

COVID-19

PAHO JAMAICA CO EOC - SITUATION REPORT #65

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS-COVID-2019 – 14 MAY 2020 (as at 6:00 p.m.)

HIGHLIGHTS

1. Jamaica:

- a. Confirmed cases: 509 (0 new)
 - i. 41 imported, 193 contacts of confirmed cases, 24 local cases-not epidemiologically linked, 250 under investigation, including 224 from a workplace cluster
 - ii. Sex: 204 M (40%) 305 F (60%)
 - iii. Age: Mean: 31 years / Median 26 years / Age range: 2 months – 87 years
- b. Deaths: 9 (on 18 March, 31 March, 1 April, 7 April, 14 April, 20 April, 22 April, 23 April and 3 May 2020)
- c. Recovered: 118
- d. Isolation: 423 (total)
 - i. Hospital: 36
 - ii. Transition facilities: 10
 - iii. National isolation facilities: 228
 - iv. Home: 149
- e. Samples tested: 7,780, of which 509 are positive, 7,213 negative and 58 pending
- f. Contacts: 3,722 (total), with 1,443 of these close contacts being followed
- g. Quarantine:
 - i. National Quarantine Facilities: 323
 - ii. Home quarantine: 1,668
 - iii. Community quarantine: Approximately 9,000 persons are quarantined in three (3) communities in the parish of St. Mary for 14 days, starting on 7 May 2020.

2. Bermuda:

- a. Confirmed cases: 122 (1 new)
 - i. 39 imported, 71 local transmission (known contact / source) 7 local transmission (unknown contact / source, 5 under investigation)
- b. Deaths: 9
- c. Recovered: 66
- d. Samples tested: 4,691, with 122 positive and 4,569 negative
- e. Quarantine (with public health supervision): 130
- f. A phased re-opening of Bermuda started as of 2 May 2020 – Phase 1: Limited Business (with curfew from 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.), Phase 2: Expansion of Services, Phase 3: Moving to Normal, Phase 4: New normal.

3. Cayman Islands:

- a. Confirmed cases: 93 (7 new), with 1 death reported
- b. Recovered: 54
- c. Samples tested: 5,342, with 93 positive
- d. There has been limited re-opening of some businesses and services as of 4 May 2020.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Jamaica, Bermuda and the Cayman Islands started preparedness for any possible introduction of the novel coronavirus – COVID-19 in early January 2020, immediately following identification of the novel coronavirus on 7 January 2020 in China.

The respective national level Committees / Councils continue to guide all sectors in the required preparedness and response actions.

ACTIONS TAKEN:

Jamaica:

- MOHW:

1. Three (3) communities in the parish of St. Mary have been quarantined for 14 days as of 7 May 2020.
2. One additional quarantine facility is being monitored as of 6 May 2020 to facilitate the controlled re-entry programme for returning Jamaicans.
3. A new application for self-monitoring by persons in isolation and quarantine was implemented by the MOHW.
4. Additional isolation facilities have been identified to accommodate approximately 300 persons outside of hospital
5. Interim guidelines for the management of pregnant women completed and circulated.
6. Continue contact tracing, testing and quarantine of MOHW workers who are contacts of a confirmed case at the MOHW Head Office.
7. Continue special containment measures for workers and contacts at identified Call Centres.
8. Further the planning and guidelines for lock-downs of parishes and possibly the country
9. Escalate the identification of cases and contacts, contact tracing, establishment of national quarantine and isolation facilities and installation of equipment and materials for case management.
10. Expand community engagement and risk communication for persons in home quarantine and isolation.

- PAHO:

1. Coordination, planning and monitoring
 - a. PAHO CO remains embedded in the MOHW EOC and provides 24-hour technical support and guidance, including to the twice daily EOC briefing meetings.
 - i. Focus was on the considerations of appropriate public health measures in the context of the controlled re-entry of nationals which started during the week.
 - b. PAHO CO convened a meeting with USAID and the MOHW to coordinate the activities for the COVID-19 response in keeping with the agreement, funded by USAID.
 - c. PAHO CO maintained the technical lead for health for the COVID-19 response within the UNCT and updated the UNCT Consolidated Response Matrix of Ministry, Departments and Agencies, Jamaica requests and the PAHO CO SPRP and budget.

- d. Amendment of the UN SG COVID-19 Response and Recovery MPTF proposal for Window 1 was completed and submitted to the RCO, based on feedback from the UN on the overall proposal.
2. Risk Communication and Community Engagement
 - a. A Health Care Heroes video was produced by the PAHO CO and shared with the MOHW to support the International Nurses Day programme on 12 May 2020.
 - b. The Mental Health literacy in schools programme in the context of COVID-19 has started with approval from the Ministry of Education.
 - c. The PAHO JAM CO provided the PAHO video on coping with stress and mental well-being during isolation and quarantine to the MOHW for use in their public education programme.
3. Surveillance, Rapid Response Teams and Case Investigation
 - a. PAHO CO collaborated with the MOHW in the training of field teams in the use of Go.Data and provided 25 tablets which expanded the reach for contact tracing within communities during the week.
4. Points of Entry
 - a. PAHO CO collaborated with the IHR NFP, Jamaica to facilitate the selection of the Designated airport and Contingent Designated airport for retrofitting of a quarantine / isolation facility, with one airport to be funded by USAID through their agreement with PAHO and MOHW.
5. National Laboratory
 - a. PAHO CO handed-over test kits and extraction kits to Dr. Michelle Hamilton, Director, National Laboratory Services (NLS), MOHW for use by the National Influenza Centre during the week.



- b. PAHO CO provided technical guidance to the MOHW on 6 May 2020 on the invitation by PAHO for Jamaica to participate in the establishment of COVID-19 genomic surveillance, with the provision of shipping and other documents for the total of 10 samples from the NIC and NPHL.
- c. PAHO CO hosted a meeting on 8 May 2020 with the CMO, Jamaica, Director, NIC, Director, NLS, MOHW and the virologists, PHE, WDC to review the testing protocols for SARS-CoV-2 at the NIC. Updated guidance was requested from PAHO, WDC on the use of the E-gene assay only for confirmation of the virus.

6. Infection prevention and control
 - a. PAHO CO will start a new round of training for IPC in collaboration with the MOHW in health care settings islandwide. The programme was finalized and will be implemented once scheduling is completed in the coming week.
7. Case management
 - a. PAHO material on EMTs was shared with MOHW counterparts, including on Selection of Alternative Medical Care Sites on 5 May 2020.
 - b. PAHO CO continues its collaboration with MOHW counterparts on the re-organization of health services to ensure required capacity for isolation beds, including for mechanical ventilation in High dependency Units and ICUs.
8. Resource mobilization
 - a. Implementation of funded COVID-19 response programmes is on track, including procurement activities.
 - b. The PAHO CO SPRP 9-pillar plan and budget were uploaded on the WHO COVID-19 Partners Platform on 21 April 2020.
9. Research
 - a. Maintain membership on the Essential National Health Research Committee and provide support to formulate the research agenda for COVID-19, including for early investigations

NEEDS

1. Jamaica
 - a. PPEs, laboratory supplies, equipment and supplies for isolation and quarantine facilities, wards and rooms
2. Bermuda: Information was requested on the procurement of pharmaceuticals.
3. Cayman Islands: No needs identified at this time.