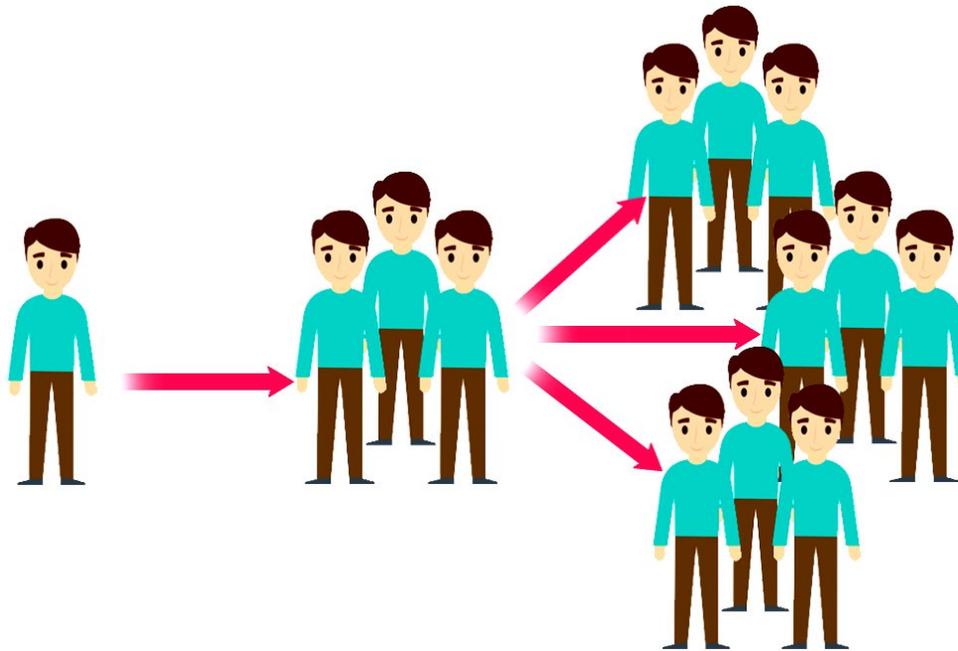


PANDEMIC FYI

TN Dept of Health updates a case count in every county daily at 2 pm. Keep in mind, as I mentioned in my Q&A, there are WAY more cases than are being reported for the following reasons:

- 1.) Just like the toilet paper shelves at Walmart, medical supplies are also VERY limited at this time. There simply are not enough COVID-19 tests available to test every symptomatic patient. At this time, the criteria to test at our clinics is very restrictive due to lack of supplies. Literally EVERYTHING is on back order--gloves, masks, test kits, cleaning wipes, etc.
- 2.) The COVID-19 tests take 3-5 days to result. However, Labcorp is so backed up right now due to a tremendous influx of labs, we are not receiving COVID-19 test results for up to 7-10 days. The patients are likely NOT listening to our instruction to self quarantine for 2 weeks because, let's be honest, many people are being very dumb about this virus and simply just don't realize the impact their decisions are making. Again, that is why we have asked you to STAY HOME. These people are out in the community, and their asymptomatic family members (people with NO symptoms) likely already have the virus, they just don't know it yet. Every time they choose to leave their home and go out in public, they are potentially infecting everyone they come into contact with.
- 3.) We (the facilities who are testing) are the first to see these results from the lab. Then we have to report this to the health dept. Then the health dept gathers that information and updates the website daily. But remember, the website is potentially days to a week behind the ACTUAL case count because it is taking so long for us to get results back.

So, with that being said, the TN Dept of Health cases will continue to double and triple, slowly at first, then very quickly. That is what a pandemic does. Please see the illustration below.



As you can see, day 1, 1 person is infected, if he/she only infect 3 others, and then those 3 only infect 3 more EACH, we've gone from 1 infected person to 13 people are now infected. You can see that if this continues, the numbers more than double overnight; and as the number of cases climb, the number of new cases begins to grow EXTREMELY fast. NOT to mention, if we suspect a positive, yet the entire family is sick, we are ONLY testing ONE family member to save supplies. So potentially 1 confirmed case may actually be 4-6 depending on how many people live in the home.

Be smart, stay safe, spread love and kindness instead of germs.

Thanks,
Brittany Hart, FNP-BC