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



Monday, July 19, 2021

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

As you know, COVID-19 vaccinations protect and save lives. The majority of positive COVID-19 cases are among those who are unvaccinated. Although uncommon, breakthrough cases have occurred in long-term care facilities and other communities in San Diego County. Public Health Services Rapid Response Teams are available to assist your facility by providing **on-site vaccinations** for your **residents, staff, and visitors**. If you would like to schedule an on-site COVID-19 vaccination clinic, please contact COVID-HealthcareStatus@sdcounty.ca.gov.

We also would like to remind you that **Monoclonal Antibody Treatments** are available and help treat COVID-19. This treatment has been shown in [clinical trials](#) to reduce COVID-19 related hospitalizations and emergency room visits. If you are interested in this treatment for residents or staff, please email COVIDtreatment@sdcounty.ca.gov and a staff member can provide assistance.

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

- Next Telebriefing for the Long-Term Care Sector will be held this Thursday, July 22, 2:00 - 3:00 PM

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- [AFL 20-47](#) Suspension of Regulatory Enforcement of Hospice Requirements

Vaccinations are still important for facility staff and residents. If you have residents that are immobile, developmentally disabled, or have additional needs, please email us at COVID-HealthcareStatus@sdcounty.ca.gov and we will work with you to have a team come out to provide vaccinations at your site.

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, July 22, 2:00 - 3:00 PM.**

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

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS



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

The California Department of Public Health Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) Program invites you to participate in the [Project Firstline Learning Needs Assessment](#). The HAI Program will provide a free infection prevention training series for California Certified Nursing Assistants (CNA) beginning in Summer 2021 and asks for your feedback to better tailor educational offerings to meet your learning needs. The assessment will be open until July 23, 2021. For more information or to sign up for the Project Firstline email list, contact:

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)**NEW:** [AFL 20-72](#) to Home Health Agencies - July 16, 2021

This AFL notifies home health agencies that the temporary waiver of specified regulatory requirements for services, staffing, and supervision contained in this AFL will expire September 30, 2021, and this AFL will be rescinded.

NEW: [AFL 20-47](#) to Hospice Providers - July 16, 2021

This AFL notifies hospice providers of a temporary waiver of specified regulatory requirements due to the state of emergency related to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak

[AFL 21-21](#) to All Facilities - July 2, 2021

This AFL informs health care facilities of adopted regulations, effective July 1, 2021:

The regulations are available at the Office of Regulations website; clarify how administrative penalties for violations of medical information breach will be assessed; specify reporting requirements and procedures that health care facilities must follow for medical information breaches.

[AFL 20-35.3](#) to All Facilities - July 8, 2021

This All Facilities Letter (AFL) supersedes AFL 20-35.2, and notifies all facilities of a temporary waiver of specified statutory and regulatory requirements for CNAs due to the state of emergency related to the COVID-19 outbreak. This AFL allows a CNA who remains in an "employable during state of emergency" status to complete in-service or continuing education units and count them towards certificate renewal. The temporary waiver of specified regulatory requirements contained in this AFL will expire September 30, 2021.

[AFL 20-40.1](#) to All Facilities and Nurse Assistant Training Programs (NATPs) - July 8, 2021

This AFL supersedes AFL 20-40, and notifies all facilities of a temporary waiver of specified statutory and regulatory requirements for NATPs and nursing facilities due to the state of emergency related to the COVID-19 outbreak. This revision notifies all facilities the temporary waiver of specified regulatory requirements contained in this AFL will expire September 30, 2021.

[AFL 20-49.2](#) to All Facilities - July 8, 2021

This AFL supersedes AFL 20-49.1, and notifies all facilities of a temporary waiver of specified statutory and regulatory requirements for HHAs due to the state of emergency related to the COVID-19 outbreak. This AFL notifies all facilities that the temporary waiver of specified statutory and regulatory requirements is expiring September 30, 2021.

[AFL 20-57.1](#) to All Facilities - July 8, 2021

This AFL supersedes AFL 20-57, and notifies all HHA Training Programs of a temporary waiver of specified statutory and regulatory requirements for HHA Training Programs due to the state of emergency related to the COVID-19 outbreak. This AFL notifies all facilities that the temporary waiver of specified

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statutory and regulatory requirements is expiring September 30, 2021.

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[AFL 21-08.3](#) to General Acute Hospitals, Acute Psychiatric Hospitals, Skilled Nursing Facilities - June 28, 2021

[Guidance on Quarantine for Health Care Personnel \(HCP\) Exposed to SARS-CoV-2](#) is now available. This revision includes updated risk assessment and quarantine guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for HCP working in hospitals and SNFs and SNF residents who have been fully vaccinated against SARS-CoV-2.

[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.

[PIN 21-10-CCLD](#) to Certified Administrators (Prospective and Current), Adult and Senior Care Program Licensees, Administrator Certification Program Training Vendors - July 8, 2021

Supersedes PIN 20-28-CCLD dated December 15, 2020, in part as it relates to the Administrator Certification Examination waiver and the ability to apply for a Conditional Administrator Certificate, updates the statewide waivers for the Administrator Certification Program, and provides updated guidance to Prospective and Current Certified Administrators of Adult Residential Facilities, Group Homes, Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly, and Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Programs and Administrator Certification Program Training Vendors.

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

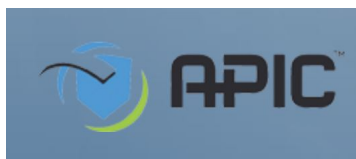
Describes the new method of Administrator Certificate distribution for certified administrators of Adult Residential Facilities, Group Homes, Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly, and Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Programs

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Supersedes PIN 20-38-ASC, 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.

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](#)



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) 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

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- 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@sdcountry.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 \(cms.gov\)](#).

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 \(cms.gov\)](#). 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 – updated June 17, 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

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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.

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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 GUIDANCE

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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