

Press Release

Contact: Tim Rowe, Public Information Officer

Phone: 907.852.9264

E-mail: timothy.rowe@arcticslope.org

5 Individuals Test Positive for COVID-19 Saturday Vaccine Clinic: October 8th

September 28, 2022 - Utqiagvik, Alaska: (New cases) As of 12pm today, the Arctic Slope Native Association (ASNA) was notified that five (5) Utqiagvik residents have tested positive for COVID-19. **Individuals waiting for test results or have tested positive on a home test kit, please self-isolate.**

(Recovered cases) No (0) individuals have met the Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines and have been released from isolation.

(Active cases) Nine (9) active cases in the ASNA health care service area, including non-residents.

Atkasuk - 0

Nuiqsut - 0

Utqiagvik - 9

Kaktovik - 0

Point Lay - 0

Wainwright - 0

(Hospitalizations & Deaths) Due to COVID-19, there are no (0) hospitalizations at Samuel Simmonds Memorial Hospital (SSMH). SSMH has a cumulative total of one hundred (100) hospitalizations. The North Slope Borough has a cumulative total of thirteen (13) residents who have passed away.

(Cumulative total) The North Slope Borough (NSB) has a cumulative total of four thousand three hundred ninety-five (4,395) resident cases to date.

COVID-19 vaccine walk-ins or appointments are available, please call the **SSMH Appointment Line at (907) 852-9380**. SSMH will host a Saturday COVID-19 vaccine clinic on October 8. The vaccine has no out-of-pocket costs. SSMH staff are also offering the vaccine in the village clinics. Questions? Please e-mail covidvac-cine@arcticslope.org.

SSMH is committed to providing community testing. Testing will now include Influenza-A, Influenza-B, COVID-19 and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) diagnoses. Hours of operation: Fridays, 4pm – 6pm, and Saturdays to Thursdays, 1pm – 6pm at the old NSB Transit Station facility at 1710 Ahkovak Street, located near the airport. Tests acquired at SSMH or the testing center are available with no out-of-pocket costs.

The following symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure:

- Cough
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Fever
- Sore throat
- Loss of smell or taste
- Body aches
- Sneezing/Runny nose
- Stomach ache

SSMH activated its incident command structure on March 16, 2020 to manage the COVID-19 pandemic in the region. SSMH is communicating with regional entities.

Please continue to follow the CDC recommendations against COVID-19. More information on protecting yourself can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov>.

###