

*Sending on behalf of the County of San Diego, Long-Term Care
and Residential Care Facilities Sector, COVID-19 Response*



Saturday, June 19, 2021

Greetings Long-Term Care and Residential Care Facilities of San Diego County,

As California moves to fully reopen our economy, we recognize that those of you who work in long-term care facilities, or have loved ones there, are often following different and stricter guidance which pertains to your healthcare or congregate care setting. Please continue to follow this applicable guidance which focuses on Infection Control and Prevention (ICP) practices such as screening those who enter or masking for healthcare personnel. We would like to note that outbreaks are still occurring in long-term care facilities in our county so keeping important ICP practices in place are crucial to mitigating any spread from occurring.

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

- Cal-OHSA Emergency Temporary Standards <https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/coronavirus/Revisions-FAQ.html>
- Next Telebriefing for the Long-Term Care Sector will be held on Thursday, June 24, 2:00 - 3:00 PM
- California has now entered Phase II of the State Contingency Plan for Excessive Heat Emergencies
- [AFL 20-38.7](#) - Visitor Limitations Guidance
- [PIN 21-09-CCLD](#) - Administrator Certification Section: Change in Distribution Method Of Administrator Certificates

- [PIN 21-29-ASC](#) "Regaining What Was Lost: Physically, Mentally, and Socially" during the COVID-19 pandemic [PowerPoint slides](#)
- [Vital Aging 2021: Resilient and Ready!](#)," a free online conference on Thursday, June 24, which will provide older adults information and resources related to healthy aging
- [Public Health Order](#) - Updated June 14, 2021

Our data indicate a number of San Diego County residents that are missing their second dose of COVID-19 vaccination. If you have residents that are immobile, developmentally disabled, or have additional needs, email us at COVID-HealthcareStatus@sdcounty.ca.gov and we will work to assist you in ensuring your residents receive their first or second vaccination. Thank you for your diligence in making sure your staff and residents are fully vaccinated.

As a reminder, if you have a positive COVID-19 case at your facility, please report it by calling the County of San Diego Public Health Epidemiology Unit at (619) 692-8499 or (858) 565-5255 for after-hours or on the weekend. The County as well as your State licensing departments are here to support you.

Resource requests for PPE supply through the County Medical Operations Center Logistics program have reverted back to pre-COVID protocols whereby you are being referred back to your normal commercial supply chains for PPE supply. Supplies can only become available in urgent/emergency situations via email request to moc.logs.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov.

For other questions, email COVID-LTC@sdcounty.ca.gov or visit www.coronavirus-sd.com/LTC.

Thank you for your continued efforts and partnership with the County of San Diego!

UPCOMING TELEBRIEFINGS



Long-Term Care and Residential Care Facilities Sector

Next telebriefing will be held on **Thursday, June 24, 2:00 - 3:00 PM.**

[Zoom Meeting Link \(click here\)](#)

[Submit Telebriefing Questions \(click here\)](#)



Older Adult and Disability Sector

Next telebriefing will be held on **Friday, July 16, 3:00 - 4:00 PM.**

[Zoom Meeting Link \(click here\)](#)

[Submit Telebriefing Questions \(click here\)](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS



California Health Action Network Health Advisory Updates

New! The California Department of Public Health was notified by the California State Warning Center that California has now entered Phase II of the State Contingency Plan for Excessive Heat Emergencies.

High temperatures are expected to begin on June 15, 2021 and may last through June 20, 2021. Please go to www.weather.gov to access any heat advisories for your area.

Healthcare facilities should implement recommended precautionary measures to keep individuals safe and comfortable during extremely hot weather. Facilities must have contingency plans in place to deal with the loss of air conditioning, or in the case when no air conditioning is available, take measures to ensure patients and residents are free of adverse conditions that may cause heat-related health complications. Facilities must report extreme heat conditions that compromise patient health and safety and/or require an evacuation, transfer, or discharge of patients. The All Facilities Letter (AFL) with additional details that was sent out in the beginning of the season can be found at the link below:

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/AFL-21-16.aspx>

State Contingency Plan for Excessive Heat

Emergencies: <http://www.caloes.ca.gov/PlanningPreparednessSite/Documents/Ex>

[cessiveHeatContingencyPlan2014.pdf](#)

Excessive Heat

Warning: http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/total_forecast/getprod.php?print=yes&wfo=sto&pil=NPW&sid=STO&parse=CAZ016,CAZ066



California Department of Public Health

CDPH publishes news and All Facilities Letters (AFLs) regularly. If you would like to receive email notifications of AFLs, please submit your request to LNCPolicy@cdph.ca.gov

New! [AFL 20-38](#) to All Facilities - June 16, 2021

AFL revision updates and consolidates California Department of Public Health's (CDPH's) visitation guidance into single set of recommendations for all facilities in all counties, considering California is moving Beyond the Blueprint for a Safer Economy framework effective June 15, 2021.

[AFL 21-19](#) to Skilled Nursing Facilities - June 8, 2021

Annual notice to skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) and nursing facilities (NFs) regarding the availability of federal civil money penalty (CMP) funds that may be used to support projects that benefit and improve the care of residents.

[AFL 20-53](#) to Skilled Nursing Facilities - June 7, 2021

Provides updated recommendations from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) for SNFs conducting diagnostic screening testing of SNF health care personnel (HCP), and response-driven testing of SNF residents and HCP to prevent spread of COVID-19 in the facility informed by [CDC recommendations](#) and CMS requirements.

[AFL 20-89](#) to Skilled Nursing Facilities, Intermediate Care Facilities, and Educational Institutions - June 7, 2021

Updated to permit SNFs and ICFs to contract with an existing CDPH-approved online NATP for the provision of online NATP theory instruction. The SNF or ICF must either develop or use the contracted online school's clinical training to conduct the clinical portion of the NATP training in their facility using their own staff.

[AFL 21-17](#) to Skilled Nursing Facilities - June 3, 2021

Notifies skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) that the Concentra contract, used to request fit-testing resources, will expire June 30, 2021. All fit-testing services provided by Concentra must be completed by that date.

[AFL 20-22.8](#) to Long-Term Care Facilities - June 2, 2021

Authorizes LTC facilities to temporarily modify their facility's visitation policies in accordance with CMS and CDC COVID-19 guidance when necessary to protect the health and safety of residents, staff, and the public. It provides additional CDPH guidance for group activities and communal dining based upon vaccination status of residents.

[AFL 20-32.3](#) to Skilled Nursing Facilities - June 2, 2021

This AFL provides advance notice that effective July 17, 2021, the temporary waiver of specified regulatory requirements in this AFL will expire and this AFL will be rescinded.

[AFL 20-34.4](#) to Adult Day Health Care Centers - June 2, 2021

Notifies ADHCs that the waiver allowing ADHCs to provide services using alternate methods including remote services contained in this AFL is valid until the end of the public health emergency.

[CDPH COVID-19 Toolkit](#) serves as a one-stop-shop for partners to access materials available for download and sharing in support of outreach and education. This toolkit has numerous videos, social media messages, infographics, handouts, fact sheets, and more.

[Click here to see a full list of recent AFLs](#)



California Department of Social Services

The Community Care Licensing Division (CCLD) of the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) publishes [Provider Information Notices \(PINs\)](#) to communicate important license related information to CCLD-licensed providers. The local San Diego Adult and Senior Care Regional Office can be reached at (619) 767-2300 or CCLASCPSanDiegoRO@dss.ca.gov.

New! [PIN 21-09-CCLD](#) - to Certified Administrators (Prospective and Current), Adult and Senior Care Program Licensees, Administrator Certification Program Training Vendors - June 17, 2021

Describes the new method of Administrator Certificate distribution for certified administrators of Adult Residential Facilities, Group Homes, Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly, and Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Programs

New! [PIN 21-29-ASC](#) to All Adult and Senior Care Program Licensees - June 10, 2021

“Regaining What Was Lost: Physically, Mentally, and Socially” during the COVID-19 pandemic informational call. View PowerPoint slides [here](#).

[PIN 21-28-ASC](#) to All Adult and Senior Care Program Residential Licensee - June 7, 2021

Supersedes PIN 20-38-ASC, dated October 6, 2020, regarding routine diagnostic screening testing guidance for facility staff in Adult and Senior Care (ASC) residential facilities, supersedes response testing guidance for residents and facility staff in PIN 20-23-ASC, dated June 26, 2020, and reminds licensees about health insurance coverage for COVID-19 testing.

[PIN 21-27-ASC](#) to All Adult and Senior Care Facility Licensees - June 2, 2021

Reminds Adult and Senior Care (ASC) licensees of mandated reporter requirements under the Elder Abuse and Dependent Adult Civil Protection Act. The PIN includes requirements for abuse reporting, a signed employee acknowledgement of mandated reporter status, and information about required abuse training.

[PIN 21-06-CCLD](#) to all Licensed Providers - June 1, 2021

Announces a new form for communicating with the complainant about complaint intake, and three new forms for communicating the investigation determination, all of which replace the Complaint Response (LIC 856) form. A revised Communication with Complainants Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document is also released in conjunction with the new forms. This PIN supersedes [PIN 19-01-CCLD](#) in its entirety.

CDSS announced the [Summer 2021 Quarterly Update](#) has been published and is available on their [website](#).

[Click here to browse the full list of recent PINs](#)



Vital Aging 2021: Resilient and Ready! Online conference on Thursday, June 24

New! In collaboration with San Diego Oasis, Aging & Independence Services will host “Vital Aging 2021: Resilient and Ready!,” a free online conference on Thursday, June 24th, which will provide older adults information and resources related to healthy aging.

Please share this opportunity with your staff, residents, and their families. If your facility has the capacity, please consider setting up a “watch” party of this virtual event at your site for your residents.

This year’s keynote speaker is Henry Winkler, best-selling author and award-winning actor, director, and producer! In 1973, Winkler was cast in the iconic role of Arthur Fonzarelli, aka “The Fonz,” in the TV series Happy Days. Join Henry Winkler for a special virtual appearance at the conference! Mr. Winkler will share his thoughts and experiences about wellness and aging, resiliency during difficult times, serving the community, and more! Other presentation topics include living well as you get older and enhancing your life through technology.

Register now at www.vitalagingsandiego.com



Vaccination Events – Your Shot to Win Padres Tickets

The County of San Diego has partnered with the San Diego Padres for your shot to win tickets. Anyone getting vaccinated between June 3 through June 30 at a County mobile site can submit a registration form to enter to win Padres tickets. You can view a list of participating mobile vaccination sites [here](#). The vaccination drawing will award a total of 200 tickets and winners will be chosen weekly at random. Each winner will receive two Padres tickets for one home game in July

2021 or August 2021. The Padres will also be hosting their own vaccination events on Saturday, June 26. For ticket drawing terms and conditions, see [English](#) version or [Spanish](#) version.



THE LTC FACILITY INFECTION PREVENTIONIST CONFERENCE

Friday, July 30, 2021 – 10:00AM to 1:00PM

In the previous year, the COVID-19 pandemic has magnified the need for infection preventionist in the most vulnerable healthcare settings. This year, federal regulations will have a considerable impact on how long-term care facilities address infection prevention and control. To help prepare these facilities for the change and provide a network of resources, San Diego & Imperial County Association of Professionals in Infection Control (APIC) will provide healthcare professionals working in long-term care facilities with infection prevention and control information that are both elementary and unique to the LTCF practice setting. Please join San Diego & Imperial County APIC at this half-day conference offering. To learn more or to register, [click here](#).

Accreditation Statement: This activity is provider approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider No. CEP 3947 for a maximum of 2.0 contact hours.



Early Treatment for COVID-19 at the Monoclonal Antibody Regional Centers (MARC)s at no-cost

The Monoclonal Antibody Regional Centers ([MARC\)s](#)) are providing combination therapy to treat medically eligible COVID-19 positive patients whose COVID-19 symptoms developed within the last 10 days. Treatment is available at no-cost to those who live or work in San Diego County, regardless of health insurance or immigration status.

- **Poway Location: Palomar Health/Pomerado Pavilion**, 15611 Pomerado Rd, Ste 545, Poway, CA 92064; open seven days a week from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM
- **Chula Vista Location:** at San Ysidro Health, 391 Oxford Street, Chula Vista, CA 91911 (in the former Chula Vista Fire Station #5 building); open seven days a week from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
- Providers and individuals may refer patients or self-refer to either site by calling 619-685-2500 with questions and/or to schedule an appointment directly

For questions, email COVIDtreatment@sdcounty.ca.gov. For additional information, visit www.sandiegocounty.gov/COVIDHealthProfessionals. Patient flyer links [MARC Patient Flyer \(English\)](#), [MARC Patient Flyer \(Spanish\)](#)



Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Visitation Guidance for Skilled Nursing Facilities

On May 11, 2021, CMS published an interim final rule with comment period (IFC). This rule establishes **Long-Term Care (LTC) Facility Vaccine Immunization Requirements for Residents and Staff**. This includes new requirements for educating residents or resident representatives and staff regarding the benefits and potential side effects associated with the COVID-19 vaccine, and offering the vaccine. Furthermore, LTC facilities must report COVID-19 vaccine and therapeutics treatment information to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN). Updated Survey Tools: CMS has updated tools used by surveyors to assess compliance with these new requirements. For details, please see [QSO-21-19-NH \(cms.gov\)](https://www.cms.gov/OSD/2021/05/21qso2119nh)

Revised: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services revised Skilled Nursing Facilities visitation guidance – April 27, 2021. For details, please see [QSO-20-39-NH Revised \(cms.gov\)](https://www.cms.gov/OSD/2021/04/21qso2039nh) It is recommended to **follow the strictest guidance** when there is a discrepancy. Please always consult with your local licensing staff if you have questions.



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Guidelines for Fully Vaccinated Individuals to Safely Visit with Others

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance for fully vaccinated individuals and visitation – May 13, 2021. [When You've Been Fully Vaccinated | CDC](#). Fully vaccinated people can resume activities without wearing a mask or physically distancing, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance. These recommendations can help you make decisions about daily activities after you are fully vaccinated. They are not intended for [healthcare settings](#). Please always consult with your local licensing staff if you have questions.



County of San Diego Public Health Orders

New! [Public Health Order](#) - Updated June 14, 2021

California has transitioned [Beyond the Blueprint for Industries and Business Sectors](#) which includes guidelines and standards for limited public health restrictions, including face coverings, school based guidance, and guidance for mega events.



California COVID-19 Vaccination Program Update Federal Retail Pharmacy Program Activation

The [Federal Retail Pharmacy Program for COVID-19 Vaccination](#) program includes 21 participating national pharmacy partners that provide COVID-19 vaccinations at retail pharmacy locations. There are also [Long-term Care Pharmacies](#) distributing the COVID-19 vaccine through this program. Target population includes people 65+ and healthcare workers. Appointments will be required. Eligible Californians should NOT contact individual stores for appointments or come to the store seeking a vaccination without an appointment. For questions, please email: COVIDvaccinePharm@cdph.ca.gov Eligible

individuals should be directed to the following scheduling links below for an appointment:

CVS: <https://www.cvs.com/immunizations/covid-19-vaccine>

Rite Aid: <https://www.riteaid.com/pharmacy/covid-qualifier>

Walgreens: <https://www.walgreens.com/topic/promotion/covid-vaccine.jsp>

Albertsons: <https://www.albertsons.com/pharmacy/covid-19.html>

Additionally for CVS only, appointment can also be scheduled via CVS pharmacy app and eligible individuals without internet access can call **CVS at 800-746-7287** for assistance on scheduling.



COVID-19 Vaccine Resources for Long-Term Care Facilities

Stay informed about COVID-19 vaccination information by bookmarking the [County COVID-19 vaccine webpage](#). Visit the County [COVID-19 Vaccine webpage for appointments](#) with your staff and ambulatory residents.

COVID-19 vaccine presentations are available and delivered by volunteer medical professionals who are subject matter experts. Fill out an [online interest form](#) to request a presentation. [COVID-19 Vaccines: Myth vs. Fact](#) are available in English and Spanish.

[COVID-19 Vaccine Community Conversation Toolbox](#) is primarily for healthcare workers to have conversations about the COVID-19 vaccine. The County has a webpage with COVID-19 educational materials in different languages. [Click here](#) and scroll down the list of options in Spanish, Tagalog, Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, Vietnamese, Korean, and more.

[Post Vaccine Considerations for Residents](#) - Considerations are based on the current understanding of signs and symptoms following COVID-19 vaccination, including timing and duration, and might change as experience with the vaccine accumulates. Fact sheets, links to important websites, handouts, and FAQs are included. [Click here](#) for some CDC vaccine considerations.

[Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 Vaccination in Long-Term Care Facilities \(LTCF\)](#) — CDC updates frequently asked questions for Healthcare Infection Prevention and Control and Healthcare Professionals regularly based on feedback from professionals.

FACILITY RESOURCES AND GUIDANCES

County of San Diego, Public Health Order

CAHAN San Diego

Cal/OSHA and Statewide Industry Guidance on COVID-19

California Department of Social Services, Provider Information Notices

California Department of Public Health, All Facilities Letters

CDC Guidance and Resources for Infection Control in Facilities

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Visitation Guidance



Our mailing address is:
COVID-LTC@sdcounty.ca.gov

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