



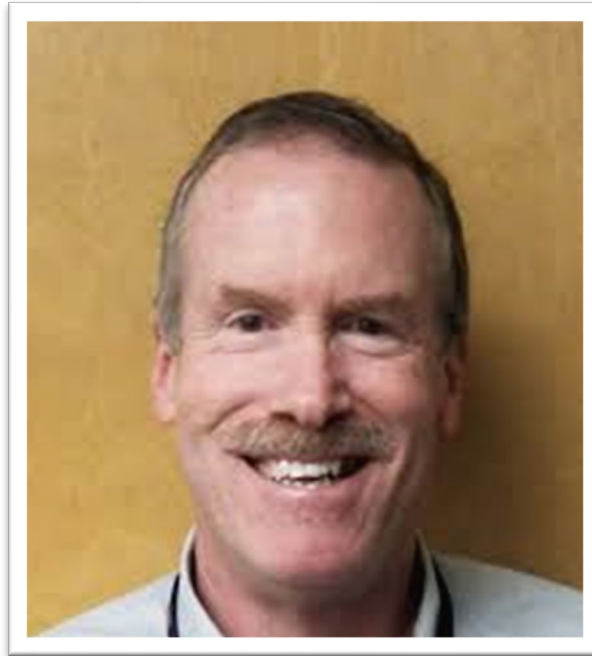
# **EMS Medical Director Report**

**Emergency Medical Care Committee**

**September 25, 2025**



# Congratulations to Dr. David Duncan!



**GOVERNOR  
GAVIN NEWSOM**

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Thursday, September 11, 2025

Governor's Press Office: (916) 445-4571

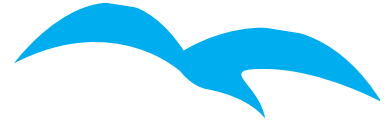
## **Governor Newsom announces appointments**

SACRAMENTO – Governor Gavin Newsom today announced the following appointments:

David Duncan, of Penryn, has been appointed to the Emergency Medical Services Commission. Duncan has been Medical Director at El Dorado County Emergency Medical Services since 2021. He was Director of the Emergency Medical Services Authority from 2019 to 2021. Duncan was a Staff Emergency Physician at the Mather Veterans Affairs Emergency Department from 2016 to 2019. He was Executive Medical Officer and Medical Director at Air Medical Group Holdings/REACH Air Medical Services from 2008 to 2019. Duncan was Medical Director at California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection from 2010 to 2019. He was Medical Director at Placer County Corrections from 2005 to 2020. Duncan was a Staff Emergency Physician at Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital from 1995 to 2015. He was a Staff Emergency Physician at Mercy San Juan Hospital from 1996 to 1999. Duncan was a Staff Emergency Physician at University of California, Davis from 1994 to 1996. He is Member of the American Medical Association. He earned a Doctor of Medicine degree from University of California, San Diego and a Bachelor of Science degree in Human

# Topics

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- **Community Engagement**
- **Respiratory Virus Season & Health Alerts**
- **Prehospital Blood**
- **Opioid Epidemic Mitigation**
- **Cardiac Resuscitation Initiatives**
  - **ECPR Pilot Program**
  - **Sudden Cardiac Arrest Month (October)**
  - **CARES Dashboard**
  - **Revive & Survive San Diego**



# Community Engagement

**Goal: *Reduce suffering and save lives***

- **We want your ideas!**
- It's protocol season!
- Numerous opportunities for input
  - Protocols: 2026-2027 Protocol Revision Survey, Mobile App, New Protocol Workgroup
  - Evidence-based medicine lecture series
  - Advisory committees (like this one)
- **Evidence-based** and **pragmatic** (can be operationalized)
- We are all on the same patient-centered team!
  - Collaboration between prehospital and hospital
    - What can we do in the field for patients with time-sensitive emergencies?
      - ECPR: remove clothing to expose groin area to decrease time to ED cannulation
      - Stroke: start large bore IV in right AC to decrease time to CT



# Respiratory Virus Season is Here!

## Epidemiology and Surveillance

September 11, 2025



LIVE WELL  
SAN DIEGO

San Diego County

### Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report

Prepared by Epidemiology and Immunization Services Branch

[www.sdepi.org](http://www.sdepi.org)

This report will be issued monthly on the second Thursday of the month.  
Weekly reporting will resume in October.

#### COVID-19

Cases

6,331

Deaths

26

Outbreaks\*

47

6/29/2025 – 9/6/2025

#### Influenza

Cases

519

Deaths

0

Outbreaks\*

1

6/29/2025 – 9/6/2025

#### RSV

Cases

46

Deaths

0

Outbreaks\*

0

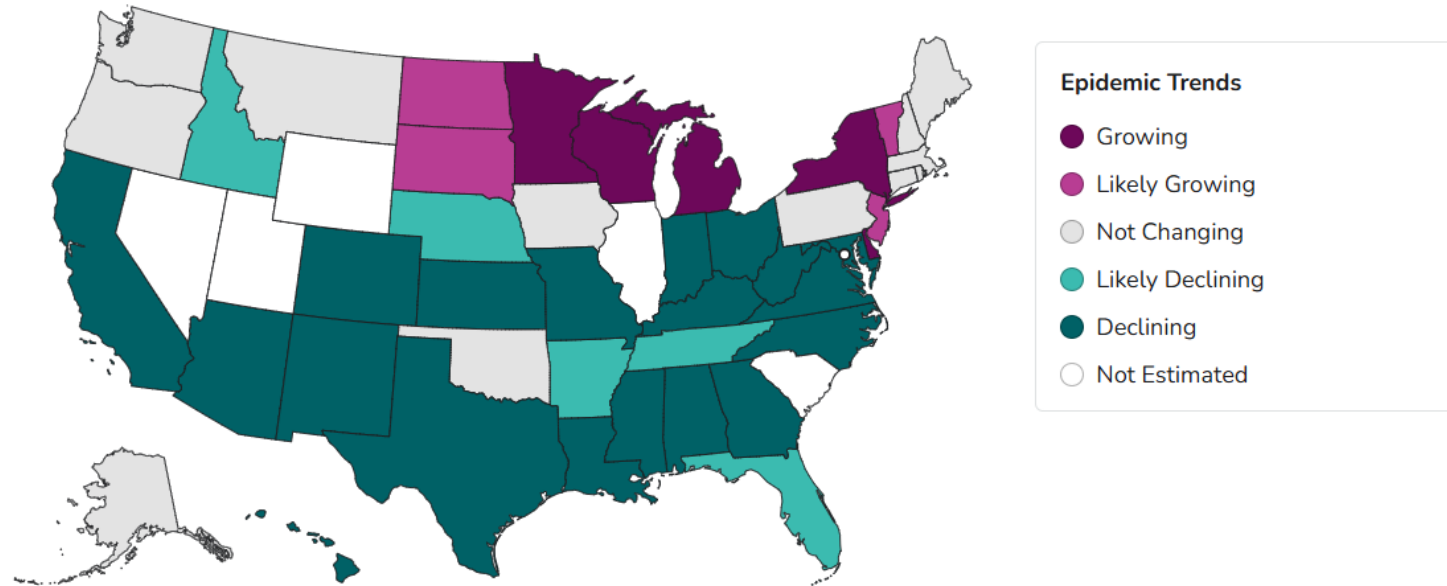
6/29/2025 – 9/6/2025



# Respiratory Virus Season

## Summer COVID Wave Decreasing

As of September 16, 2025, CDC estimates that COVID-19 infections are growing or likely growing in 9 states, declining or likely declining in 24 states, and not changing in 12 states.



### United States

The weekly percentage of ED visits diagnosed with COVID-19 is **low**. The COVID-19 epidemic trend is **declining**.

Probability COVID-19 epidemic is growing: 9.27% (declining)  
 $R_t$  Estimate: 0.93 (0.85 - 1.04)  
% of ED visits (COVID-19): 1.22% (low)

*Click on a state to see more information.*

[Current Epidemic Trends \(Based on  \$R\_t\$ \) for States | CFA: Modeling and Forecasting | CDC](#)



# Respiratory Virus Season



## Influenza



- Flu season (~ October to May)
- 2024-2025 season results are in
  - One of most severe in a decade for hospitalizations and death
  - Nearly 40,000 cases with 200 deaths (compared to 63 previous season)
  - Seven deaths in children (up from 2 previous season)
- Immunization rates are low locally (~ 32%)!
- **Get vaccinated!**

[SD County News Center Last Season Flu Totals](#)



# Respiratory Virus Season




## Health Officer Flu Order

During flu season, unless vaccinated, healthcare personnel (including EMS professionals) must wear a mask when involved in patient care

### [Healthcare Personnel Flu Season Health Order](#)





### County of San Diego

**KIMBERLY GIARDINA, DSW, MSW**  
DEPUTY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY**  
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES  
5489 KEARNY VILLA ROAD, SUITE 2000, MAIL STOP P-578  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92123  
(619) 531-5800 • FAX (619) 542-4186

**ANKITA S. KADAKIA, MD**  
INTERIM PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER  
**ELIZABETH HERNANDEZ, Ph.D**  
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR

#### ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER

(Masking or Vaccination of Healthcare Personnel during Annual Influenza Season)

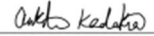
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) preliminary estimate for the 2023-2024 influenza season resulted in between 34 million to 75 million illnesses, between 380,000 to 900,000 hospitalizations, and between 17,000 to 100,000 deaths. Within the county of San Diego, the 2023-2024 flu season resulted in 19,035 cases, and 63 deaths. Persons with chronic medical conditions, infants and children, seniors, and pregnant women are at greater risk for severe influenza-related illnesses and deaths. All healthcare personnel are at risk for both contracting influenza and transmitting the virus to their vulnerable patients. Patients in healthcare facilities are especially vulnerable to influenza. Masking and/or vaccination of healthcare personnel protects patients and reduces employee absenteeism during influenza season. The CDC recommends that all healthcare personnel receive an annual influenza vaccination.

Since 2014, the Health Officer of the County of San Diego (Health Officer) has mandated masking in healthcare settings and for healthcare professionals during annual influenza seasons, unless they have received a current influenza vaccine.

The Health Officer therefore ORDERS pursuant to California Health and Safety Code section 120175:

1. Healthcare personnel in licensed acute care hospitals, ambulatory and community clinics, emergency medical service agencies, long-term care and skilled nursing facilities, and private physician practices are to wear a mask for the duration of influenza season while in contact with patients or working in patient care areas.
2. For purposes of this Order, "healthcare personnel" are all persons, including paid and unpaid employees, contractors, students, and volunteers, who work in areas where patient care is provided in a licensed or unlicensed facility, or who, otherwise, have direct contact with patients.
3. Healthcare personnel with an up-to-date seasonal influenza vaccination are exempt from this Order.
4. This Order supersedes any prior Order regarding this subject and shall remain in effect for this influenza season, and every year thereafter unless otherwise rescinded or superseded by the Health Officer.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**



Ankita Kadakia, MD  
Interim Public Health Officer  
County of San Diego

Dated: October 29, 2024



# Health Alerts

## Ebola

### Ebola Outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Public Health  
SEPT. 18, 2025

**AT A GLANCE**

Distributed via the CDC Health Alert Network

September 18, 2025, 12:00 PM ET

CDCHAN-00524

This is an official  
**CDC**  
HEALTH ADVISORY

#### Summary

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is issuing this Health Alert Network (HAN) Health Advisory about a new outbreak of Ebola virus disease (EVD) in the

ON THIS PAGE

Summary

Background



[Ebola Health Advisory](#)

## Mpox

**Health Advisory**

**TO: Healthcare Providers**

**Recent Rise of Mpox Cases in California and the Bay Area**

8/26/2025

#### Key Messages

- The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is reporting an increase in clade II mpox cases in California during July and August 2025, predominantly in the San Francisco Bay Area.
- As a reminder, mpox testing should be considered for sexually active patients with [compatible signs and symptoms \(PDF, 1.2MB\)](#), regardless of vaccination status or previous infection.
- Mpox vaccination is recommended for individuals who [may be at risk for mpox](#) to prevent severe illness, need for hospitalization, and death. This includes patients who still need second doses or who may not have received vaccine at the start of the 2022 outbreak.
  - Boosters (third doses) are not recommended at this time.
  - Vaccines are available at many chain pharmacies and certain clinics—see [Mpox Vaccine Locator](#).
- Incorporate assessments for mpox risk and vaccination status at all routine sexual health visits, particularly for individuals who are gay, bisexual, transgender, or other men who have sex with men.



[Mpox Health Advisory](#)



# Prehospital Blood

*Not in State of California Scope of Practice  
would require an approved LOSOP*



## Status Update (Decision Pending)

- Medical Audit Committee on Trauma (MAC) August 18 Meeting
  - No opposition for prehospital blood from Trauma Medical Directors
- Gathering information on estimated frequency and location, funding, and logistics
- Closely following national discussions



# Prehospital Buprenorphine

- *10% resuscitated from opioid overdose die within one year without treatment*
- *Buprenorphine treatment reduces mortality by 2/3*
- Memo distributed soliciting EMS agency interest
- Expanded to include first responder agencies



# Cardiac Resuscitation Initiatives

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# ECPR Pilot Program

## Preliminary Data (~ 25 months)

- Patients Transported to ECPR Centers
  - 13 neurologically intact survivors
  - 28/45 patients (62%) arriving with ROSC and not placed on ECMO survived with good neurologic outcomes
- Meeting “Get off scene in 15” Goal
  - Average arrest to ECPR < 60 minutes!





# National Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Month October 2025

*Save a Life with Hands-Only CPR*

## Ready to Respond: Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) Training Week

October 12-18, 2025

Various locations



**Gain the skills you need to be a  
lifesaver in your home and community**

What you'll learn:

- How to recognize sudden cardiac arrest
- The simple steps of hands-only CPR
- How your actions can more than double a person's chance of survival



**No registration required - scan the QR code  
for training sites!**

*In partnership with Sudden Cardiac Arrest Foundation*

UC San Diego  
HERBERT WERTHEIM  
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND  
HUMAN LONGEVITY SCIENCE



## Join us in CPR training week October 12-18!



# CARES Dashboard (Coming Soon)



COUNTY OF  
SAN DIEGO

## Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival (CARES)

### ABOUT

Each year, approximately 350,000 persons in the United States experience an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest (OHCA) or sudden death; approximately 90% of persons who experience an OHCA die. Despite decades of research, median reported rates of survival to hospital discharge are poor (10.4%) and have remained virtually unchanged for the past 30 years. Without a uniform and reliable method of data collection, communities cannot measure the effectiveness of their response systems, nor can they assess the impact of interventions designed to improve OHCA survival.

CARES enables the County of San Diego (CoSD) to compare patient populations, interventions, and outcomes with the goal of identifying opportunities to improve quality of care and ascertain whether resuscitation is provided according to evidence based guidelines. This registry allows the CoSD determine standard outcome measures for OHCA locally, allowing for quality improvement efforts and benchmarking capability to improve care and increase survival.

Source: Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival (CARES). <https://mycares.net/>

Data are updated each May for the previous year. Dashboard includes incident data from 2016 - 2024.  
For more information, please contact [EMSNotifications@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:EMSNotifications@sdcounty.ca.gov)



### Participating 9-1-1 Transport Agencies

American Medical Response

Starting 05/2012

AMR County Service Area 17

Starting 01/2014

Camp Pendleton FD

Starting 01/2021

Carlsbad FD

Starting 01/2017

Chula Vista FD

Starting 01/2025

Escondido FD

Starting 01/2025

Federal FD

Starting 01/2021

Lakeside FPD

Starting 01/2015

Miramar FD

Starting 01/2016

North County FPD

Starting 01/2017

Oceanside FD

Starting 01/2016

Poway FD

Starting 02/2016

San Diego County FPD

Starting 01/2022

San Diego Fire-Rescue Dept

Starting 07/2009

San Marcos FD

Starting 01/2016

Santee FD

Starting 01/2015

Vista FD

Starting 01/2016

A full list of Prehospital EMS Agencies can be found [here](#).





# Revive & Survive San Diego

- *County of San Diego bystander CPR rates ~49%*
- *Bystander CPR doubles or triples survival rates*

Goal: Train one million

**619,162 trained**

since January 2024

[revivesurvive.ucsd.edu](https://revivesurvive.ucsd.edu)



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SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND  
HUMAN LONGEVITY SCIENCE



# Questions?

