No New Positive Cases from Pooled Testing Results

Oct. 18, 2020

Dear Campus Community,

This week's pooled surveillance testing of 897 samples for COVID-19 yielded no new positive cases, but confirmed a positive on-campus student who has already been identified. This individual was the positive case reported to campus Thursday.

With no new positive cases in the most recent pool testing or otherwise reported, our total number of cases remains at nine over the past week and 11 total since mid-August.

One of the student pools tested indicated a possible case but the results were very weak. The 12 individual swab samples were retested (reflex tested) by Upstate Medical but were still indeterminate. Accordingly, as a precaution the 12 students in that pool have been directed to quarantine. They will now be administered individual COVID-19 tests as a further screening tool.

We respect the privacy of these students and will support them. If you are aware, please also respect their privacy.

With the aggressive contact tracing through the county health department and following their standards, 87 students are in quarantine (48 on-campus and 39 off-campus). This includes the 12 students mentioned above.

Additionally, seven total students are in precautionary isolation having tested negative with rapid tests but awaiting back-up PCR test results.

Faculty and staff are also supporting students as quarantine buddies, checking in, providing a connection and meeting needs they may have. If you would like to assist in this way, please contact Dr. Michele Carpentier at carpenmm@plattsburgh.edu.

Continuing to follow health and safety protocols such as face coverings and social distancing remains critical. Pooled testing will continue this week.

Dr. Alexander Enyedi
President