

**LDH Medical Staff
Address to Lake County Residents
RE: COVID - 19**

The Lake County Medical community's update on COVID – 19:

3/30/20

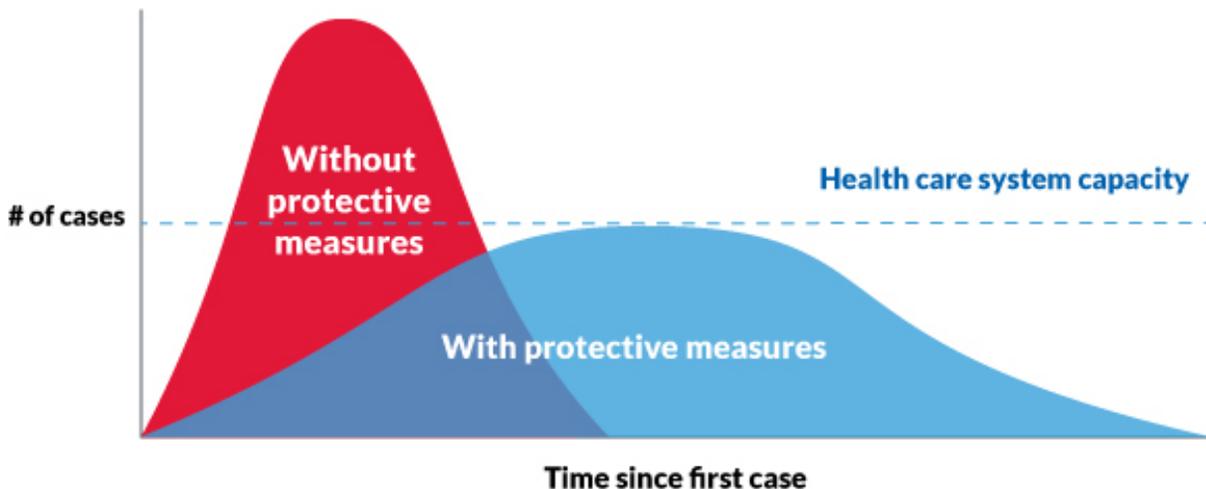
Thank you to all of our residents who continue to self-isolate in our time of crisis. Let us try to explain HOW important this is:

- To try and slow the spread of the COVID 19 virus healthcare providers have put into place numerous measures to include: closures of schools, closures of businesses, 6 feet of distance and many others. This is recommended to help “flatten the curve.”

What does it mean to “flatten the curve”?

“Flattening the Curve” means to slow the spread of disease so people don't get sick all at once and overwhelm the hospital. By slowing the spread of COVID-19, public officials can help spread out infections, so hospitals have enough room, staffing and equipment for all who need it at any one time.

This is why officials have asked people to practice physical distancing — to stay home as much as possible and to stay at least 6 feet apart.



If state officials lifted the range of measures they have taken to slow the spread of the new coronavirus, an estimated 15,000 Oregonians could be sickened by the virus by May 8, according to Forecasting Models released by the state.

Health officials say that Oregon is at a "critical moment" in fighting the virus, and that strict measures taken by the state to shut down nearly all public activities could dramatically limit the number of people sickened and requiring care in a hospital. By March 26, there were 316 known cases of the coronavirus in Oregon.

State health officials released projections, prepared by the Institute of Disease Modeling in Bellevue, Wash., of how many people could get sick under three scenarios:

1. Current measures cease: an estimated 15,000 people could be infected by May 8.
2. Stay at home order ceases, but school closures and bans on large public gatherings continue: an estimated 6,100 people could be infected by May 8
3. Aggressive measures continue: 1,000 people could be infected by May 8

Simply put, the figures above do not represent the number of people who would be sick on May 8, but the total number of people who could be sickened in the months, weeks and days leading up to May 8. The new virus, if left unchecked, could seriously overwhelm the state's hospital system.

Officials also released information about how many Oregonians severely sickened by the new coronavirus could require hospital care by May 8 under the three scenarios:

1. Current measures cease: An estimated 1,100 hospitalizations
2. Stay at home order ceases, but school closures and bans on large public gatherings continue: an estimated 340 hospitalizations
3. Aggressive measures continue: "only a small number of inpatient beds" could be required.

"These projections tell us the sacrifices Oregonians are making right now can help save lives," said Dr. Dean Sidelinger, the state epidemiologist. "At the same time, they paint a dark picture of what could happen if we don't all work together. We can't afford to drop our guard."

Another way to look at it: if we compare our situation to a forest fire, we have gained 20% control of that fire. But we have a long way to go and a lot of variables can influence how this fire burns. Put another way: if we continue with our current course we project containment in June. But if we let up at all we can project containment sometime in September or October at the earliest.