

Primary Contact

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COVID-19 Health Advisory for Coronors and Funeral Homes

Benton-Franklin Health District is closely monitoring an outbreak of respiratory illness caused by a novel (new) coronavirus (named SARS-CoV-2); COVID-19.

If you encounter a decedent that exhibited signs and symptoms indicative of a COVID-19 infection, the Health Officer may want to arrange for testing. Collect as much health history as possible and contact the health district at 509-539-0416 to discuss specimen collection. The decision to test will be determined on a case by case basis.

Below is a link to CDC's Guidance for Collection and Submission of Postmortem Specimens from Deceased Persons Under Investigation for COVID-19, February 2020.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-postmortem-specimens.html>