

New York governor blasts Trump's coronavirus response as too little, too late



New York, March 26 (RHC)-- In New York City, the epicenter of the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States, Governor Andrew Cuomo blasted the Trump administration for failing to respond to the magnitude of the crisis.

Governor Cuomo says hospitals are already encountering shortages of equipment, including ventilators crucial to keeping patients alive when COVID-19 cases peak -- which officials now predict could come in as little as two or three weeks.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo said: "FEMA is sending us 400 ventilators. Four hundred ventilators? I need 30,000 ventilators. You want a pat on the back for sending 400 ventilators? What am I going to do with 400 ventilators, when I need 30,000?" And he asked Trump to pick the 29,600 people who are going to die because he only sent 400 ventilators.

After Cuomo's criticism, Vice President Mike Pence said the federal government was sending 2,000 ventilators to New York. Speaking on Fox News, President Trump hinted that more federal aid might be contingent on Cuomo -- and other governors -- ending their criticisms of the White House.

New York has more than half of total confirmed coronavirus cases in the U.S., though that's partly due to a massive increase in the number of tests carried out in recent days. Almost half the cases in New York are among people younger than 45 years in age.

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