



AT YOUR SERVICE

NEWS FROM THE BERRIEN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

The Berrien County Health Department has been actively engaged in dealing with the rapidly evolving coronavirus outbreak first identified in Wuhan China in December 2019. Berrien County Health Department continues to work closely with the State of Michigan and our local health partners in the evaluation and when appropriate active monitoring of persons under investigation (PUI) which to date has been 5 individuals. As of 03-04-2020 there has not been any confirmed case of COVID-19 in Michigan.

Berrien County Health Department has also been:

1. Partnering with state and federal agencies for communication and guidance on COVID-19 to the public and healthcare professionals.
2. Participation with the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC), to coordinate with state, local and federal agencies to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 disease.
3. Coordinate with healthcare providers to determine the appropriate settings for evaluation and monitoring of PUI.
4. Maintaining communication with local medical providers and key community leaders to provide up to date information.
5. Continuing close cooperation and dialogue with local schools, colleges, and other organizations.

Preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

If you are sick stay home

- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Masks are NOT a good prevention tool for healthy people

If you are sick, masks can help prevent the spread of germs. Health care workers or others caring for sick people should also wear appropriate face masks.

The CDC website provides an exceptional resource for a variety of audiences including healthcare providers and the general public. www.cdc.gov/COVID-19

Local information is also readily available by following the Berrien County Health Department on social media.



@bchdmi



@berriencountyhealthdepartment

Berrien County Health Department (BCHD) Finds Possible Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure at a Local Piercing Facility

BCHD has identified unsafe and unsanitary piercing practices at a local body art facility, Paparazzi Tattoo & Body Piercing located in Niles, Michigan, that may have exposed former customers to the blood of other customers. BCHD has currently suspended the operating license for Paparazzi Tattoo & Body Piercing. As a precaution, customers who have ever received body piercings of their navel (belly button), tongue, nipples, genitals, and/or other surface or dermal piercings though February 2020 are recommended to receive blood tests for hepatitis B, hepatitis C, and HIV.

Individuals seeking testing are encouraged to visit their healthcare provider, but are also able to get tested at the Berrien County Health Department offices in Niles on Tuesdays and Thursdays or the Benton Harbor office on Mondays or Thursdays, if they do not have a primary care provider.

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