In response to some of the questions that have been being discussed on Facebook and our website, I would like to offer the following:

1. The only test results that are listed are for testing if an individual is positive or negative for COVID-19 at the time of the test. Antibody test results are NOT included in these numbers.
2. Individuals are only counted once. If an individual tests positive, they are included in the daily numbers reported by the Health Department. This individual will NOT be counted again if testing is repeated and the test comes back positive or negative. If a person is tested and it comes back negative they will be counted as a negative result. If they test again and come back positive on that test they are then counted as a positive case. Currently, the Montgomery County Health Department has no one that is listed twice as a positive case.
3. The Montgomery County Health Department does not currently provide testing. Individuals needing testing are referred to Hillsboro Area Hospital, St. Francis Hospital, and Litchfield Family Practice for in-county testing. Also, referrals are made to Macoupin County Public Health in Gillespie, they are a federally funded FQHC, and two Walgreens locations in the area are currently testing. We at MCHD are looking at ways to expand testing opportunities in our county in the future.
4. Yes, the recent numbers are correct and our cases have increased substantially over the last two weeks.

I hope this information will answer some of the questions that are currently out there. I hope everyone realizes that the information provided by the Health Department is not meant to scare or mislead anyone. We try to present the facts in a way that is understandable and not overwhelming but important to know.

Stay safe,

Hugh Satterlee
Administrator
Montgomery County Health Department