

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 08/18/20

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RAVALLI COUNTY COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

Hamilton, Mont. – As of 3pm today, Ravalli County Public Health has received **two new cases of COVID-19. Ravalli County currently has five active cases of COVID-19.**

- The two new cases are a male in his seventies and a female in her twenties.
- One active case remains hospitalized.
- Public Health nurses continue to release active cases from isolation once they recover from symptoms. Direct contacts are released from quarantine as they complete their 14-day period without symptoms of COVID-19.

Public Health recommends the following actions if you or a family member were to develop symptoms of COVID-19.

- If you have symptoms of COVID-19:
 1. Stay home and avoid being around people.
 2. Call your provider.
- The Public Health Department only coordinates COVID-19 testing when it is related to an active case exposure.
 1. Your provider should always be your first call when you have symptoms. All questions related to an individual's symptoms should be directed to your provider.
 2. It is important not to overwhelm our hospital system by visiting at the onset of symptoms.
 3. If you or a family member have contracted COVID-19, is important to not risk exposing others by going directly to the hospital.
 4. **Visits to the hospital** should be limited to **emergency situations** and/or based on the **recommendations of your medical provider.**
- As the Influenza season inches closer, it is important for the community to direct their individual symptom inquiries to their providers. Evaluation by your provider is the best practice for personal medical care.
- Public Health continues to field calls about basic COVID-19 information and is happy to provide other resources to help further the community's understanding of this virus.

If you have any questions regarding COVID-19, please call: (406) 375-6672.

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