michigan.gov> wrote:

Responses below in [blue](#).

C. M. McIntyre Leon, M.D.
Chief Medical Officer
Michigan Department of Corrections
(517)249-0817
206 E Michigan Ave
Lansing, MI 48933-1431

From: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 12:01 PM
To: Travelbee, Brent (MDOC) <TravelbeeB@michigan.gov>; McIntyre, Carmen (MDOC-Contractor) <McIntyreC1@michigan.gov>; Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC) <SHERRYM@michigan.gov>
Cc: cshaw <cshaw@ioniacounty.org>; Bevington, Jamie <jbevington@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: questions

CAUTION: This is an External email. Please send suspicious emails to abuse@michigan.gov

Hello All,

We just received our 500 doses of vaccine for Friday. We have a few questions:

1. We plan to drop the vaccine off Friday morning at 5:30. What is the exact location for drop off? [Will get back to you shortly.](#)
2. We will drop off the vaccine in a cooler that can maintain temperature. Temperature must be logged every hour. We need the cooler back. What is the best way accomplish return of the cooler? [I'm thinking someone could come get it the next day or next week but will verify and get back to you shortly.](#)
3. Are any supplies needed besides what is in the ancillary kit (see my previous email for ancillary kit supplies)? [No, we don't need anything else.](#)
4. If MING is entering doses into MCIR under our ID, we need personal information for those who will be doing the entry. When we can expect that and from whom will it be coming? [They will be using our MCIR IDs.](#)

Just a reminder that I can unfortunately not lend staff to this endeavor. We already have a clinic scheduled for that day.

Thank You,

Ken

Ken Bowen
Health Officer/Director of Environmental Health
Ionia County Health Department
(616) 527-5341
(616) 527-8202 (fax)

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Macauley, Matthew (MDOC) <MacauleyM@michigan.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2021 2:45 PM
To: Travelbee, Brent (MDOC); Bowen, Ken
Cc: Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC); Shaw, Chad; Bevington, Jamie; Smith, Douglas E MAJ USARMY NG MIARNG (USA); Blackman, Lloyd W. (MDOC)
Subject: RE: questions

I believe ADW Blackman and myself will be here at 0500. We would like to begin administering at 0600 hrs. Depending on weather...

From: Travelbee, Brent (MDOC) <TravelbeeB@michigan.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:37 PM
To: kbowen@ioniacounty.org
Cc: Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC) <SHERRYM@michigan.gov>; cshaw <csaw@ioniacounty.org>; Bevington, Jamie <jbevington@ioniacounty.org>; Smith, Douglas E MAJ USARMY NG MIARNG (USA) <douglas.e.smith13.mil@mail.mil>; Macauley, Matthew (MDOC) <MacauleyM@michigan.gov>; Blackman, Lloyd W. (MDOC) <BlackmanL@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: questions
Importance: High

Good afternoon Ken, I hope you are well. I can answer your questions.

Vaccine Drop Off

Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility
1727 E Bluewater Hwy, Ionia, MI 48846

Warden Matt Macauley will be the primary point of contact. Matt's cell number is [REDACTED]

ADW Lloyd Blackman will be the secondary contact. Lloyd's cell number is [REDACTED]

I can be contacted as a third option if necessary.

Call ahead the morning of and Matt will arrange for a facility representative to meet you in the administration building and escort you to the vaccination site located in the parking lot area where the vaccine can be dropped.

Cooler Return

There is no problem for the facility to hold the cooler until it is able to be picked up. This can also be coordinated with Matt or Lloyd. No problem for us to hold it. We may also be able to coordinate return of the cooler to your location if necessary.

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Take care,
Brent

From: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>

Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:17 PM

To: McIntyre, Carmen (MDOC-Contractor) <McIntyreC1@michigan.gov>

Cc: Travelbee, Brent (MDOC) <TravelbeeB@michigan.gov>; Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC) <SHERRYM@michigan.gov>; cshaw <cshaw@ioniacounty.org>; Bevington, Jamie <jbevington@ioniacounty.org>

Subject: Re: questions

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Thank You,

Ken

On Feb 3, 2021, at 2:08 PM, McIntyre, Carmen (MDOC-Contractor) <McIntyreC1@michigan.gov> wrote:

Responses below in [blue](#).

C. M. McIntyre Leon, M.D.
Chief Medical Officer
Michigan Department of Corrections
(517)249-0817
206 E Michigan Ave
Lansing, MI 48933-1431

From: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>

Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 12:01 PM

To: Travelbee, Brent (MDOC) <TravelbeeB@michigan.gov>; McIntyre, Carmen (MDOC-Contractor) <McIntyreC1@michigan.gov>; Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC) <SHERRYM@michigan.gov>

Cc: cshaw <cshaw@ioniacounty.org>; Bevington, Jamie <jbevington@ioniacounty.org>

Subject: questions

CAUTION: This is an External email. Please send suspicious emails to abuse@michigan.gov

Hello All,

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Just a reminder that I can unfortunately not lend staff to this endeavor. We already have a clinic scheduled for that day.

Thank You,

Ken

Ken Bowen
Health Officer/Director of Environmental Health
Ionia County Health Department
(616) 527-5341
(616) 527-8202 (fax)

From: LyonCallo, Sarah (DHHS) <lyoncallos@michigan.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2021 9:47 PM
To: Bagdasarian, Natasha (DHHS); McIntyre, Carmen (MDOC-Contractor); Collins, Jim (DHHS); Johnson, Shannon (DHHS); Sutfin, Lynn (DHHS); Washington, Heidi E. (MDOC); Khaldun, Joneigh (DHHS)
Cc: Gautz, Chris (MDOC); Henderson, Tiffany (DHHS); Weinberg, Meghan (DHHS); Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC); Smoyer, Stephanie A. (MDOC); Hertel, Elizabeth (DHHS)
Subject: RE: MDOC variant

SUBJECT: SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.7

On February 7, 2021, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Bureau of Laboratories confirmed a positive COVID-19 case in a Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) employee as the SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.7 variant.

Compared to the wild-type virus, the B.1.1.7 variant is approximately 50 percent more transmissible, leading to faster spread of the virus, potentially increased numbers of cases, additional hospitalizations, and deaths. Therefore, enhanced surveillance to identify this variant, particularly in a congregate setting, requires additional levels of public health intervention and mitigation measures.

In light of the recent increase in positive COVID-19 screening test results at the Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility (IBC) and given the potential for transmission of the variant strain within the IBC facility along with the possibility of further spread to other MDOC facilities or the community, MDHHS is recommending an aggressive response and mitigation strategy including the following:

- Cease all inmate transfers into and out of IBC
- Limit movement of inmates and staff within IBC
- Continue to restrict MDOC staff to a single facility
- Develop plans to allow transport staff to work safely in the instance that an emergency transfer is necessary
- For at least the next 14 days, test all staff and all inmates at IBC daily using BinaxNOW antigen tests
 - Transportation officers (IBC to MRF and DW) should be PCR tested as soon as possible
 - Include inmates and staff who have previously tested PCR or antigen positive in the past month
 - MDHHS will provide Binax antigen kits, with an initial shipment of 50,000 kits
- For any positive BinaxNOW tests, submit a second collected specimen to MDHHS Bureau of Laboratories for PCR and whole genome sequencing, if PCR positive
- Coordinate with the appropriate Local Health Department for positive employee case investigation and contact tracing using enhanced follow-up and quarantine (14-day).
- Coordinate with appropriate local health department for positive parolee cases (isolate per CDC guidance) and assumed close contact among parolees (14-day)
- Develop and distribute messaging to MDOC employees regarding the variant identification and outbreak status including recommendations on how to help protect their family and community

For further discussion and guidance, MDHHS is requesting the following:

- Floor plans and location descriptions of all IBC units
 - Especially important for units with current confirmed cases, including Units 3, 6, and 7
- A description of the HVAC system and type of ventilation currently being employed, including the potential for recirculated, unfiltered air to other cells or facility locations

- A heat map of rooms of positive cases to assist in identifying close contacts and help to characterize transmission

While it has been established that the B.1.1.7 variant is circulating in Michigan, MDHHS continues to recommend an aggressive public health response, especially in a congregate-type setting and the with the concern of increased transmissibility of the B.1.1.7 variant. A prompt response is critical and we look forward to continued discussions and information sharing between MDHHS and MDOC.

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Bagdasarian, Natasha (DHHS) <BagdasarianN@michigan.gov>

Sent: Monday, February 08, 2021 4:42 PM

To: Bagdasarian, Natasha (DHHS); McIntyre, Carmen (MDOC-Contractor); LyonCallo, Sarah (DHHS); Collins, Jim (DHHS); Johnson, Shannon (DHHS); Sutfin, Lynn (DHHS); Washington, Heidi E. (MDOC); Khaldun, Joneigh (DHHS)

Cc: Gautz, Chris (MDOC); Henderson, Tiffany (DHHS); Weinberg, Meghan (DHHS); Sherry, Marti Kay (MDOC); Smoyer, Stephanie A. (MDOC); Hertel, Elizabeth (DHHS)

Subject: MDOC variant

When: Monday, February 08, 2021 5:00 PM-5:30 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

Where: Microsoft Teams Meeting

Importance: High

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

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[+1 248-509-0316, 580984821#](#) United States, Pontiac

Phone Conference ID: 580 984 821#

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Gaines, Rachelle

From: Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 3:23 PM
To: Bowen, Ken
Subject: Fwd: Potential Ingham epi-link to B.1.1.7
Attachments: RE: MDOC variant

Nike Shoyinka MD MPH
Medical Director
Ingham County Health Department

Please excuse any typos
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Adenike Shoyinka <Ashoyinka@ingham.org>
Date: February 10, 2021 at 10:50:19 AM EST
To: "Weinberg, Meghan (DHHS)" <WeinbergM1@michigan.gov>
Subject: Re: Potential Ingham epi-link to B.1.1.7

Thanks Meghan. I talked to Stephanie Smoyer a bit yesterday. I didn't see this memo but she told about what was in place.

Please keep me posted and Let me know if there is anything I need to do.

Nike Shoyinka MD MPH
Medical Director
Ingham County Health Department

Please excuse any typos
Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 10, 2021, at 8:35 AM, Weinberg, Meghan (DHHS) <WeinbergM1@michigan.gov> wrote:

Nike, I had a brain lapse and forgot that you also cover Ionia, I'm sorry. Have you seen the attached memo on the recommendations to MDOC IBC for follow-up? It includes daily binax testing of all staff and employees with positive results reflexing to PCR at BOL and sequencing (if PCR positive).

From: Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 8:25 AM
To: Weinberg, Meghan (DHHS) <WeinbergM1@michigan.gov>; Wai Yi Leung <WLeung@ingham.org>; Linda Vail <lvail@ingham.org>; Sumeer Qurashi <SQurashi@ingham.org>; Deneen Gallagher <DGallagher@ingham.org>; Colleen Harns <CHarns@ingham.org>; Amy Worges <AWorges@ingham.org>; Melissa Endres

<MEndres@ingham.org>

Cc: Brousseau, Geoffrey (DHHS-Contractor) <BrousseauG1@michigan.gov>

Subject: Re: Potential Ingham epi-link to B.1.1.7

CAUTION: This is an External email. Please send suspicious emails to
abuse@michigan.gov

Thanks Meghan for the info

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Weinberg, Meghan (DHHS) <WeinbergM1@michigan.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 8:20:06 AM

To: Wai Yi Leung <WLeung@ingham.org>; Linda Vail <LVail@ingham.org>; Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>; Sumeer Qurashi <SQurashi@ingham.org>; Deneen Gallagher <DGallagher@ingham.org>; Colleen Harns <CHarns@ingham.org>; Amy Worges <AWorges@ingham.org>; Melissa Endres <MEndres@ingham.org>

Cc: Brousseau, Geoffrey (DHHS-Contractor) <BrousseauG1@michigan.gov>

Subject: RE: Potential Ingham epi-link to B.1.1.7

Just an update on the Eaton case (19698000510) – I learned she had three negative PCRs collected after her presumptive positive on 1/4 – including one taken the next day on 1/5 (others were 1/11 and 1/19). I wasn't confident about her reported onset date of 1/27 because the interview was difficult and delayed. But these negative PCRs make me feel more confident that her acute infection indeed was closer to 1/27. And therefore your Ingham case and her case are closely clustered together time wise. Also, MDOC started to see a pretty rapid increase in cases (90 cases) among inmates last week, further indicating a recent exposure. Just an FYI.

From: Wai Yi Leung <WLeung@ingham.org>

Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 4:29 PM

To: Weinberg, Meghan (DHHS) <WeinbergM1@michigan.gov>; Linda Vail <lvail@ingham.org>; Adenike Shoyinka <ashoyinka@ingham.org>; Sumeer Qurashi <SQurashi@ingham.org>; Deneen Gallagher <DGallagher@ingham.org>; Colleen Harns <CHarns@ingham.org>; Amy Worges <AWorges@ingham.org>; Melissa Endres <MEndres@ingham.org>

Cc: Henderson, Tiffany (DHHS) <HendersonT1@michigan.gov>; Johnson, Shannon (DHHS) <JohnsonS61@michigan.gov>; Collins, Jim (DHHS) <CollinsJ12@michigan.gov>; Brousseau, Geoffrey (DHHS-Contractor) <BrousseauG1@michigan.gov>

Subject: RE: Potential Ingham epi-link to B.1.1.7

CAUTION: This is an External email. Please send suspicious emails to
abuse@michigan.gov

Update: Client reported test completed today.

Sparrow lab confirmed they received specimen and lab slips and will forward to BOL

Thank you,

Winnie

From: Wai Yi Leung

Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 3:44 PM

To: Weinberg, Meghan (DHHS) <WeinbergM1@michigan.gov>; Linda Vail <LVail@ingham.org>; Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>; Sumeer Qurashi <SQurashi@ingham.org>; Deneen Gallagher <DGallagher@ingham.org>; Colleen Harns <CHarns@ingham.org>; Amy Worges <AWorges@ingham.org>; Melissa Endres <MEndres@ingham.org>

Cc: Henderson, Tiffany (DHHS) <HendersonT1@michigan.gov>; Johnson, Shannon (DHHS) <JohnsonS61@michigan.gov>; Collins, Jim (DHHS) <CollinsJ12@michigan.gov>; Brousseau, Geoffrey (DHHS-Contractor) <BrousseauG1@michigan.gov>

Subject: RE: Potential Ingham epi-link to B.1.1.7

Dear all,

Sorry for the late reply, process have been set up for client (19703489145) and his son (19704348974) for re-swabbed at Sparrow center for laboratory medicine on patient care drive and direct to BOL for PCR and sequencing. Client was notified and planned to go to test site tomorrow. Contact tracing team was alerted to follow up with household contacts for 14 days quarantine measures from last exposure until test results available.

Thank you,

Winnie

From: Weinberg, Meghan (DHHS) <WeinbergM1@michigan.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 6:59 AM

To: Linda Vail <LVail@ingham.org>; Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>; Sumeer Qurashi <SQurashi@ingham.org>; Deneen Gallagher <DGallagher@ingham.org>; Colleen Harns <CHarns@ingham.org>; Wai Yi Leung <WLeung@ingham.org>; Amy Worges <AWorges@ingham.org>; Melissa Endres <MEndres@ingham.org>

Cc: Henderson, Tiffany (DHHS) <HendersonT1@michigan.gov>; Johnson, Shannon (DHHS) <JohnsonS61@michigan.gov>; Collins, Jim (DHHS) <CollinsJ12@michigan.gov>; Brousseau, Geoffrey (DHHS-Contractor) <BrousseauG1@michigan.gov>

Subject: Potential Ingham epi-link to B.1.1.7

Hi ICHD,

There's the potential that an Ingham case (MDSS 19703489145) is epi-linked to a B.1.1.7 variant case in Eaton (MDSS 19698000510). The Eaton case had a presumptive positive PCR result collected on 1/4/21 and a second PCR positive result collected on 1/27/21. On Sunday, we learned the specimen collected 1/27/21 was the B.1.1.7 variant. BEDHD was unable to reach the client until yesterday. She reported yesterday that she works at MDOC IBC facility in Ionia and had an exposure to another MDOC IBC employee, Ingham case (19703489145) on 1/26/21 and her onset on 1/27/21. The Ingham case's onset and positive PCR were on 1/25/21. It's unclear if the Eaton case exposed the Ingham case, vice versa, or if they are unrelated. However, given how transmissible B.1.1.7 is, we're recommending treating the Ingham case as a potential B.1.1.7 case in terms of control measures.

I've attached the MIHAN from 1/26 that describes recommendations in response to B.1.1.7 cases, which includes:

- Revisiting the case to make sure all close contacts were identified (which may include extending the communicable period from two days before onset to three days before onset).

- 14 day quarantine for close contacts (instead of 10 days)
- Testing of close contacts – specimens can be sent to BOL for PCR and sequencing (test req form attached)

It might also be wise to have the Ingham case re-swabbed and sent to BOL for PCR and sequencing to determine if it is the B.1.1.7 variant. It's possible that there won't be detectable virus because his onset was on 1/25/21, in which case we won't be able to obtain the sequence. But if he is still positive and it's not B.1.1.7, then we could walk back these enhanced control measures.

Thanks,
Meghan

Meghan Weinberg, PhD, MPH

Epidemiologist - Region 1

Surveillance and Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Cell: (517) 749-2153

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Gaines, Rachelle

From: Brummette, Brittini
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 3:27 PM
To: Bowen, Ken
Subject: Correction cases

I found these while inputting surveys

<i>PRISON</i>	<i>PATIENT</i>	<i>OCCUPATION</i>	<i>POS vs CONTACT</i>	<i>ONSET</i>	<i>EARLIEST RETURN DATE</i>
Bellamy Creek					
		Corrections	POS	2/8/21	2/19/21
		wife to above	Contact	Last DOE 2/18/21	2/29/21
		Corrections	POS	2/8/21	2/19/21

Thank you,

Brittini Brummette RN BSN
Communicable Diseases
Ionia County Health Department
Phone # 616-600-4792

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 11:03 AM
To: Adenike Shoyinka; Bowen, Ken
Subject: RE: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

Hi Dr. Shoyinka –

Binax testing from testing of all staff and prisoners at IBC on 2/9/2020 revealed 1 staff positive out of 245 staff and 87 prisoners who are positive out of 1528.

From the spreadsheet it looks like there were also 27 staff samples and 221 prisoner samples that have been sent to BOL and we don't have the results yet. I may be able to take a look to see how many are positive.

All positive Binax samples have been sent to BOL for PCR testing and sequencing.

Sequencing should be done in 7 days. BOL has said that there are some "S-drops" on the samples they have tested so far (that can be shown by PCR testing) so I would expect there is going to be a good proportion of those prisoners who are infected with the B.117 variant when sequencing is complete.

I am supposed to hear directly from BOL when those sequencing results are done so I will make sure I let you and Ken know those results.

If there is anything I can do in the meantime please let me know.

Thanks!
Fatema

From: Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 9:57 AM
To: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>; kbowen@ioniacounty.org
Subject: Re: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

CAUTION: This is an External email. Please send suspicious emails to abuse@michigan.gov

Hi Fatema!

Checking in to see how many confirmed B117 variant cases at Bellamy prisons and if there are any other updates.
Thanks!

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 9:47:41 AM
To: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>; kbowen@ioniacounty.org <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: Re: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

Thank you, Fateema, I am trying to get the ingham case retested.

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 9:33:18 AM
To: kbowen@ioniacounty.org <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>; Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>
Subject: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

Hi Ken and Dr. Shoyinka –

You may hear directly from MDOC or someone higher up at MDHHS but I wanted make sure you know that Eaton County had their first B1.1.1.7 variant in a client who was originally lost to follow-up (19698000510) and finally able to be reached yesterday. She is an MDOC employee at IBC in Ionia. When MDOC was notified they said they've had 90 new inmate cases at IBC in the past week, suggesting potential B.1.1.7 transmission. According to MDOC, they haven't had any positive inmate cases in prior recent weeks.

The Eaton case has a complicated testing history. She had a presumptive positive PCR result (it was reported as inconclusive) collected on 1/4/21. It looks like she was retested on 1/5/21 and was negative. She had a PCR positive result collected on 1/27/21. She told MDOC she was negative on 1/5/21 (she did not share the inconclusive result) and they allowed her to work. She was asymptomatic at that time. She says she was exposed to another MDOC employee (Ingham 19703489145) on 1/26 and became symptomatic on 1/27. Started quarantine/isolation on 1/26.

There was an MDHHS/MDOC call late yesterday to discuss recommendations (I was not on it). I have been told that MDHHS is recommending an aggressive response and mitigation strategy given the potential for transmission of the variant strain within the IBC facility along with the possibility of further spread to other MDOC facilities or the community. This will include daily testing of all staff and prisoners for at least the next 14 days.

MDOC is planning a press release regarding this variant case in the prison.

If I get additional information I will share it. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you!
Fatema

Fatema Mamou, MPH
Region 6 Epidemiologist
Surveillance and Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section
Bureau of Epidemiology and Population Health, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Physical Address: Kent County Health Department, 700 Fuller Ave NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Ph: 616-632-7245 - Cell: [REDACTED] E-mail: mamouf@michigan.gov

**Due to COVID-19, I am working remotely. Please contact me via cell # or e-mail for the most prompt response.*

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Gaines, Rachelle

From: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 4:19 PM
To: Adenike Shoyinka; Bowen, Ken
Subject: RE: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

Hello –

We just received some variant test results from the IBC testing. Of the current batch of 94 specimens from IBC, 90 were positive for the B117 variant. From what I can tell 2 are employees and the rest are prisoners. The other 4 that were not positive were not necessarily negative for the variant but rather it was just that BOL could not obtain sequencing data on the sample. The 2 employees are from Clinton County. I am going to let MMDHD know about these results as well.

MDOC is aware of these test results. They are planning to release this data to the media but I am not sure when or how. If you do get questions you can refer them to MDHHS or MDOC.

If there is anything I can do please let me know.

Thank you!
Fatema

From: Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 11:57 AM
To: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>; kbowen@ioniacounty.org
Subject: Re: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

CAUTION: This is an External email. Please send suspicious emails to abuse@michigan.gov

Thanks, Fatema!

This is helpful. I am just curious as to how many of the jail inmates are confirmed B117 cases. I'll be on the look out for the sequencing results.

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From: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 11:03:29 AM
To: Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>; kbowen@ioniacounty.org <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: RE: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

Hi Dr. Shoyinka –

Binax testing from testing of all staff and prisoners at IBC on 2/9/2020 revealed 1 staff positive out of 245 staff and 87 prisoners who are positive out of 1528.

From the spreadsheet it looks like there were also 27 staff samples and 221 prisoner samples that have been sent to BOL and we don't have the results yet. I may be able to take a look to see how many are positive.

All positive Binax samples have been sent to BOL for PCR testing and sequencing.

Sequencing should be done in 7 days. BOL has said that there are some "S-drops" on the samples they have tested so far (that can be shown by PCR testing) so I would expect there is going to be a good proportion of those prisoners who are infected with the B.117 variant when sequencing is complete.

I am supposed to hear directly from BOL when those sequencing results are done so I will make sure I let you and Ken know those results.

If there is anything I can do in the meantime please let me know.

Thanks!
Fatema

From: Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 9:57 AM
To: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>; kbowen@ioniacounty.org
Subject: Re: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

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Hi Fatema!

Checking in to see how many confirmed B117 variant cases at Bellamy prisons and if there are any other updates.
Thanks!

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From: Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 9:47:41 AM
To: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>; kbowen@ioniacounty.org <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: Re: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

Thank you, Fateema, I am trying to get the ingham case retested.

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From: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 9:33:18 AM
To: kbowen@ioniacounty.org <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>; Adenike Shoyinka <AShoyinka@ingham.org>
Subject: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

Hi Ken and Dr. Shoyinka –

You may hear directly from MDOC or someone higher up at MDHHS but I wanted make sure you know that Eaton County had their first B1.1.1.7 variant in a client who was originally lost to follow-up (19698000510) and finally able to be reached yesterday. She is an MDOC employee at IBC in Ionia. When MDOC was notified they said they've had 90 new inmate cases at IBC in the past week, suggesting potential B.1.1.7 transmission. According to MDOC, they haven't had any positive inmate cases in prior recent weeks.

The Eaton case has a complicated testing history. She had a presumptive positive PCR result (it was reported as inconclusive) collected on 1/4/21. It looks like she was retested on 1/5/21 and was negative. She had a PCR positive result collected on 1/27/21. She told MDOC she was negative on 1/5/21 (she did not share the inconclusive result) and they allowed her to work. She was asymptomatic at that time. She says she was exposed to another MDOC employee (Ingham 19703489145) on 1/26 and became symptomatic on 1/27. Started quarantine/isolation on 1/26.

There was an MDHHS/MDOC call late yesterday to discuss recommendations (I was not on it). I have been told that MDHHS is recommending an aggressive response and mitigation strategy given the potential for transmission of the variant strain within the IBC facility along with the possibility of further spread to other MDOC facilities or the community. This will include daily testing of all staff and prisoners for at least the next 14 days.

MDOC is planning a press release regarding this variant case in the prison.

If I get additional information I will share it. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you!
Fatema

Fatema Mamou, MPH
Region 6 Epidemiologist
Surveillance and Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section
Bureau of Epidemiology and Population Health, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Physical Address: Kent County Health Department, 700 Fuller Ave NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Ph: 616-632-7245 - Cell: [REDACTED] E-mail: mamouf@michigan.gov

Due to COVID-19, I am working remotely. Please contact me via cell # or e-mail for the most prompt response.

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Gaines, Rachelle

From: Michigan Health Alert Network <b553dfe1-0005-3000-80c0-fceb55463ffe@notify.michiganhan.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 12:36 PM
To: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS)
Subject: B.1.1.7 variant detected in Kent County

CAUTION: This is an External email. Please send suspicious emails to abuse@michigan.gov

Fatema Mamou,

Dear colleagues,

On February 6th, the B.1.1.7 variant was detected in a specimen from an individual in Kent County, a patient whose symptoms began in late January.

The SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.7 variant is thought to have emerged in the United Kingdom and has since been detected in many countries and states. This variant is associated with increased transmissibility. Compared to the wild-type virus, the B.1.1.7 variant is approximately 50 percent more transmissible, leading to faster spread of the virus and potentially increasing numbers of cases, hospitalizations, and deaths. There is no indication that this variant impacts the effectiveness of vaccines.

This is a race for coverage of our population; a race that pits vaccination efforts against the transmission of infections. The B.1.1.7 variant offers the infection a speed boost in this race, which must be accounted for in our public health response. Efforts to slow transmission will allow for more of our population to be protected through vaccination. Public health mitigation measures to minimize the impact of this variant strain in our communities include the following.

- When KCHD is evaluating a COVID-19 case or a contact with any possible epidemiologic links to a confirmed variant case, variant infection is assumed
- Strictly enforce isolation and quarantine protocols with a 14-day quarantine period with monitoring, regardless of the symptom status of any close contacts of possible variant infections
- Cases and close contacts should be educated about the increased risk of transmission with the variant strain.

- Actively work to obtain testing for exposed individuals
- Promote testing of individuals who have traveled out of Michigan in last 14 days.
- Promote submission of isolates for genetic sequencing
 - Guidance and forms supporting specimen collection have been provided to Michigan Laboratory Directors and are attached to this communication.
 - Acceptable specimens for the Novel 2019 Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) sequencing analysis are
 - Nasopharyngeal swabs in viral transport medium, Amies Transport Media, or PBS;
 - Nasal swabs in viral transport medium, Amies Transport Media, or PBS;
 - OP swabs in viral transport medium, Amies Transport Media, or PBS;

- Nasal aspirates;
- Mid-turbinate swabs in viral transport medium, Amies Transport Media, or PBS;
- Sputum.

For questions, please contact Cathy Armstrong, RN, Communicable Disease Program Supervisor at cathy.armstrong@kentcountymi.gov.

For further information: New Variants of the Virus that Causes COVID-19
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/transmission/variant.html>

This HAN is being sent to the following roles in Region 6 and Allegan, Barry, and Eaton Counties:

CD/Infection Prevention, Communications/Public Information, Emergency Preparedness, EMS/First Responder, Epidemiology, Healthcare, Health Officer, and Physician/Medical Director.

You may respond by doing one of the following:

- Click the appropriate response in the following list of response options,
- Or, reply via email with your response option. Please note that you must include the number of your response option, such as **1**, in the body of your email in order for your response to be recorded.

Option# Response:

1. [Message Received.](#)

Thank you,
 Michigan Health Alert Network

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 4:45 PM
To: Bowen, Ken; Adenike Shoyinka
Subject: RE: Variant Case among a IBC Employee
Attachments: B.1.1.7 variant detected in Kent County

I don't think there is anything specific that you need to do. I think this was not unexpected given that first case among the employee and the subsequent outbreak among prisoners.

In response to the variant case in Kent they did send out a MIHAN to their providers (attached). It may be something to consider sending to your providers as well.

From: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 4:25 PM
To: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>; Adenike Shoyinka <ashoyinka@ingham.org>
Subject: RE: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

CAUTION: This is an External email. Please send suspicious emails to abuse@michigan.gov

Hello Fatema,

Is there anything specific that you suggest we do?

Ken

From: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 4:19 PM
To: Adenike Shoyinka <ashoyinka@ingham.org>; Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: RE: Variant Case among a IBC Employee

Hello –

We just received some variant test results from the IBC testing. Of the current batch of 94 specimens from IBC, 90 were positive for the B117 variant. From what I can tell 2 are employees and the rest are prisoners. The other 4 that were not positive were not necessarily negative for the variant but rather it was just that BOL could not obtain sequencing data on the sample. The 2 employees are from Clinton County. I am going to let MMDHD know about these results as well.

MDOC is aware of these test results. They are planning to release this data to the media but I am not sure when or how. If you do get questions you can refer them to MDHHS or MDOC.

If there is anything I can do please let me know.

Thank you!
Fatema

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I am supposed to hear directly from BOL when those sequencing results are done so I will make sure I let you and Ken know those results.

If there is anything I can do in the meantime please let me know.

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MDOC is planning a press release regarding this variant case in the prison.

If I get additional information I will share it. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you!
Fatema

Fatema Mamou, MPH
Region 6 Epidemiologist
Surveillance and Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section
Bureau of Epidemiology and Population Health, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Physical Address: Kent County Health Department, 700 Fuller Ave NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Ph: 616-632-7245 - Cell: [REDACTED] E-mail: mamouf@michigan.gov

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Gaines, Rachelle

From: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2021 7:54 PM
To: Bowen, Ken
Cc: May, Christine; Keefer, Aimee; Brinks, Laura; Adenike Shoyinka
Subject: RE: COVID-19 Positive MDOC IBC Employees

Hi Ken –

You are absolutely correct. I was not sending this out as an expectation that this would be done immediately.

I agree that some of these cases have had the appropriate follow-up done. There are also others who are already aware of the potential contact to a variant case and have received instructions from their employer.

Regarding specimen collection on contacts that is understandable that it cannot be done until next week and dependent on the response of cases and contacts.

If there is anything I can do or relay up to MDHHS please let me know.

Thank you!
Fatema

From: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2021 7:30 PM
To: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Cc: May, Christine <cmay@ioniacounty.org>; Aimee Keefer <akeefer@ioniacounty.org>; Brinks, Laura <lbrinks@ioniacounty.org>; Adenike Shoyinka <ashoyinka@ingham.org>
Subject: Re: COVID-19 Positive MDOC IBC Employees

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Hello Fatema,

Respectfully, it isn't realistic to send this out on a Friday night and expect it happen quickly. My staff are home for the weekend and we only have one nurse on call. This is a lot of work for that individual.

We will do our best but realistically this will not be complete until later next week, as the HD is closed Monday and we have a clinic Tuesday.

That being said, I believe we have done this at least for the cases that have come in over the last couple of days, except for specimen collection. I expect very few contacts will be willing to provide specimens. Many cases still refuse to even give contacts.

Thank You,

Ken

On Feb 12, 2021, at 7:12 PM, Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov> wrote:

Hello –

Due to the variant case found among a MDOC employee at the Bellamy Creek facility MDHHS is asking that LHDs re-visit the case investigations of employees who have recently tested positive for COVID-19. We are asking that LHDs confirm that isolation was met appropriately, re-check for contacts, actively confirm quarantine and collect specimens from close contacts for testing/sequencing. At the MDHHS we are of course, available to discuss further at your convenience. Below I have copied information from the MIHAN message regarding variant's that was sent on January 26th.

Additionally, going forward we are asking that any future cases among employees be followed by public health as described in the MIHAN below.

Specimens from positive employees are being sent to the MDHHS BOL for sequencing and we will inform LHDs of any cases whose specimens are positive for the variant strain.

Here is a list of recent positive IBC employees who live in Ionia

Reportable_Condition	Case_Status	Investigation_Status	Investigation_ID	Onset_Date	Referral_Date	Investigator
Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Completed	19702560770		1/22/2021	Ionia
Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Completed	19704997399		2/2/2021	Ionia
Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Completed	19705572244	2/3/2021	2/4/2021	Ionia
Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Active	19706241831		2/9/2021	Ionia
Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Active	19706265199		2/9/2021	Ionia
Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Completed	19706266784	2/8/2021	2/9/2021	Ionia
Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Completed - Follow Up	19706315901	2/6/2021	2/9/2021	Ionia
Novel Coronavirus COVID-19	Confirmed	Completed	19706344976		2/9/2021	Ionia

If there is anything I can do please let me know.

Thank you!
Fatema

On January 26, MDHHS shared a Health Alert Network message about the introduction of the B.1.1.7 variant to Michigan's population that included the following messaging:

The SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.7 variant is thought to have emerged in the United Kingdom and has since been detected in many countries and states. This variant is concerning because it is associated with increased

transmissibility. Compared to the wild-type virus, the B.1.1.7 variant is approximately 50 percent more transmissible, leading to faster spread of the virus and potentially increasing numbers of cases, hospitalizations, and deaths. Therefore, additional levels of public health intervention are required once the variant has been identified.

Fundamentally, this is a race for coverage of our population; a race that pits vaccination efforts against the transmission of infections. In this effort, public health is working to minimize both the known serious consequences of COVID-19 infections, as well as the over-all impacts on our limited healthcare resources. The B.1.1.7 variant offers the infection a speed boost in this race, which must be accounted for in our public health response. Efforts to slow transmission will allow for more of our population to be protected through vaccination.

Public health mitigation measures aimed to minimize the impact of this variant strain in our communities include the following recommendations.

When evaluating a confirmed or probable COVID-19 case or a contact with any possible epidemiologic links to a confirmed variant case, variant infection should be assumed -- an assumption that requires immediate and decisive action involving case isolation, identification of all possible contacts, and quarantine.

- The collection of all travel, exposure, and contact information during case investigations is critical in evaluating risk of variant infection.
- Strictly enforce isolation and quarantine protocols

During the isolation of B.1.1.7 variant infections and the quarantine of associated contacts, enhanced monitoring, including twice daily check-ins, is strongly recommended. Cases and close contacts should be educated about the increased risk of transmission with the variant strain.

Strict enforcement and assurance of full 14-day quarantine period with monitoring, regardless of the symptom status of any close contacts of possible variant infections.

Employ active efforts to identify all possible contacts of cases with consideration to expanding the infectious period based on symptoms and testing. The inclusion of an extra day before onset may help identify additional persons infected with the variant virus.

- Emphasize testing in affected areas
- Expand testing capacity in areas where the variant has been detected.
- Work closely with affected communities on messaging around testing.
- Actively work to obtain testing for exposed individuals, particularly those that are known to have been exposed to the variant strain.
- Promote submission of isolates for genetic sequencing
 - Guidance and forms supporting specimen collection have been provided to Michigan Laboratory Directors and are attached to this communication.
 - Appropriate Specimens for Sequencing
 - SARS-CoV-2 residual samples, at least 500 ul, to be frozen and sent to the state laboratory in the specimen tube on a weekly basis.
 - Acceptable specimens for the Novel 2019 Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) sequencing analysis are
 - Nasopharyngeal swabs in viral transport medium, Amies Transport Media, or PBS;
 - Nasal swabs in viral transport medium, Amies Transport Media, or PBS;
 - OP swabs in viral transport medium, Amies Transport Media, or PBS;
 - Nasal aspirates;

- Mid-turbinate swabs in viral transport medium, Amies Transport Media, or PBS;
- Sputum.
- Promote testing of individuals who have traveled out of Michigan in last 14 days, especially to areas in which the new variants are widely circulating. This should be emphasized in all regions, even those in which the variant has not yet been identified.

Fundamentally,

Fatema Mamou, MPH
 Region 6 Epidemiologist
 Surveillance and Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section
 Bureau of Epidemiology and Population Health, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
 Physical Address: Kent County Health Department, 700 Fuller Ave NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
 Ph: 616-632-7245 - Cell: [REDACTED] E-mail: mamouf@michigan.gov

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Gaines, Rachelle

From: Gaines, Rachelle
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2021 10:33 AM
To: Bowen, Ken
Cc: Fox, Stephanie
Subject: RE: Michigan Freedom of Information Act request, Ionia County Health Department

Got it, thanks Ken

Rachelle Gaines
Administrative Assistant
Ionia County
616-527-5300

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2021 10:17 AM
To: Gaines, Rachelle
Cc: Fox, Stephanie
Subject: FW: Michigan Freedom of Information Act request, Ionia County Health Department

From: Derek R. Kravitz <drk2134@columbia.edu>
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 9:07 AM
To: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: Michigan Freedom of Information Act request, Ionia County Health Department

We withdraw an earlier request for contact tracing notes. Attached is a more limited request for any emails related to Bellamy Creek and/or high-risk cases sent from MDHHS only since February 1.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Derek Kravitz
Columbia University's Brown Institute for Media Innovation
2950 Broadway
New York, NY 10027
Email: derek.kravitz@columbia.edu
Office: (347) 897-5827
Mobile: (573) 239-7440

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Gaines, Rachelle
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2021 10:16 AM
To: Bowen, Ken; Germain, Amanda; Fox, Stephanie
Subject: RE: Michigan Freedom of Information Act request, Ionia County Health Department

Ken,
Do you have the email with the attachment?
When you forwarded it to me, the attachment was not included.

Thank you,

Rachelle Gaines
Administrative Assistant
Ionia County
616-527-5300

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2021 9:50 AM
To: Germain, Amanda; Fox, Stephanie; Gaines, Rachelle
Subject: FW: Michigan Freedom of Information Act request, Ionia County Health Department

See below – Rachelle was handling this one

From: Derek R. Kravitz <drk2134@columbia.edu>
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2021 8:30 AM
To: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: Re: Michigan Freedom of Information Act request, Ionia County Health Department

We just wanted to follow-up on this and see if there were any questions or this needed to be narrowed down.
Thanks and best, Derek

On Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 9:06 AM Derek R. Kravitz <drk2134@columbia.edu> wrote:

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Office: (347) 897-5827
Mobile: (573) 239-7440

From: Hon. Ronald J. Schafer
Sent: Friday, February 19, 2021 7:34 AM
To: Bowen, Ken
Subject: Re: prison numbers

Good news. Also happened to speak with our SCAO regional administrator late yesterday afternoon and he indicated SCAO does not count prison numbers. Not sure how they separate them out if included in the number by the state, but regardless helpful to getting us back open for trials.

Actually yesterday the regional administrator looked up our numbers and said we were under 70 per million. I was driving and said I would follow up today and get him the stuff from our health departments to move into phase two. I checked the state cite this morning and it's says 92 per million. I'm not sure where he obtained his info but I will follow up with him. I know last week you said they can jump around but that much? Is it a matter of refreshing that page enough times until we hit one under seventy and running with it before it changes the next hour?

Ron

On Feb 18, 2021, at 3:21 PM, Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org> wrote:

No they are not - there is an option to do it with or without. Unless they changed it on the website and I missed it (possible) you have to specifically choose to include prison data.

On Feb 18, 2021, at 3:19 PM, Hon. Ronald J. Schafer <rschafer@ioniacounty.org> wrote:

Ken,
Do you know if the prison population is factored into the county's case numbers? If these positives are considered within the broader county numbers as a whole, we might never see jury trials.

Ron

Ionia prison fights nation's largest cluster of contagious UK COVID-19 variant

Oralandar Brand-WilliamsSarah Rahal

The Detroit News

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Michigan prison officials are working to contain what appears to be the nation's largest cluster of cases of a highly contagious coronavirus variant after 90 were confirmed in an Ionia state penitentiary.

Michigan officials are also trying to confirm if the U.K. variant has spread to facilities in Jackson and Macomb County, where COVID-positive patients were transferred before it was identified in Ionia.

Only the states of Florida and California have more confirmed cases than those found at Ionia's Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility, according to the most recent statistics from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

<image001.jpg>

And just one California county, San Diego, has publicly reported a higher number of cases than those found at the Ionia facility, but it has not disclosed an unusually high number tied to any group setting.

"I am unaware of outbreaks of the variant forms of coronavirus of the scale observed in the Michigan prison elsewhere in the U.S.," said Stephen Hawes, chairman of the University of Washington's Department of Epidemiology.

"This is not unexpected, given the increased infectiousness of the variant and the closed population of susceptible, unvaccinated people in the prison."

About 100 additional lab tests taken at Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility were pending Wednesday, said Chelsea Wuth, a spokeswoman for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Those test results are expected "sometime this week," state health department spokeswoman Lynn Sutfin said in an email.

Two other state prisons, the Macomb Correctional Facility in Macomb County and the Duane Waters Health Center in Jackson, "both received (COVID-19) positive prisoners from Bellamy Creek before we learned of the variant," Corrections Department spokesman Chris Gautz said in an email.

Daily testing is being conducted in the areas of the two facilities where the prisoners with the positive tests are being held, Gautz added. Results have not yet been released.

Complicating efforts is that while there are rapid tests available for COVID-19, B.1.1.7. diagnoses have to be confirmed in a lab.

The Bellamy Creek prison had just one confirmed case just over a week ago — identified as a prison employee.

No inmates or prison employees have been hospitalized or died from the variant, Gautz said.

Forty-two states had confirmed 1,277 cases, according to the CDC on Wednesday. The prison outbreak brought Michigan's total to 157 cases, or third highest in the country, trailing only California at 186 cases and Florida at 416 cases.

Michigan has 67 cases of the variant in addition to the prison outbreak, including 39 cases in Washtenaw County, where the first case was discovered among the University of Michigan community.

The outbreak of the widely spreading variant comes as Michigan's prison system has been hard hit by COVID-19. Four staff members and 138 inmates have died from the virus, according to a Michigan Department of Corrections. There are 930 active COVID-19 cases, and more than 22,500 prisoners are considered recovered.

B.1.1.7. is 50-70% more transportable than COVID-19 and cases are doubling in the United States every 10 days, said Dr. Hana Akselrod, assistant professor of medicine at George Washington University School of Medicine.

There are 1,613 prisoners and 425 employees at the Bellamy Creek facility, and Gautz said the agency is being more aggressive with personal protective equipment in an effort to stave off a larger outbreak. The prison already had 315 prisoner COVID-19 cases and 82 staff cases before B.1.1.7. was discovered.

Previously, only staff working directly with prisoners who tested positive wore full-body suits, protective eyewear and N-95 masks and other protective gear, Gautz said in an email.

"At Bellamy Creek, every employee is now in full PPE (personal protection equipment), from the maintenance staff, to officers, to the warden himself," Gautz said.

Inmates are also confined to their unit and cannot mix with other prisoners during meals, time outside or in classes. Staff members, who typically could be assigned to different units each day, are now working in a single assigned unit.

Gautz said the strategy is believed to be working, pointing to rapid tests for COVID-19 that determine if a person is positive or negative. A positive test swab is sent to a lab to find out "what strain it is," he said, adding that it takes multiple days of testing at the lab to de.

"On the first day of daily testing last week, we had 87 prisoners test positive. Yesterday there were 7," Gautz wrote.

The variant was discovered at Bellamy Creek on Feb. 8 when a worker tested positive.

Inmate visitation by family members and others has been suspended since March.

George Washington's Akselrod said the variant is an emerging concern. The viral airway loads are higher, making it more contagious, and there are more cases in children and possibly higher mortality rates overall than COVID-19.

Akselrod said it's unclear how many cases are in the United States because not every lab has the capacity to do viral sequencing, which is typically conducted in pharmaceutical and research labs.

The University of Washington's Hawes agreed, noting that "in some places that there is a backlog of samples to be genotyped, making tracking of the numerous variants in real time challenging."

Akselrod said the only testing is being done is through public health departments and tracking is on the CDC database.

“We don’t, frankly, have the capacity,” Akselrod said. “We have an under-powered public health system for years to decades heading into this, and this is part of why we are relatively speaking, how the virus got so many steps ahead of us last spring. We now know where our deficiencies lie and we are actively learning species ... so it’s not just the virus that’s evolving, it’s our response to it.”

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Hon. Ronald J. Schafer
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 3:19 PM
To: Bowen, Ken
Subject: prison numbers

Ken,

Do you know if the prison population is factored into the county's case numbers? If these positives are considered within the broader county numbers as a whole, we might never see jury trials.

Ron

Ionia prison fights nation's largest cluster of contagious UK COVID-19 variant

Oralandar Brand-WilliamsSarah Rahal

The Detroit News

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<u>School</u>	<u>Patient</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>POS vs Contact</u>	<u>Onset</u>
<u>Belding Address</u>	[REDACTED]	10	POS	2/16/2021
	[REDACTED]	8	POS	2/16/2021
	[REDACTED]	4	POS	2/17/2021
	[REDACTED]	2	POS	2/16/2021
<u>Ionia Middle School</u>	[REDACTED]			
	[REDACTED]	12	Contact	Last contact 2/15/2021

<u>Prison</u>	<u>Patient</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>POS vs Contact</u>	<u>Onset</u>
<u>Bellamy Creek</u>	[REDACTED]	Maintenance	POS	2/15/2021
	[REDACTED]	Counselor	POS	2/12/2021
	[REDACTED]	n/a	Contact	Last contact 2/15/2021
	[REDACTED]	n/a	Contact	Last contact 2/15/2021
	[REDACTED]	Maintenance	POS	2/16/2021

Earliest Return Date

2/27/2021

2/27/2021

2/28/2021

2/27/2021

3/2/2021

Earliest Return Date

2/26/2021

2/23/2021

3/2/2021

3/2/2021

2/27/2021

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Gaines, Rachelle
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 9:44 AM
To: Bowen, Ken
Cc: Germain, Amanda
Subject: RE: Michigan Freedom of Information Act request, Ionia County Health Department

Yes, I sure will.
Thank you.

Rachelle Gaines
Administrative Assistant
Ionia County
616-527-5300

From: Bowen, Ken
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 9:43 AM
To: Gaines, Rachelle
Cc: Germain, Amanda
Subject: FW: Michigan Freedom of Information Act request, Ionia County Health Department

Hello Rachelle – see below and attached. Can you have IT do a search? I will work on the other part.

From: Derek R. Kravitz <drk2134@columbia.edu>
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 9:07 AM
To: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: Michigan Freedom of Information Act request, Ionia County Health Department

We withdraw an earlier request for contact tracing notes. Attached is a more limited request for any emails related to Bellamy Creek and/or high-risk cases sent from MDHHS only since February 1.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Derek Kravitz
Columbia University's Brown Institute for Media Innovation
2950 Broadway
New York, NY 10027
Email: derek.kravitz@columbia.edu
Office: (347) 897-5827
Mobile: (573) 239-7440

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Nethercott, Tori
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 2:34 PM
To: Bowen, Ken
Subject: Priority Cases for 2/18/2021
Attachments: Priority Cases 2-18-2021.xlsx

Tori Nethercott BSN, RN
Ionia County Health Department
Communicable Diseases Nurse
Main Phone: 616-527-5341
Direct Line: 616-600-4870
Email Address: tnethercott@ioniacounty.org

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Derek R. Kravitz <drk2134@columbia.edu>
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 8:58 AM
To: Bowen, Ken
Subject: Re: Michigan Freedom of Information Act request, Ionia County Health Department

Understood. We'll withdraw this request entirely and do something more limited, for only recent emails related to Bellamy Creek.

On Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 8:52 AM Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org> wrote:
Hello - the attached form doesn't mean anything to me. I have not seen anything like it.

Our contact tracing is handled by the State and we only get high risk cases.

I'm not sure there will be much available. Any "notes" would be in the State database MDSS.

On Feb 18, 2021, at 8:32 AM, Derek R. Kravitz <drk2134@columbia.edu> wrote:

Hi Ken, I've attached a sample from Health District 10; I'm not sure how Ionia does it but many counties have volunteer contact tracers that refer high-risk or other issues up for enforcement or compliance. I'm happy to narrow the request down depending on what's available or collected.
Best, Derek

On Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 6:22 AM Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org> wrote:
Hello - please define "contact tracing notes."

This will likely include sensitive personal information and will require extensive redaction.

The cost in staff time is likely to exceed \$100 and we will not waive fees.

On Feb 17, 2021, at 8:31 PM, Derek R. Kravitz <drk2134@columbia.edu> wrote:

Please see the attached FOIA request and let me know if you have any questions.

--

Derek Kravitz
Columbia University's Brown Institute for Media Innovation
[2950 Broadway](#)
[New York, NY 10027](#)
Email: derek.kravitz@columbia.edu
Office: (347) 897-5827
Mobile: (573) 239-7440

<Michigan Freedom of Information Act request, Ionia County Health
Department.pdf>

<11-3 6PM DHD10 COVID19 Task Force Referrals.pdf>

<11-3 6PM DHD10 COVID19 Task Force Referrals.pdf>

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Eric Thelen <EThelen@ingham.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 8:17 AM
To: 'admin@malph.org'
Subject: FW: NEWS RELEASE: MDHHS Identifies 90 Cases of COVID Variant

Eric J. Thelen, MBA
Chief Financial Officer

5303 S. Cedar Street • Lansing, MI 48909
P: 517-887-4304 • C: 517-648-0649
E-Mail: ethelen@ingham.org



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From: Jodie Shaver <jshaver@malph.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 8:15 AM
To: mho <mho@malph.org>; board <board@malph.org>; forumchairs <forumchairs@malph.org>
Subject: FW: NEWS RELEASE: MDHHS Identifies 90 Cases of COVID Variant

Jodie Shaver, MPA, GMS
Member Services Director/Event Coordinator
Michigan Association For Local Public Health
P.O. Box 13276
Lansing, MI 48901
Office: 517-485-0660
Cell: 517-604-0101
Fax: 517-485-6412
www.malph.org

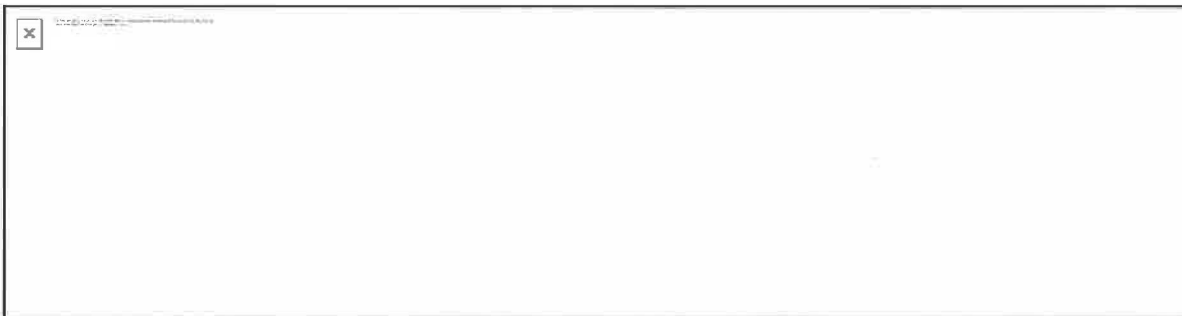


From: Michigan State Police <MichStatePolice@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 9:36 PM

To: Jodie Shaver <jshaver@malph.org>

Subject: NEWS RELEASE: MDHHS Identifies 90 Cases of COVID Variant



MDHHS Identifies 90 Cases of COVID Variant

IONIA, MICH. Results from the daily testing of prisoners and staff at the Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility, in Ionia, has resulted in the detection of 90 cases of the SARS-CoV-2, B.1.1.7 variant.

This testing occurred after an employee at the prison was found to have the variant and the Michigan Department of Corrections immediately began to test daily, all prisoners and staff.

Of the first set of samples provided to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Bureau of Laboratories, 90 of the 95 were found to have the variant. Of the 90, there were 88 prisoners and two employees. There are more than 100 lab results still pending.

This variant is believed to be more contagious compared to the SARS-CoV-2 virus, and as soon as it was detected in the prison, additional precautions were put in place, along with the daily testing.

Since the daily testing results have come in, the number of COVID-19 positive cases at the facility has been on the decline, which indicates the swift efforts undertaken to reduce the spread is working.

Based on available evidence, current tests and vaccines for COVID-19 also work against this new variant. Protective actions that prevent the spread of COVID-19 will also prevent the spread of the new variant, B.1.1.7.

Michiganders should:

- Wash hands often.
- Wear a mask around others.
- Stay 6 feet apart from others.
- Ventilate indoor spaces.
- Make a plan to get the vaccine when the opportunity becomes available.

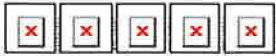
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Information around this outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus and CDC.gov/Coronavirus. To learn more about the COVID-19 vaccine, visit Michigan.gov/COVIDVaccine.

###

MEDIA CONTACT: [Chris Gautz](#), 517-256-3790

- [JIC News Release 435 - MDOC variant.pdf](#)



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This email was sent to jshaver@malph.org using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: Michigan State Police · P.O. Box 30634 · Lansing, MI 48909

Gaines, Rachelle

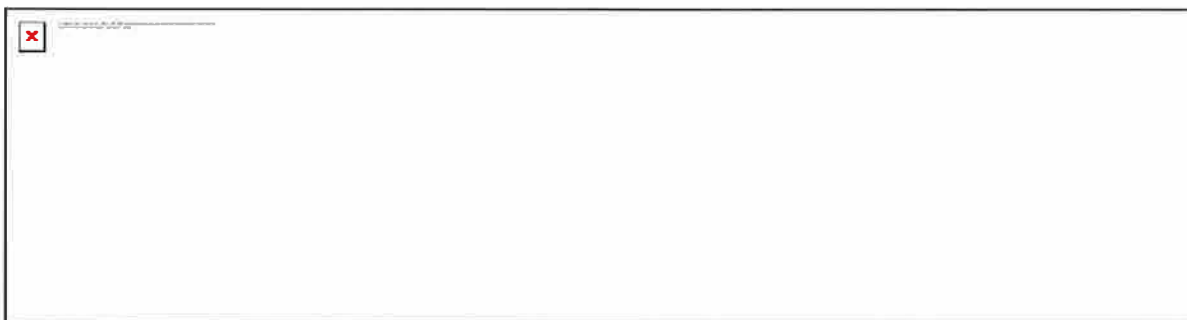
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P.O. Box 13276
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Office: 517-485-0660
Cell: 517-604-0101
Fax: 517-485-6412
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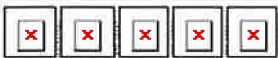
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MEDIA CONTACT: [Chris Gautz](mailto:Chris.Gautz@michigan.gov), 517-256-3790

- [JIC News Release 435 - MDOC variant.pdf](#)

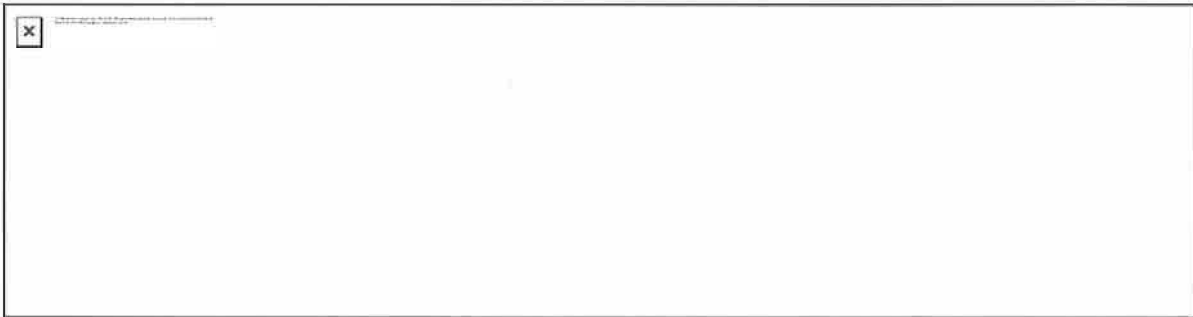


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Gaines, Rachelle

From: Mamou, Fatema (DHHS) <MamouF@michigan.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 9:41 PM
To: Bowen, Ken; Adenike Shoyinka
Subject: FW: NEWS RELEASE: MDHHS Identifies 90 Cases of COVID Variant

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This email was sent to mamouf@michigan.gov using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: Michigan State Police · P.O. Box 30634 · Lansing, MI 48909

Gaines, Rachelle

From: Brent Noskey <bnoskey@bas-k12.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 11:06 AM
To: Bowen, Ken
Subject: FW: covid

FYI



Belding Area Schools
The Right Size. The Right Choice.

Brent R. Noskey
Superintendent
Office: 616.794.4704 | Email: bnoskey@bas-k12.org
District Office: 850 Hall Street, Belding MI 48809
<http://www.bas-k12.org/>

From: Ross Hinkle <hinkler@bas-k12.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 10:58 AM
To: Bruce Cook <cookb@bas-k12.org>; Brent Noskey <bnoskey@bas-k12.org>
Subject: Fw: covid

FYI - from [REDACTED]

Ross

Ross M. Hinkle, CFO
Belding Area Schools
Executive Director of Finance & Operations
Office: 616.794.4707 | Email: hinkler@bas-k12.org
District Office: 850 Hall Street, Belding MI 48809
<http://www.bas-k12.org/>

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 10:55 AM
To: Ross Hinkle <hinkler@bas-k12.org>
Subject: Re: covid

Thank you so much! I took a test yesterday and if it's positive, I only have to quarantine for ten days rather than 24 days (4 additional days due to contracting it from the prison). I'll be sure to let you know what find out. Have a wonderful day!

[REDACTED]

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Ross Hinkle <hinkler@bas-k12.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 10:54:21 AM

To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: covid

We are all set from our office. We have switched the time in Willsub to COVID.

Thanks.

Ross

Ross M. Hinkle, CFO
Belding Area Schools
Executive Director of Finance & Operations
Office: 616.794.4707 | Email: hinkler@bas-k12.org
District Office: 850 Hall Street, Belding MI 48809
<http://www.bas-k12.org/>

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 4:05 PM
To: Ross Hinkle <hinkler@bas-k12.org>
Subject: covid

Good Afternoon, Ross.

My husband works for Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility in Ionia. He tested positive for COVID today (2/14). They tested him for the new variant as well, but we do not have those results yet. I have been instructed to quarantine for 20 days. I put my absence in as "sick day" per Bruce. He said you would be the one to change it to COVID leave. Please feel free to reach out with any questions you have.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
3rd Grade Teacher
Woodview Elementary
616-794-4765

Gaines, Rachelle

From: May, Christine
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 10:33 AM
To: Keefer, Aimee; Bowen, Ken; Brummette, Brittni; Nethercott, Tori; Brinks, Laura
Cc: Shaull-Norman, Peggy; Shaw, Chad
Subject: RE: COVID-19 Positive MDOC IBC Employees

Meeting please

Chris Simon May RN
Ionia County Health Department
Communicable Diseases
STD/HIV Clinic
Animal Bites/Exposures
Lead Poisoning
Ph: 616-527-5341 Ext. 295
Fax: 616-527-8208
Email: cmay@ioniacounty.org
<https://ioniacounty.org/health/health-department/>

From: Keefer, Aimee
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 10:31 AM
To: Bowen, Ken <kbowen@ioniacounty.org>; May, Christine <cmay@ioniacounty.org>; Brummette, Brittni <bbrummette@ioniacounty.org>; Nethercott, Tori <tnethercott@ioniacounty.org>; Brinks, Laura <lbrinks@ioniacounty.org>
Cc: Shaull-Norman, Peggy <psnorman@ioniacounty.org>; Shaw, Chad <cshaw@ioniacounty.org>
Subject: RE: COVID-19 Positive MDOC IBC Employees

PROBABLY WE DO....I AM NOT 100% CLEAR & THIS ALL SEEMS EXCESSIVE

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If there is anything I can do or relay up to MDHHS please let me know.

Thank you!
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CAUTION: This is an External email. Please send suspicious emails to abuse@michigan.gov

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Surveillance and Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section

Bureau of Epidemiology and Population Health, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Physical Address: Kent County Health Department, 700 Fuller Ave NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
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Gaines, Rachelle

From: Brent Noskey <bnoskey@bas-k12.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 6:56 AM
To: Bowen, Ken
Subject: FW: Covid

FYI



Brent R. Noskey | Superintendent
Office: 616.794.4700 | Email: bnoskey@bas-k12.org
District Office: 850 Hall Street, Belding MI 48809
<http://www.bas-k12.org/>

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 2:16 PM
To: Joe Barron <barronj@bas-k12.org>; Bruce Cook <cookb@bas-k12.org>; Brent Noskey <bnoskey@bas-k12.org>
Subject: Covid

Good Afternoon.

My husband works at Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility in Ionia and he tested positive today for COVID-19. They have to test for the B-117 strain still but I wanted to make you all aware that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] will not be in attendance for the 20 days they're required to quarantine.

Please reach out with any questions.

Thank you,
[REDACTED]

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