



206 West First Ave.
Hutchinson, Kansas 67501-5245
(620) 694-2929
Fax (620) 694-2928
www.renogov.org

Press Release

For Release: Immediately

From: Laurie Moody
Reno County Communications Specialist
620-694-2568 | laurie.moody@renogov.org

COVID-19 Testing Options in Reno County

Reno County, Kan.- August 12, 2021- The 14-day positive test rate in Reno County is currently 14.4% and active cases have increased to 220. Testing remains an integral part of combatting the spread of COVID-19. Testing is available through your local medical provider or at the free community site located at Simply Good Overstocks in South Hutchinson. Visit www.gogettested.com for scheduling information. KDHE's mobile vaccine and testing lab will also be in Hutchinson on August 18, 25 and September 1 at the Salvation Army-Food Pantry, 700 N. Walnut, from 8 am to 3 pm.

COVID-19 affects individuals in different ways and symptoms could appear 2 to 14 days after exposure. Symptoms may include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea.

The Reno County Collaborative has been meeting to discuss a common path for testing to treatment. When a provider performs a diagnostic test on a patient with symptoms of COVID-19, the provider can quickly determine if the patient is at high risk for complications. If the patient is deemed a candidate for Monoclonal Antibodies, they will be referred at the time of their appointment. If a resident is tested at a stand-alone site, the case investigator would be the first point of contact for the positive case and would work with the patient to assess risk factors which include being age 65 or older, 55 years or older with heart disease, hypertension, or a chronic respiratory disease, having a BMI above 35, chronic kidney disease, and diabetes. When one of those criteria is met, a more serious illness is possible, so the patient will be asked to seek medical treatment that may include Monoclonal Antibodies.

All individuals should be taking preventative measures such as vaccinating, maintaining a healthy weight, and keeping up with regular doctor appointments. Mitigation methods such as mask wearing, social distancing, and hand sanitizing are also strongly recommended.

The Health Department, at 209 W. Second, is accepting walk-ins for COVID-19 vaccines during their normal operating hours or visit <https://vaccinefinder.org> to find other availability. The vaccine is free to any Reno County resident, regardless of citizen status or insurance. For more information, visit www.renogov.org or call 620-694-2900.

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