

## DELTA VARIANT OF COVID-19 IDENTIFIED IN CRAWFORD COUNTY

July 19, 2021 – An individual with a history of international travel was recently identified as having the Delta (B.1.617.2) variant of COVID-19 in Crawford County as of 7/19/2021. The individual reported having one dose of a two-dose series of the COVID-19 vaccine and was tested for COVID-19 on 7/5/2021.

At this time, District Health Department #10 (DHD#10) is urging individuals to continue to take precautions against COVID-19, especially as new variants of the virus that causes COVID-19 continue to become more prevalent. **These important precautions include:**

- Get vaccinated for COVID-19 when available and eligible. For the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, this means receiving **both** doses for the vaccine to be fully effective.
- Wear a mask around others if not vaccinated.
- Stay six feet apart from others if not vaccinated.
- Wash hands often.
- Ventilate indoor spaces.

The Delta variant was first identified in India and resulted from mutations to the SARS-CoV-2 virus, the virus that causes COVID-19. According to CDC, early findings show that the Delta variant may be associated with an increased risk of death, but more research needs to be done. Research also shows that the Delta variant may be significantly more transmissible than other variants. At this time, there is some evidence that vaccines remain effective against the Delta variant.

The first Michigan case of the Delta variant was identified in Ottawa County in June. Several other cases have been identified in Michigan since the first case was announced. Only a small percentage of COVID-19 tests are sequenced to identify the variant strain. In addition, it takes additional time to perform the genetic sequencing. Therefore, it is likely that there are additional unidentified cases of the Delta variant in the DHD#10 ten-county jurisdiction at this time.

DHD#10 continues to distribute the COVID-19 vaccine to eligible individuals. To schedule a COVID-19 vaccination appointment, go to [www.dhd10.org/schedule](http://www.dhd10.org/schedule). For more information on the COVID-19 vaccine, go to [www.dhd10.org/covid-19-vaccine](http://www.dhd10.org/covid-19-vaccine). To stay up to date on the latest information, sign up for Public Health Alerts at [www.dhd10.org/subscribe](http://www.dhd10.org/subscribe).

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### COUNTIES SERVED:

Crawford  
Kalkaska  
Lake  
Manistee  
Mason  
Mecosta  
Missaukee  
Newaygo  
Oceana  
Wexford



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