

Rayanna Monae Lefear

Professor Phelps

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KNPR “State of Nevada” Summary

After listening to the radio station KNPR it opened my eyes to a lot of current news that is going on in the state of Nevada. The guest on the show was a young lady known as Christina Madison. She is a pharmacy professor at Roseman university and former president of the Nevada Public Health Association. Their main topic was something a lot of people were talking about today. They were talking about the worldwide public health crisis known as the coronavirus, they actual named for the virus is COVID-19. This is a virus that started in China but spread worldwide and eventually reached Las Vegas.

The radio station’s main focus was about the funding of getting tested and treated for the virus. Everyone is scared about catching the virus, but most people don’t have the funds to get tested. They stated that the governor wanted to limit the cost of getting tested. He does not want anyone to pay beyond what your copay is and nothing beyond what your deductible would be. The governor is proposing this because he doesn’t want people to be in fear of getting tested or seeking medical attention because they might receive a surprise bill that they cannot pay because they cannot afford it. the governor is also suggesting that people who feel as if they have the virus should go on a 14-day quarantine period to ensure that the virus does not spread.

The coronavirus is still in its beginning stages, because of that scientist have yet to find a cure to the virus. On Friday March 6, 2020, President Donald trump signed a \$8 billion coronavirus funding bill. This \$8 billion bill puts more money toward treating and preventing the spread of the coronavirus. To go more in depth, it went towards vaccine and treatment development, it went towards testing kits, and it went towards protection equipment for health care workers. Part of that funding went towards telemedicine and telehealth. President trump announced that there are enough testing kits and if you need to get tested that there are more than enough tests available to be tested. But on the radio Christina Madison stated that there is not enough test to be given out to everyone. So, they are choosing the people who they believe to be the sickest to take the tests. But there are some private companies who will be able to start testing people for the virus. Such as Quest and Lab Core. Christina is asking everyone to call your primary care doctor before going into the hospital to get tested, because in most cases people just think they have the virus rather than having the common cold of the flu.

The coronavirus has really started to spread in Nevada. There was 4 people in Nevada who tested positive for the virus. They have been held in population centers between Reno and Las Vegas. In addition to that 40 Nevadans who were on a cruise with someone who died from the virus has been held by state health officials being administered tests. While on air, Dr. Len Crisler called in and argued that the tests are not accurate. Meaning that taking the test would be very pointless. He said this because when they take a test, they say that its probational and then the CDC runs further testing. Another problem with the coronavirus is the mortality rate. Nevada State Public Health Laboratory isn't sure if the virus is more serious than the flu. They state there isn't enough data yet to determine that. But with the data we do have it could be said that the

coronavirus is a very dangerous infection to get. As of right now scientist aren't sure of just how deadly the virus is.

The president of Nevada Rural Hospital Partners, Joan Hall told KNPR that the state is overseeing the response of the virus. She is concerned because her organization is very small, and they might not have enough resources. She is also concerned about traveling back and forth to and from Las Vegas and Reno to get the test kits to labs. The coronavirus is a very serious health crisis. Hall states the best way to protect yourself from getting the virus is to stay at home away from germs, and to always wash your hands.

Work Cited

*Schoenmann, Joe. Produced "KNPR "State of Nevada"". Las Vegas, Nevada. 09 March 2020.
KNPR*