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TELEBRIEFING

Upcoming Telebriefing will be **Thursday, June 23, 2022, 2:00-3:00 PM**

Zoom Meeting Link
Submit Telebriefing Questions

For listen mode only, call: 1 (669) 900-6833, when prompted, enter the following Meeting ID: 826 2009 8291. Passcode: 242111

SECTOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

June 10, 2022

The California Department of Public Health issued a Health Update on Recurrence of COVID-19 Symptoms After Treatment with Paxlovid to inform the public of the potential for "rebound" symptoms of COVID-19 after completion of a 5-day course of Paxlovid. This

recurrence of symptoms has been reported to occur between 2 and 8 days after initial recovery and is characterized by a recurrence of COVID-19 symptoms or a new positive viral test after having tested negative. Paxlovid continues to be recommended for early-stage treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19 among persons at high risk for progression to severe disease, and because the goal of treatment is to avoid hospitalization and/or death, **mild to moderate recurrent COVID-19 symptoms do not indicate treatment failure**. People with COVID-19 rebound should follow CDC and CDPH recommendations regarding isolation of infected persons regardless of treatment with antiviral agents and/or previous isolation after the initial infection. You can find COVID-19 resources amid the surge on the Healthcare newsletter.

The Department of Social Services strongly encourages all Community Care Licensed Providers to prepare for and respond to extreme heat, Public Safety Power Shut Offs, wildfire emergencies and long-term drought conditions. All 58 counties in California continue to be under a state of emergency due to extreme and expanding drought conditions. Providers are strongly encouraged to refer to PIN 21-07-CCLD and PIN 21-13-CCLD for essential guidance on how to be prepared for extreme heat/drought. Additionally, providers can refer to PIN 22-02-CCLD for information about the Everbridge Notification System. **For more information about extreme conditions related to climate change and additional resources, please see** here**.**

The Department of Social Services would also like to inform Residential Care Facility for the Elderly Licensees of National Alzheimer's and Dementia Resource Center (NADRC) "Dementia Training Resources for Professionals and Volunteers," which provides links to training and educational materials for professionals and volunteers working with people living with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (ADRD). Not to mention, **NADRC trainings can be used to satisfy statutory requirements** for dementia care training applicable to RCFEs in Health and Safety Code sections 1569.625 and 1569.626.

Furthermore, the Community Care Licensing Division is informing licensees of the Affordable Connectivity Program, a U.S. government program that helps low-income households pay for internet service and connected devices (e.g. laptop, tablet). This could include small facilities such as six bed Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly. If eligible, your facility or home could receive a monthly internet service discount and a one-time device discount (for laptop, tablet, or desktop computer). For more information, please see Internet Service Discount Program for Low-Income Households.

Finally, we would like to share a resource that has been helpful for many long term care facilities and other healthcare entities during the pandemic and outside of disasters. The

San Diego Healthcare Disaster Coalition (SDHDC) is a regional organization that promotes engagement, coordination, communication, and situational awareness between community partners and private and public sectors prior to, during, and after an incident/disaster. Facilities have the opportunity to attend meetings where important trainings, exercises, disaster planning, and County and partner updates occur. **Please click here to see the many benefits of being a part of the SDHDC and how to join.**

Please find a summary of important resources the County and other partners are currently offering below:

Vaccines and Boosters

- Visit COVID-19 Vaccines to locate vaccination sites for staff
- If you have immobile residents who need vaccines or boosters, our County of San Diego Rapid Response Team can assist. Please email COVID-HealthcareStatus@sdcounty.ca.gov and one of our team members can help you.

Testing

- Visit the County's webpage to find free COVID-19 testing site locations and times
- If your facility is in need of antigen test kits, please email logs.testing.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov
- if you're a SNF and in need of test kits for visitors, please email MOC.LOGS.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov
- If you are a California Department of Social Services (CDSS)-licensed facility and in need of Over-The-Counter COVID-19 test kits that can now be used for visitors, staff, or residents, please email moc.logs.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov. These kits do not require a CLIA waiver.
- You can request free, at-home COVID-19 tests for personal use from the federal government. See more details here. U.S. households can place a total of 3 separate orders for free, at-home COVID-19 rapid tests (4 tests per order).
- If you have a health plan, you can purchase over-the-counter COVID-19 tests at no cost. See more details here.

Please find information below regarding the latest guidance and resources from county, state, and federal organizations, including new updates:

- PIN 22-04-CCLD Announcing the COVID-19 Test to Treat Initiative
- PIN 22-18-ASC Infection Control plan courtesy forms for Adult and Senior Care Facilities

- PIN 22-02-CCLD Notifying licensees using the Everbridge emergency notification system

For other questions, email COVID-LTC@sdcounty.ca.gov or for more information for long-term care facilities, visit www.coronavirus-sd.com/LTC. Thank you for your continued efforts and partnership with the County of San Diego!

California Department of Public Health

AFL 22-10 to All Facilities, May 16, 2022
This AFL provides notice of supply chain issues related to availability of radiologic contrast media for imaging studies affecting all health facilities in the United States. It is expected that this shortage will impact health facility operations until late June 2022. This AFL provides helpful links to guidance developed for healthcare facilities on actions to consider in managing the current contrast media shortage.

AFL 21-08.8 to Skilled Nursing Facilities, March 7, 2022
The purpose of this AFL is to provide hospitals and SNF with updated guidance on exposure risk assessment and work restriction for asymptomatic HCP with SARS-CoV-2 exposures (quarantine)Work restrictions for HCP diagnosed with SARS-CoV-2 infection (isolation). This revision incorporates updated Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance on Interim Guidance for Managing Healthcare Personnel with SARS-CoV-2 Infection or Exposure to SARS-CoV-2 and Strategies to Mitigate Healthcare Personnel Staffing Shortages. Pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code section 14126.033 a SNF's receipt of the annual increase in the weighted average Medi-Cal reimbursement rate may be conditioned on the facility's good faith compliance with CDPH AFLs related to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, as a result the recommendations included in this AFL are requirements for SNFs. This AFL update supersedes and removes the temporarily adjusted return-to-work criteria in place from January 8, 2022 – February 1, 2022, which was not renewed. **Hospitals should and SNFs must now resume using the table, below, to guide work restrictions for HCP with SARS-CoV-2 infection and for asymptomatic HCP with exposures based upon HCP vaccination status and facility staffing level.**

Recent AFLs

California Department of Social Services

NEW! PIN 22-04-CCLD to Adult and Senior Care Licensees and Home Care Organization Licensees, June 06,2022
PIN 22-04-CCLD provides information about assistance available through Test to Treat imitative that gives individuals an important way to access free treatment for Covid-19 through nationwide pharmacy based clinics, federally funded health centers, and long term care facilities.

NEW! PIN 22-18-ASC to all Adult and Senior Care Providers June 03, 2022
PIN 22-18-ASC announces the release of the Infection Control Plan courtesy forms for Adult and Senior Care (ASC) facilities with the exception of Adult Residential Facilities for Persons with Special Health Care Needs.

NEW! PIN 22-02-CCLD to all Community Care Licensing Facilities Licensees, May 31, 2022
PIN 22-02-CCLD provides information on the Everbridge Emergency Notification System and how it will continue to be used to notify licensees, in advance of, or during disasters such as wildfires and Public Safety Power Shutoffs. Additionally, Everbridge may be used to notify licensees when other types of disasters occur, such as, but not limited to, earthquakes and flash floods. For additional information on the use of Everbridge, please see PIN 21-14-CCLD, issued on August 10, 2021.

PIN 22-01-CCLD to all CCLD Providers and Licensees, May 23, 2022
PIN 22-01-CCLD notifies providers of the updated requirement for specific individuals to maintain a valid mailing address and notify the Department within ten (10) days of any change to their mailing address.

PIN 22-17-ASC to all Adult and Senior Care Program Licensees, May 19, 2022
PIN 22-17-ASC announced an informational call with Adult and Senior Care (ASC) licensees and their staff on May 25, 2022 to review new and current COVID-19 updates and testing, quarantine, and isolation guidance. PowerPoint Presentation.

PIN 22-16-ASC to all Adult and Senior Care Program Licensees, May 13, 2022
PIN 22-16-ASC supersedes PIN 21-32.1-ASC, dated August 11, 2021, supersedes in part PIN 20-38-ASC, dated October 6, 2020, related to facility staff who fully recovered from COVID-19 infection and continue to test positive 90 days after infection, and supersedes in

part PIN 20-23-ASC, dated June 26, 2020, related to testing of new or returning facility staff. This PIN includes guidance on routine diagnostic screening testing for facility staff, and guidance on diagnostic and response testing for residents and staff.

PIN 22-15-ASC to all Adult and Senior Care Program Licensees, May 13, 2022
PIN 22-15-ASC supersedes PIN 21-12-ASC, dated February 10, 2021, supersedes in part PIN 21-17.2-ASC, dated May 14, 2021, supersedes in part PIN 21-49-ASC, dated November 17, 2021 and supersedes in part PIN 20-38-ASC, dated October 6, 2020, and provides updated guidance related to resident cohorting, isolation and quarantine, staffing considerations, and use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) based on the resident's COVID-19 status.

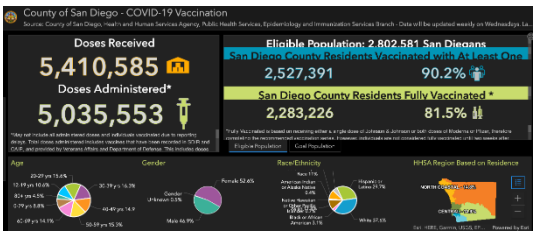
Recent PINs

COVID-19 UPDATES & RESOURCES

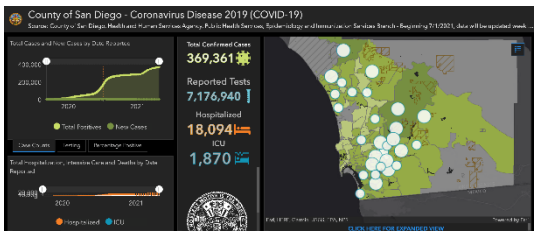
COVID-19 in San Diego County

COVID-19 Watch: Weekly COVID-19 Surveillance Report (6/9/22)

COVID-19 Weekly Update Presentation (6/9/22)



County of San Diego - COVID-19 Vaccination Dashboard



County of San Diego - COVID-19 Dashboard

PREVENTION

COVID-19 Vaccines - Cornerstone of Prevention

Second COVID-19 mRNA boosters are authorized for all persons ≥ 50 years of age and for persons ≥12 years of age with moderate to severe immunosuppression. A study published in the NEJM demonstrated increased Vaccine Effectiveness with the Second Booster, when given at least 4 months after the first booster.

Please email COVID-HealthcareStatus@sdcounty.ca.gov if your facility would like onsite assistance from the Rapid Response Team (RRT) to administer vaccinations and boosters for immobile residents.

EVUSHELD INFORMATIONAL SHEET SUMMARY

LIVE WELL SAN DIEGO

Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis for COVID-19

A Prescription Guide for Providers

Evusheld is a combination of tixagevimab plus cilgavimab monoclonal antibodies issued under Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for individuals: (1) who do not have COVID-19, (2) who have not been recently exposed to COVID-19, **AND** (3) who are severely to moderately immunocompromised **OR** who are not able to be fully vaccinated **with any available COVID-19 vaccine** due to a history of severe adverse reaction to a COVID-19 vaccine or any of its components.

Dosage and Administration

Evusheld is only for pre-exposure prophylaxis. A negative COVID test is required 5 days prior to administration along with a history of no known recent exposures. If a person has received a COVID-19 vaccine, Evusheld should be administered at least 2 weeks after vaccination. The drug is not authorized for treatment of COVID-19. One dose of Evusheld, administered as two separate gluteal 3 mL injections consecutively (one 300-mg injection per monoclonal antibody), likely provides protection in the 3-month range with new variants. A one-hour observation period is required following treatment. Limited data inform the timing of repeat doses and are not included in the current EUA.
Dosing for individuals who initially received 150 mg of tixagevimab and 150 mg cilgavimab: Initial dose ≤3 months prior: 150 mg tixagevimab and 150 mg cilgavimab; Initial dose >3 months prior: 300 mg tixagevimab and 300 mg cilgavimab.

Evusheld Injection

Evusheld is a combination monoclonal antibody indicated for prevention (pre-exposure prophylaxis) of COVID-19 for adults and pediatric individuals (≥12 years of age, weighing at least 40kg) with moderate or severe immunosuppression or who have had a severe allergic reaction to COVID-19 vaccine. Evusheld reduces the relative risk of getting COVID by up to 77%. Persons eligible include those who:

- Are receiving active cancer treatment
- Received an organ transplant and are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- Have moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (such as DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome)
- Have advanced or untreated HIV infection
- Take high-dose corticosteroids or other drugs that may suppress their immune response

Evusheld Availability:

Evusheld can be found throughout San Diego at hospital systems, medical groups, and community health centers using the therapeutics locator, and at Family Health Centers of San Diego by completing a treatment request form. For more information, call ASPR at 1-800-232-0233.

If your skilled nursing facility is interested in Evusheld, please email MCSDNursingM_MAT.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov for more information. Please note that the County is available to provide both the drug **and** the administration for qualifying patients at your facility.

If your facility is interested in carrying Evusheld, email moc.logs.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov to learn more about becoming a provider.

Evusheld Informational Flyer

TREATMENT

PAXLOVID INFORMATIONAL SHEET SUMMARY

LIVE WELL SAN DIEGO

ORAL ANTIVIRAL MEDICATIONS TO TREAT MILD TO MODERATE COVID-19

A Prescription Guide for Providers

PAXLOVID is a combination of nirmatrelvir and ritonavir protease inhibitors issued under Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19 in adults and children older than 12 years and weighing at least 40 kg. Nirmatrelvir inhibits the SARS-CoV-2 main protease preventing viral replication. Ritonavir inhibits the CYP3A-mediated metabolism of nirmatrelvir, resulting in increased plasma concentrations of nirmatrelvir.

The medication has EUA for those at high risk for progression to severe COVID-19, including hospitalization and death. PAXLOVID is not authorized for patients requiring hospitalization or for pre-exposure or post-exposure prophylaxis.

Dosage and Administration

- Initiate as soon as possible after diagnosis of COVID-19 and **within 5 days** of symptom onset
- 300 mg (two 150-mg tablets) nirmatrelvir and one 100-mg tablet ritonavir all taken together twice daily for 5 days.
- For moderate renal impairment (eGFR ≥30 to <60 mL/min): 150 mg nirmatrelvir (one 150-mg tablet) with 100 mg ritonavir (one 100-mg tablet) taken together twice daily for 5 days.
- PAXLOVID is not recommended in patients with severe renal impairment (eGFR <30 mL/min) or severe hepatic impairment (Child Pugh Class C)
- Take with or without food. Swallow all tablets whole – do not chew, break, or crush tablets.
- If a dose is missed within 8 hours, take as soon as possible and resume normal dosing schedule. If missed by more than 8 hours, do not take the missed dose. Instead take the next dose at the regularly scheduled time.

Paxlovid Oral Therapy - First Line of Therapy

Paxlovid is a combination of protease inhibitors to treat mild to moderate COVID-19 in high-risk outpatient adults and children over 12, weighing at least 40kg. Paxlovid reduces the relative risk of hospitalization and mortality by up to 88%. The potential for Drug Interactions can be checked using the Liverpool COVID-19 Interactions Tool. Please note that there is potential for extensive drug-drug interaction which can either result in high levels of co-administered drug or result in increased clearance. Additionally, dosage and administration must be modified for patients experiencing Renal failure.

Paxlovid Availability:

Paxlovid requires a prescription. The therapeutics locator identifies pharmacies and community health centers that may carry Paxlovid.

Paxlovid Informational Flyer

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4 April 2022

BEBTELOVIMAB INFORMATIONAL SHEET SUMMARY

LIVE WELL SAN DIEGO

Monoclonal Antibody for Treatment of COVID-19

A Prescription Guide for Providers

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) of intravenous bebtelovimab monoclonal antibody for the treatment of mild-to-moderate COVID-19 in adults and pediatric patients (12 years of age and older weighing at least 40 kg [88 lbs]). Bebtelovimab is a human immunoglobulin G1 (IgG1 variant) monoclonal antibody composed of 449 amino acids produced by a cell culture or cell line. Bebtelovimab binds the spike protein of SARS-CoV-2 virus and blocks attachment to the human ACE2 receptor. Of significance, bebtelovimab is active against the BA.2 Omicron variant.

Dosage and Administration

Dosage of bebtelovimab in adults and pediatric patients (≥12 years of age and weighing at least 40 kg [88 lbs]) is 175 mg/2 mL. The medication should be administered as soon as possible after positive results of SARS-CoV-2 viral testing and within 7 days of symptom onset. The medication is administered as a single intravenous injection over at least 30 seconds. After the entire contents of the syringe has been administered, flush the injection line with 0.9% sodium chloride to ensure delivery of the required dose.

Bebtelovimab Intravenous - Minimum 30 Second Infusion

Monoclonal antibody treatment for mild to moderate COVID-19 reduces risk of hospitalization and death 70% in those with a risk of progression to severe COVID-19.

Bebtelovimab Availability:
Bebtelovimab is available at the Monoclonal Antibody Regional Centers **(MARCs)** located throughout San Diego County to medically eligible individuals who are 12 years of age and older. Call **619-685-2500** to access a MARC site, open 7 days a week, There is no cost to patients, regardless of insurance or immigration status. Provider referral is not required.

If your skilled nursing facility is interested in monoclonal antibody treatment, email MCSDNursingM_MAT.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov for more information. Please note that the County is available to provide both the drug **and** the administration for qualifying patients at your facility.

Bebtelovimab can also be found at other sites using the therapeutics locator.

If your facility is interested in carrying Bebtelovimab, email moc.logs.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov to learn more about becoming a provider.

Bebtelovimab Informational Flyer

Federal Retail Pharmacy Program (FRPP) Update on COVID-19 Vaccines

The CDC allocates COVID-19 vaccines directly to enrolled retail and LTC pharmacies. Three LTC-specific groups (MHA, Innovatix-PharMerica, and GeriMed) receive federal doses and allocate them to member pharmacies who can then provide vaccines to LTC facilities. Not

every LTC pharmacy in California is enrolled in the the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program (FRPP). To request vaccines from your contracted LTC pharmacy:

1. Enroll in the San Diego Immunization Registry: http://www.sdiz.org/cair-sdir/enrollment.html
2. Contact your pharmacy to determine if they are enrolled in the FRPP.
    - If the LTC pharmacy is enrolled in the FRPP, the pharmacy can subcontract with facilities to also administer the vaccine, and the facility does NOT need to enroll as a vaccine provider.
    - If the LTC pharmacy is **NOT** enrolled in the FRPP, facilities can register to be a vaccinator through https://mycavax.cdph.ca.gov/s/.
3. If your contracted pharmacy cannot assist, you may request assistance from other San Diego LTC pharmacies enrolled in the FRPP:
    - Guardian Pharmacy Services (MHA): cvrs@guardianpharmacy.net
    - Omnicare of San Diego: Chadd.Eno@omnicare.com
    - Pharmerica (Innovatix): ImmunizeLTC@pharmerica.com
    - SNP Pharmacy LLC (MHA): vaccines@snp-rx.com

UPDATED: Please view contact information for additional retail pharmacies that offer on-site clinics:

If you have residents that are immobile or unable to leave the facility (such as those with dementia or behavioral health challenges) and the resources above are not able to accommodate your facility for an on-site vaccination clinic, please email COVID-HealthCareStatus@sdcounty.ca.gov.

New! California Streamlines Access to COVID-19 Testing and Treatment

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and OptumServe are upgrading their Test to Treat sites across the state. Testing and treatment are provided at OptumServe locations for people who qualify, including those without insurance. Sites will offer tele-health medical services and provide antiviral pills (Paxlovid) or prescriptions to eligible patients.

New! Masks are Still Strongly Recommended

COVID-19 cases are on the rise nationwide. The California Department of Public Health encourages individuals to share their social media messages that strongly encourage masking when in crowded indoor public spaces.

New! Free COVID-19 Antigen Test Kits

Free COVID-19 antigen test kits are available for businesses, organizations, and other partners. Complete this form to request test kits, which are available while supplies last.

New! Free At-Home COVID-19 Tests

Every home in the U.S. is now eligible to order 8 additional at-home, rapid COVID-19 tests. Getting tested, along with vaccinations and masking, help reduce the chances of spreading COVID-19 and its variants. For free at-home COVID-19 tests, visit covidtests.gov.

New! Where to Find Testing and Treatment for COVID-19

Treatment is available to eligible individuals who test positive for COVID-19. You can find treatment here:

- Monoclonal Antibody Regional Centers (MARCs) COVIDtreatment@sdcounty.ca.gov or call 619-685-2500
- OptumServe "Test to Treat" sites 1-888-634-1123
- Call 2-1-1
- Medication locator or call 1-800-232-0233
- Community Health Centers

Counterfeit At-Home COVID-19 Tests

On **May 5**, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued a warning that counterfeit at-home, over-the-counter (OTC) COVID-19 tests have been distributed or used in the United States. These counterfeit tests should not be used or distributed. The FDA will update its website to list counterfeit at-home OTC COVID-19 diagnostic tests to alert the public and to provide information on how to identify counterfeit tests.

FDA Limits the Use of J&J COVID-19 Vaccine

The J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine is now limited to individuals 18 and older for whom other authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccines are not accessible or appropriate, and for those who would not get vaccinated with another vaccine. The change was made due to the risk of developing thrombosis 1-2 weeks after getting the vaccine.

Airplane Travel Tips: COVID-19 Prevention

As summer approaches, more people will have plans to travel. Visit How Travelers Can Stay Safe in a Mask-Optional World for prevention tips including: board a direct flight, avoid aisle seats, reserve a window seat near the front and board last to spend the least amount of time in airplane.

COVID-19 Policy Alert Emails

CDPH is now sending periodic policy alert emails summarizing updates to California state public health officer orders and public health mandates related to COVID-19. Sign up to receive the email alerts.

COVID-19 Vaccination & Testing

- COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility
- COVID-19 Vaccination in San Diego County
- COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters
- Testing in San Diego County
- COVID-19 Testing Options

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

New! Mental Health Resource Guide

The Public Health Communications Collaborative has developed a new directory of resources to help individuals communicate about mental health. The guide spotlights resources for public health and health professionals, parents and caregivers, employers and employees, youth, and anyone who is looking for general mental health information and guidance on how to connect with a mental health professional.

Free Seeds!

Grow healthy food for yourself and others by picking up free seeds at the San Diego County libraries! A variety of seeds are available including melons, carrots, cilantro, and more. This is a wonderful way to connect with your library, nature, and the people in your community. Three seed packets will be available per library visit and while supplies last.

Free Chromebooks for Seniors

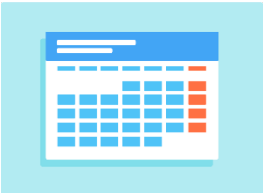
The Center is offering free Chromebooks for seniors who are aged 62 and older, live within the city of San Diego, and are low-income. To find out if you qualify and for more information, email seniors@thecentersd.org or call 619-354-6887.

Medi-Cal Renewals and Eligibility

Annual Medi-Cal renewals and discontinuance of eligibility remain on hold during the COVID-19 pandemic. To ensure that beneficiaries maintain their Medi-Cal coverage, they are encouraged to inform the county of any contact information updates.

Urgent Need for Blood

There is a critical need for all blood types, and local patients rely on caring blood donors like you to stay healthy and thrive! Make an appointment today at sandiegobloodbank.org/donate or call (619) 400-8251.



Community Testing, Vaccination, & Outreach Events

Visit the Community Testing, Vaccination, and Outreach Events Calendar for upcoming events in San Diego County. You can also submit events to be added to this calendar online.

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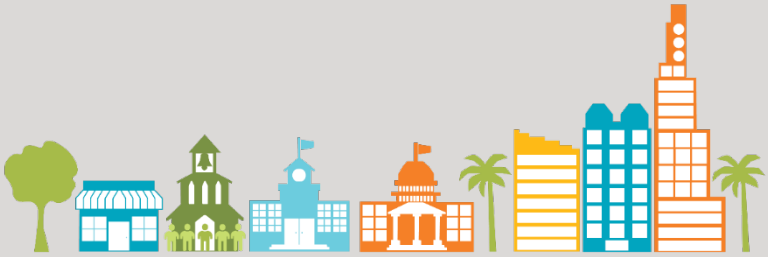

LIVEWELLSD.ORG