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Grand Traverse County positive COVID-19 cases reach five

There have been two additional positive COVID-19 cases of Grand Traverse County residents reported to the Grand Traverse County Health Department.

The first case is a male, in his 60s with a history of international travel, who is currently hospitalized. His international travel was prior to being infectious. The second case is a male, in his 40s, with no history of travel, but did have exposure to a positive COVID-19 case. He is self-quarantined at home. After completing thorough case investigations, known contacts have been identified and contacted by the health department.

This brings the total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Grand Traverse County to five. All cases are being monitored daily by the health department.

"With the increase of cases in our county to five, the possibility for community transmission now becomes more likely. In the absence of vaccines and antivirals during a pandemic, public health's best defense is social distancing. Now, more than ever, people need to settle in and stay safe at home. The next two weeks will be important in the control of this virus and transmission we see in our county. For every day that you participate and do your part, you are buying time for our healthcare system to stay ahead of this. Ignoring the Executive Orders and directives will not only hurt our chances to stay ahead of the curve, but will most likely lessen your chances for critical care should you become ill," said Wendy Hirschenberger, Grand Traverse County Health Department's Health Officer.

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