



MEMBERS

Alzheimer's Association
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
American Heart Association
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas
Children's Hospital Association of Texas
The Cooper Institute
Harris County Public Health
The Immunization Partnership
March of Dimes
Methodist Healthcare Ministries
Nurse-Family Partnership
Texas Academy of Family Physicians
Texas Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
Texas Academy of Physician Assistants
Texas Association of City & County Health Officials
Texas Association of Community Health Centers
Texas Chapter of the American College of Physicians
Texas eHealth Alliance
Texas Health Institute
Texas Hospital Association
Texas Medical Association
Texas Nurses Association
Texas Oral Health Coalition, Inc.
Texas Osteopathic Medical Association
Texas Pediatric Society
Texas Physicians for Social Responsibility
Texas Public Health Association
Texas Renal Coalition
Texas School Nurses Organization
Texas State Alliance of YMCAs
United Ways of Texas

RESOURCES

Bexar County Medical Society
Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas
Harris County Public Health
MD Anderson Cancer Center
Michael and Susan Dell Center For Healthy Living
Partnership for a Healthy Texas
Travis County Medical Society
Texas Department of State Health Services

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The Texas Public Health Coalition is a coalition of health professional organizations and health-focused organizations dedicated to disease prevention and health promotion.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2020

Governor is Right to Call for Gradual, Science-Based Approach to Reopen Texas Economy

In response to Gov. Greg Abbott's remarks regarding plans to reopen the Texas economy, John Carlo, MD, chair of the Texas Public Health Coalition, issued the following statement:

"The Texas Public Health Coalition stands by Governor Abbott in calling for a gradual approach to reopening the Texas economy based on public health and the latest science. While early indications are that Texas may be flattening the curve, community transmission of COVID-19 is still occurring, and the ultimate course the virus will run in Texas is far from certain.

"It is important to remember very few of Texas' 29 million residents have immunity to COVID-19, and most remain susceptible to infection. Resuming economic activity too quickly could reestablish conditions that ignite rapid viral spread. A second wave of infections could again threaten to overwhelm health care resources and reinterrupt business activity at great cost to the state and its citizens.

"Returning to business as usual is everyone's preference. However, for Texans to return to work and school safely, certain conditions must be met. These include immediate scaling up of COVID-19 testing so that all cases in Texas can be quickly identified, enhancing local public health capacity for contact tracing, providing adequate personal protective equipment for health care workers in all practice settings, and documenting continued declines in new cases so that hospitals do not become overwhelmed.

"By following public health recommendations so far, state and local elected officials have already saved lives. Any decisions to relax current restrictions and reopen the economy should continue to be guided by sound public health science and made with the state's top public health experts at the table.

"The Texas Public Health Coalition stands ready to assist Governor Abbott and his administration in preparing safe plans to reopen the Texas economy."

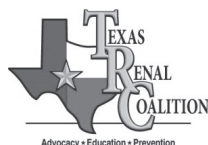
John Carlo, MD
Chair, Texas Public Health Coalition

TEXAS PUBLIC HEALTH COALITION

2019 Texas Public Health Coalition Member Organizations



www.texaspha.org



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Harris County Public Health

MD Anderson Cancer Center
Michael and Susan Dell Center for Healthy Living,
UT School of Public Health in Austin

Partnership for a Healthy Texas
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Texas Department of State Health Services