

COVID-Tues 1

MEH

1/05 (Tues PM & Wed AM)

The pandemic continues worsening in Arkansas. KUAR's Michael Hibblen has the latest from the state officials:

News15 2:23

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Arkansas reported just over 41-hundred new cases today (Tues) of people testing positive for the coronavirus. There were also 36 additional deaths – 27 confirmed with COVID along with nine probable deaths. 27 new hospitalizations pushed the state to another record high. During the governor's weekly press briefing, UAMS Chancellor Dr. Cam Patterson said hospitals are dealing with the rising number of patients as best they can.

News16 0:20 "...of the vaccine."

But many people have safety concerns about the vaccines. Patterson said a survey of about 4,000 UAMS employees found 30 percent were reluctant to get vaccinated. He offered assurances that of the thousands who have been vaccinated, less than two dozen had any kind of complication, and those were all mild. Governor Asa Hutchinson said getting health care workers vaccinated has gone well, but providing the vaccines to the residents and staff of long-term care facilities has been more challenging.

News17 0:16 "...people very quickly."

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports of the 134-thousand doses of vaccines received by the state, about 37-thousand have been administered. Meanwhile preparations are being made for the second and third groups of people who will be vaccinated in the coming months.

COVID-Tues 2A & 2B

MEH

1/05

Arkansas hospitals continue struggling to deal with a growing number of people needing treatment for COVID-19. Today (Tues) the state reported 27 people seeking treatment pushed the total to another record high of 1,323. There were also 36 additional deaths, along with just over 41-hundred new cases of people testing positive for the virus. During the governor's weekly press briefing, Health Secretary said things will only get worse.

News18 0:26 "...see significant numbers."

Meanwhile UAMS Chancellor Dr. Cam Patterson said he's concerned the hesitation of many to get vaccinated. A survey of about 4,000 UAMS employees found 30 percent reluctant to get a vaccine because of concerns about adverse reactions.

News19 0:24 "...any adverse consequences."

Currently about 180-thousand frontline health care workers and residents and staff and long-term care facilities are being vaccinated. Governor Asa Hutchinson detailed plans for a second group – including teachers, firefighters and police – who will be part of the vaccinated starting February 1st.