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Advisory

Wayne County Health Department Press Release – COVID-19

For Immediate Release: 2/17/2021 & 2/18/2021 – 7:00 pm

Wayne County Health Department has been notified of additional positive lab-confirmed PCR tested case(s), along with additional probable case(s) regarding Wayne County residents:

2- LAB CONFIRMED PCR REPORTED CASES

2-Male Children

2-ANTIGEN PROBABLE REPORTED CASES (w/o additional PCR testing) or symptomatic individuals w/ known exposure but w/o confirmatory PCR test

2-Female's in their 60's

To date on lab-confirmed positive PCR tested cases:

- There have been **1496 lab-confirmed positive cases** of COVID-19 reported in Wayne County.
- 51 people who were positive lab-confirmed cases passed away.
- 0 people are currently reported as being hospitalized.
- 20 people are currently isolating.

To date on antigen positive cases considered “probable” by IDPH and other reported probable cases:

- There have been **156 “probable” reported cases** of COVID-19 in Wayne County.
- 7 people are currently isolating along with being actively contact traced.

PLEASE NOTE: Wayne County currently has a number of probable cases that are already in process of contact tracing. “Probable case” may mean that they are a close contact of a lab confirmed positive Covid-19 person and may be exhibiting Covid-19 like symptoms, or a “probable case” could be someone who had a positive antigen test result without a confirmatory PCR test being completed. These are just two examples of what could qualify someone as a “probable case” by IDPH guidelines.

Wayne County Health Department continues to investigate each case ensuring the isolation of the positive/probable patient. In addition, Wayne County Health Department places close

contacts that have had exposure to the positive patient on quarantine for a minimum of 14 days. This would allow symptoms to develop and pass without posing risk to others. If you are contacted by public health officials, please respond promptly.

Close contacts may include individuals:

- Living in the same household as a sick person with COVID-19
- Caring for a sick person with COVID-19
- Being within six feet of a sick person with COVID-19 for about 15 minutes, OR
- Being in direct contact with secretions from a sick person with COVID-19 (e.g., being coughed on, kissing, sharing utensils or drinks, etc.)

As a precaution, if an individual has been tested for COVID-19, it's advised they self-quarantine until their test results are received. If the test result is positive, that person will then be contacted by the Wayne County Health Department.

The number of cases can be reduced by adhering to the Restore Illinois recommendations, including wearing a mask, washing hands frequently, disinfecting commonly touched surfaces, covering your cough and sneezes and maintaining social distancing of at least six feet from others.

The public is asked to follow and share trusted sources of information on COVID-19. The spread of incorrect information during disease outbreaks can lead people to take actions which may not be beneficial to their health or health of others. Refer to trusted sources such as our Facebook page, Illinois Department of Public Health, and the CDC. The Illinois Department of Public Health has established a 24-hour COVID-19 hotline 1-800-889-3931.