

From: [Malcolm Butler](#)
To: [Barry Kling](#); [Joyous Van Meter](#); [Stephanie Snitily](#); [Carol McCormick](#); [Veronica Farias](#)
Subject: RE: "Recovered" Cases
Date: Monday, April 27, 2020 1:55:59 PM

I'm curious what the commissioners plan to do with this information / why they want it.

I would argue that we cannot produce meaningful numbers, and don't understand their utility.

That said, when my boss says "jump" I ask how high, so your proposal sounds like it would meet the request.

Malcolm Butler

CVCH Chief Medical Officer

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Locations in Wenatchee, East Wenatchee & Chelan.

From: Barry Kling <barry.kling@cdhd.wa.gov>

Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 12:04 PM

To: Joyous Van Meter <Joyous.VanMeter@cdhd.wa.gov>; Stephanie Snitily <stephanie.snitily@cdhd.wa.gov>; Carol McCormick <Carol.McCormick@cdhd.wa.gov>; Veronica Farias <Veronica.Farias@cdhd.wa.gov>; Malcolm Butler <mbutler@cvch.org>

Subject: "Recovered" Cases

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I'm getting pressure from commissioners now to release numbers regarding "recovered" COVID pts though this is an almost completely undefined category – for example, how sick do you have to be to then be eligible to become "recovered." Not to mention untested cases. And we don't need the additional burden of following each case to whatever is define as "recovery." So I'm still reluctant to publish meaningless numbers. Yet other jurisdictions are doing this. I suspect the algorithm must be that if you're still not dead yet some weeks after dx you must be recovered.

But we could release the number of "Survivors With COVID+ Test." This would be anyone with a positive COVID test who is still alive, and that isn't a very difficult calculation with 6 deaths vs. 169 positives. We could also give the surviving percentage – 96.5% as of today. It's so simple it's kind of dumb but this would probably satisfy the demand. On a given day the number is accurate. What do you think about starting to include that (clearly labelled as "Survivors With COVID+ Test" not as recovered) in our daily reports?

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