



Press Release

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Traveler Tests Positive for COVID-19 in Kotzebue

July 20, 2020 – An individual who was escorting a patient on a medical-related visit to Anchorage tested positive for COVID-19 at the Kotzebue airport. The patient who was being escorted tested negative. Although the person who tested positive was ultimately village-bound, they were not able to complete their trip due to the airport testing result. Both the person who tested positive and the patient who was being escorted are in strict quarantine in Kotzebue. The individual's residence is located outside of the Northwest Arctic Borough so will not be included in the region's case count.

Maniilaq Public Health Nursing will be working with the State to conduct contact tracing and reaching out to anyone who may have come into significant contact with the individual. In the meantime, the individual will continue to be quarantined, monitored for symptoms and retested per Maniilaq's policies & procedures.

Maniilaq encourages residents to practice social distancing, wash your hands frequently, avoid large gatherings, and wear masks in public spaces. It is recommended that residents avoid non-essential travel, including inter-village travel.

If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19 and develop a fever and symptoms, such as a dry cough or difficulty breathing, call your healthcare provider for medical advice or call Maniilaq's COVID-19 Hotline at 833-442-7015. The following symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle pain or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

For the latest COVID-19 information visit our website at www.maniilaq.org/covid-19

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Kotzebue Qikiqtaruk, Ambler Ivisaappaat, Buckland Nunatchiaq, Deering Ipnatchiaq, Kiana Katyaak, Kivalina Kivaliniq, Kobuk Laugviik, Noatak Nautaaq, Noorvik Nuurvik, Point Hope Tikigaq, Selawik Akuligaq, Shungnak Isinnaq