



LPA

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

UPDATES

Labs mentioned fourth bullet:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Intergovernmental Affairs

Please see the advisory below from our partners in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regarding an update on the Whole-of-America response to COVID-19.

April 17, 2020

FEMA Advisory

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic Whole-of-America Response

Attached you will find today's FEMA Daily Briefing Points for the Whole-of-America response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. These briefing points include Topline Messages, as well as Supply Chain Task Force; By the Numbers; FEMA and Department of Health and Human Services Response; and Guidance from Federal Agencies.

Topline messaging includes:

- FEMA, HHS, and our federal partners work with state, local, tribal and territorial governments to execute a whole-of-America response to COVID-19 pandemic and protect the health and safety of the American people.
- On April 16, President Trump released [Guidelines for Opening America Up Again](#), providing a plan for rolling back social distancing measures and reopening the country's economy in several phases, depending on location.
 - Under the guidelines, states will need to meet six metrics that include demonstrating a downward trajectory of COVID-19 cases over a 14-day period and a robust system for testing health care workers before they can proceed to a phased opening.
 - The guidelines were developed by top healthcare experts in government, including at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.
- Core state preparedness responsibilities include testing & contact tracing, healthcare system capacity, and plans.
 - State and local officials may need to tailor the application of these criteria to local circumstances (e.g., metropolitan areas that have suffered severe COVID-19 outbreaks, rural and suburban areas where outbreaks have not occurred or have been mild).
 - Where appropriate, governors can work on a regional basis to satisfy these criteria and to progress through the phases outlined.
- Governors will continue to manage the situation in each state and develop robust reopening plans, working in close coordination with medical experts and key industries.

- Fully assessing and leveraging the state's entire testing capacity will be important, including roadmap to all locations and types of testing available in the states, and the capacity of state and local labs, hospitals and universities, and private labs.
- A robust and strategic testing strategy should include a plan to immediately test individuals if there is an outbreak in a community with a focus on vulnerable populations.
- FEMA continues to expedite movement of commercially pre-sourced and commercially procured critical supplies from the global market to medical distributors in various locations across the U.S. through [Project Airbridge](#).

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FEMA Mission

To help people before, during, and after disasters.

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- [ESF15 DailyBriefingPoints 20200417 FINAL.pdf](#)

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April 17, 2020

Foreign governments hacking U.S. labs and hospitals fighting coronavirus, FBI official says [\(back\)](#)

By Eric Geller

Nation-state hackers are targeting and in some cases breaching health care organizations as they grapple with the coronavirus pandemic, with a particular focus on entities helping to fight the virus, an FBI official said today.

"We have certainly seen reconnaissance activity and some intrusions into some of those institutions, especially those that have publicly identified themselves as working on Covid-related research," Tonya Ugoretz, a deputy assistant director of the FBI's Cyber Division, said during an Aspen Institute webinar.

Foreign governments are interested in both how other countries are containing the virus within their borders and the progress they're making on broader solutions, said Ugoretz, who cited vaccine research as an example.

In addition to investigating the intrusions, she said, the FBI has been sharing as much threat information as possible to help organizations prevent breaches.

"When this pandemic started, we immediately did a scrub for everything that we could push out ... at the broadest possible level," Ugoretz said.

The Cyber Division's Mission Critical Engagement Unit is handling "targeted outreach" to specific victims, while other teams are liaising with sector-wide organizations and releasing public alerts.

The FBI wants hospitals, research labs and other health care organizations to "raise their defenses and be aware that they might be a target," said Ugoretz. "Because especially for our health-care institutions right now, that's probably not going to be top of mind."