

**3pm Regional COVID- 19 Call
12/19/2022**

Dashboards:

1. Tracie reviewed current dashboard numbers: see attached
2. COVID-19 community level impact is low.
3. Since the start of the pandemic:
 - a. over half a million reported COVID19 cases;
 - b. almost 15,000 hospitalizations; and
 - c. over 3,000 deaths
4. Rolling 7 day average:
 - a. 249 reported cases;
 - b. 15 hospitalizations; and
 - c. 2 deaths
5. Reviewed Annual EMS incidents by week showing trends since 2018
 - a. Data is updated through 12/19
 - b. Cumulative trend shows 2022 with the most incidents over prior years
6. Reviewed heat map of COVID19 EMS incidents for confirmed and probably COVID19 patients by response areas and zone areas.
 - a. Highest concentration is Seattle and Zone 3
7. Reported influenza and other respiratory pathogens trends as of 12/14 are elevated.
 - a. Last week in November there was a spike in flu and RSV.
 - b. Infection data is inclusive of Seattle and all of King County
8. Drs Rea and Sayre discussed fatal drug overdose incidents.
 - a. See link: <https://kingcounty.gov/depts/health/overdose-prevention/data.aspx>
 - b. Data doesn't include incidents that fire crews respond to
 - c. Of note, half of drug deaths had methamphetamine in their system which is a concern for care givers.
 - d. Dr Rea: 13k deaths annually. Of that 8% is due to drug deaths.
 - i. Compared to a decade ago, drug deaths made up 1% of total deaths.
 - ii. It is a challenge nationally, not just regionally
 - e. Masking: Following the guidance of Dr Duchin, recommend masking indoors particularly if an area is not well ventilated.
 - i. It safeguards against flu, COVID and other respiratory viruses.
9. Michele discussed the forming of an advocacy group to tackle hospital capacity issues in the hope of working with state legislators with a viable solution.
10. Tracie asked the group about maintaining dashboards as this is the last 3pm regional call.

Michele reminded everyone there is no further 3pm regional call on the calendar.

Wrapped up in retrospect the shared journey COVID19 created that prompted this group effort since February 2020 to present day.

Many thanks all around.

Closed with gratitude wishing a Happy Holiday and hopeful New Year.

Agnes Goldingay

Secretary | King County Fire Chiefs' Association

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