

District Health Department No. 4



For Immediate Release
Date: July 30, 2021

COVID-19 Delta Variant Identified in Alpena County

The District Health Department No. 4 (DHD4) has been notified by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) of an unvaccinated female identified with the Delta variant (B.1.617.2) of COVID-19 in Alpena County.

Only a small percentage of COVID-19 positive test samples are sent on for genetic sequencing to identify any variant strains. Therefore, it is likely there are more unidentified cases of the delta variant in Alpena County. Since Monday, the DHD4 jurisdiction has seen an increase of 49 new COVID-19 cases; 34 in Alpena County alone.

“The Delta variant is more contagious and by the time it has been identified, an infected individual(s) may have already exposed many more people”, said Dr. Joshua Meyerson, DHD4 Medical Director. Meyerson continued, “Vaccination is more important than ever. The COVID-19 vaccines show effectiveness against variants and reduce the risk of serious illness that lead to hospitalization or death.”

Continue practicing mitigation strategies to protect yourself and others from COVID-19 and variants, including delta. These strategies include:

- Getting the COVID-19 vaccine
- Wearing a mask around others in crowded indoor or outdoor areas, especially in counties with substantial and high community transmission
- Staying six feet apart from others
- Washing hands often
- Staying home when you feel ill. Get tested if you have symptoms
- Ventilating indoor spaces

COVID-19 vaccines are offered at DHD4 and locations throughout the County. To find a vaccine clinic near you, visit www.dhd4.org/covid19vaccine or www.vaccines.gov.

www.dhd4.org

###

Alpena County
100 Woods Circle
Suite 200
Alpena, MI 49707
(989) 356-4507
Fax (989) 356-3529
1-800-221-0294

Cheboygan County
Doris E. Reid Center
825 S. Huron St.
Suite 1
Cheboygan, MI 49721
(231) 627-8850
Fax (231) 627-9466

Montmorency County
P.O. Box 183
12519 State St.
Atlanta, MI 49709
(989) 785-4428
Fax (989) 785-2217

Presque Isle County
106 E. Huron St.
Suite A
Rogers City, MI 49779
(989) 734-4723
Fax (989) 734-3866