

News Release

For immediate release: April 3, 2020

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Whitman County remains at 11 positive COVID-19 test results. All patients are stable and isolating at home.

Whitman County Public Health has completed contact tracing for all 11 positive cases. In the process of contact tracing, those identified as having “close contact” with the positive individual have been contacted with instructions.

Close contact, as defined by Washington State Department of Health includes:

- Living in the same household as a sick person with COVID-19
- Caring for a sick person with COVID-19
- Being within 6 feet of a sick person with COVID-19 for about 10 minutes, OR
- Being in direct contact with secretions from a sick person with COVID-19 (e.g., being coughed on, kissing, sharing utensils, etc.)

According to the Washington State Department of Health, if you have not been in close contact with a sick person with COVID-19, you are at low risk for infection. Those identified as close contacts are instructed to monitor health for fever, cough and shortness of breath while self-isolating during the 14 days after the last day they were in close contact with the sick person with COVID-19.

The best way to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 is to social distance at all times, remaining 6 feet away from people as often as possible.

The Whitman County Health Department regularly updates their Facebook page with helpful information regarding personal protection and the status of county health operations.

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