



## COVID-19 Update, 5\5

May 5, 2020 | [ARKMED.org/covid19](https://www.arkmed.org/covid19)

### Status Update as of 5\5, from ADH Website:

[View the ADH COVID-19 Dashboard here.](#)

It will be updated four times a day.

- Confirmed cumulative cases in Arkansas - 3496
- Active cases - 1364
- Recovered patients - 2049
- Deaths - 83
- Patients in the hospital - 89
- Patients on ventilators - 16
- Healthcare workers - This information was not released today.

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### Elective Surgery Revisit

In Monday's COVID-19 Update, a section was included to clarify that certain urgent procedures were not considered "elective" for purposes of meeting the 48-hour testing rule. The following statement was included, "Physicians should exercise judgment in considering whether or not testing should be done, even though the results might not come back until after the procedure." Further clarification appears to be in order.

The statement applies only to "non-elective" procedures that do not require testing and if postponed could lead to more severe problems or harm for the patient. Obviously if the patient has any COVID-19 symptoms, exercising judgement would indicate the need to test. Some facilities may soon be routinely testing asymptomatic patients as well. If at all possible, it would be prudent to wait for results. However, in some cases the urgency of the procedure might very well preclude postponing. In that event, if a positive test comes back post-procedure, you would then manage the virus.

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### Arkansas Department of Health Launches Free N95 Decontamination Program

Over the past few weeks, the Arkansas Department of Health has been working with State and Federal departments, industry partners, and healthcare facilities to bring the Battelle Critical Care Decontamination System™ to Arkansas. This is a self-contained, mobile decontamination

system that uses vapor phase hydrogen peroxide (VPHP) to decontaminate N95 respirator masks. [Read the ADH announcement here.](#)

For more information, read the [Fact Sheet](#) or [How It Works Guide](#).

### PPE



If your clinic does not have PPE and is unable to obtain what you need from your normal supplier, [complete the online form](#).

### Telemedicine



View the latest information from insurance carriers, HIPAA, and other sources on telemedicine during the COVID-19 crisis at [ARKMED.org/telemedicine](https://www.arkmed.org/telemedicine)

### Financial Resources



We've compiled all of the financial resources that you may need for your clinic or practice during the COVID-19 crisis at <https://www.arkmed.org/financial-assistance-during-covid-19/>.

[Join our COVID-19 Mailing List](#)

## Got Questions? Let Us Help.

The Arkansas Medical Society is here to serve our physician members and their medical teams. On our website, we have a place that you can send us questions or share what you're experiencing. Visit [ARKMED.org/covid19](https://www.arkmed.org/covid19) and click on the Got Questions box. We will respond to your question as soon as possible. Thank you for your hard work and together we will make it through this crisis.

For more AMS COVID-19 Resources, visit [ARKMED.org/covid19](https://www.arkmed.org/covid19).

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