

**From:** [Feller, Kelsey](#)  
**To:** [Parker, Edith A](#)  
**Subject:** Re: RESPONSE NEEDED by 2 PM: COVID-19 Modelling  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 31, 2020 12:50:19 PM

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And here is the response to your question this morning from Dr. Pedati.

"I am interested in a model that predicts the number and timing of cases, as well as severity (hospitalized, ICU, vent, and death) based on Iowa resources, population and case data so far. We would also like to see the impact of public health mitigation measures on the model (what does closing schools, closing non-essential retail, social distancing, limiting travel, issuing stay at home orders etc do for the outcomes)."

Thanks!

Kelsey

**Kelsey Feller, MPH**

Data Sharing Coordinator | Data Management and Health Equity Program | Bureau of Public Health Performance | Iowa Department of Public Health | Lucas State Office Building | 321 East 12th Street | Des Moines, Iowa 50319 | Phone: 515.242.5524 | [kelsey.feller@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:kelsey.feller@idph.iowa.gov)

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On Tue, Mar 31, 2020 at 12:38 PM Feller, Kelsey <[kelsey.feller@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:kelsey.feller@idph.iowa.gov)> wrote:  
Calling you now.

Thanks!

**Kelsey Feller, MPH**

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On Tue, Mar 31, 2020 at 12:38 PM Parker, Edith A <[edith-parker@uiowa.edu](mailto:edith-parker@uiowa.edu)> wrote:



**From:** Feller, Kelsey <[kelsey.feller@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:kelsey.feller@idph.iowa.gov)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 31, 2020 12:37 PM  
**To:** Parker, Edith A <[edith-parker@uiowa.edu](mailto:edith-parker@uiowa.edu)>  
**Subject:** Re: RESPONSE NEEDED by 2 PM: COVID-19 Modelling

Yes, I do. What number would you like me to reach you at?

**Kelsey Feller, MPH**

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On Tue, Mar 31, 2020 at 12:36 PM Parker, Edith A <[edith-parker@uiowa.edu](mailto:edith-parker@uiowa.edu)> wrote:

Hi Kelsey,

Do you have time for a quick call ?

**From:** Feller, Kelsey <[kelsey.feller@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:kelsey.feller@idph.iowa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 31, 2020 12:34 PM  
**To:** Parker, Edith A <[edith-parker@uiowa.edu](mailto:edith-parker@uiowa.edu)>  
**Subject:** RESPONSE NEEDED by 2 PM: COVID-19 Modelling

Good afternoon Dr. Parker,

Apologies for the speedy timeline, but we've been asked to report whether or not we can count on someone at U of I's assistance for this modelling asap. To meet the deadlines of the afternoon meetings, **I will need a response by 2 PM today.**

The Governor's Office will want to know:

1. Is this something you can assist us with?
2. What modelling do you anticipate being able to complete?
3. How soon could the modelling work be created and ready to share back to IDPH?

I would also need the name of the PI you'll be using to insert into my agreement.

Thank you!

Kelsey

**Kelsey Feller, MPH**

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On Tue, Mar 31, 2020 at 8:58 AM Feller, Kelsey <[kelsey.feller@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:kelsey.feller@idph.iowa.gov)> wrote:

Good morning,

Thanks for looking into this so quickly! I'm not sure that I'll be able to catch Dr. Pedati right away this morning (so these thoughts are my own), but as I understand - we're also looking for some assistance and expertise in understanding what would be possible. A daily update would likely be appreciated. Additionally, is there any work that could be done based on age or age category? What about at different geographic levels (county, region, metro areas, hospitals)? Is there an urban/rural divide that warrants more complete exploration?

I also haven't looked at the methodology for the provided analyses closely, but to my understanding they are using publicly available state data. If the researcher at U of I had access to additional data or variables, would he or she have results that are more accurate? Or do they feel that the information provided by IHME is the same as what we'd be looking at?

I recognize that all of this is based on what variables are available. At this point, it would be really helpful if the researcher could say "I think we could do this, if we had variables X, X, and X...". If you get to the point where you think you have a specific researcher or team that would be willing and able to assist with this, I could pull a few of our epis to have a brainstorming call if that would be helpful.

Thank you again (so very much)!

Kelsey

**Kelsey Feller, MPH**

Data Sharing Coordinator | Data Management and Health Equity Program | Bureau of **Public Health Performance** | Iowa Department of Public Health | Lucas State Office Building | 321 East 12th Street | Des Moines, Iowa 50319 | Phone: 515.242.5524 | [kelsey.feller@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:kelsey.feller@idph.iowa.gov)

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On Tue, Mar 31, 2020 at 8:36 AM Parker, Edith A <[edith-parker@uiowa.edu](mailto:edith-parker@uiowa.edu)> wrote:

Hi Kelsey,

Should have a more detailed response later today.

One immediate question- The IHME model currently has a model specific to Iowa that is updated every few days with the availability of new state data. It is reporting many of the metrics you noted (with the exception of long-term care). Is there something more that Dr. Pedati would like. One of our modelers note that we could certainly rebuild this model with daily updates, if that is what Dr. Pedati would like. He also asks if there is some other information, or ways of representing the information, that she might be looking for that is not depicted by IHME (other than adding LTC)?

Thanks,

Edith

**From:** Feller, Kelsey <[kelsey.feller@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:kelsey.feller@idph.iowa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 30, 2020 2:20 PM  
**To:** Parker, Edith A <[edith-parker@uiowa.edu](mailto:edith-parker@uiowa.edu)>  
**Subject:** [External] COVID-19 Follow-Up (Modelling Call follow-up)

Hi Dr. Parker,

Thanks for taking the time to talk with us today. As we discussed, I am going to start this email chain and will serve as the point person at IDPH for this discussion. Given that things are so crazy right now and everyone is stretched so thin, I will communicate directly with you and will compile all responses for and from my team at IDPH.

IDPH is wondering if you could do a bit of research, Dr. Parker, to determine if anyone at the University of Iowa would be able to assist IDPH with a predictive modelling project that would be for our internal use and decision making. We're specifically looking for something similar to this, but Iowa specific: <http://covid19.healthdata.org/projections>. Our topics of interest would be number of cases, deaths, hospitalizations, status of healthcare system and capacity, and projections for our long-term care residents and their specific risks. We would want these projections to be based on our resources and other trends/risk factors.

If this is something you could help us with, please let me know what variables you would need and what type of a timeline would be needed to complete the work. If this could partially be accomplished, we'd be interested in discussing that as well.

If this project is not feasible, but your team has other ideas of modelling assistance that could be provided - please let me know what that modelling would be and what variables would be needed to complete that work as well.

Thank you so much for your partnership and willingness to look into this further!

Kelsey

**Kelsey Feller, MPH**

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