

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



Tuesday, July 27, 2021

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

Dr. Wilma Wooten, County of San Diego Public Health Officer and Public Health Services Director, highlighted the importance of vaccinations at facilities during a special telebriefing yesterday. 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. We have **a variety of resources to assist you in increasing your vaccination rates** including Rapid Response Teams providing **on-site vaccinations** for your **residents, staff, and visitors, educational presentations for vaccine hesitant staff and residents, trainings for staff on infection control and prevention strategies, PPE, and rapid antigen test kits**. A one-page list of free resources available through the County to support long-term care facilities, can be found [here](#).

The State of California Public Health Officer also focused on vaccine importance by putting out **a new Health Officer Order yesterday** focusing on high-risk settings such as those in your long term care facilities. The order includes verification of vaccine status of all workers at facilities, respirator or mask requirements, and testing requirements. To find this health order please click here [State Public Health Officer Order](#).

The County's case rate and positivity rate of COVID-19 have been increasing in recent weeks. Our current transmission rate indicates “**moderate**” transmission. Resuming universal eye protection (goggles, face shields) is indicated at this time when providing patient care, including with patients/residents not suspected to be exposed to COVID. You can keep up-to-date with the case rate/positivity rates at CDPH website [https://covid19.ca.gov/state-dashboard/#location-san\\_diego](https://covid19.ca.gov/state-dashboard/#location-san_diego) or the [County of San Diego website](#).

Resource requests for **Personal Protective Equipment** (PPE) can be filled by emailing [moc.logs.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:moc.logs.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov). If your staff need a PPE training or refresher, please reach out contact [COVID-HealthcareStatus@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:COVID-HealthcareStatus@sdcounty.ca.gov).

Also, please remember that **Rapid Antigen Tests** are available from the County, can be delivered, and are free of charge. To submit a request, email [logs.testing.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:logs.testing.hhsa@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](mailto:COVIDtreatment@sdcounty.ca.gov) or call 619-685-2500 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:

- A one-page list of free resources available through the County to support long-term care facilities, can be found [here](#).
- Next Telebriefing for the Long-Term Care Sector will be held Thursday, August 12, 2:00 - 3:00 PM
- Telebriefing PowerPoint Slides and Recording on July 26, 2021
  - Dr. Wilma Wooten, MD, MPH, County of San Diego, Public Health Officer, Vaccination Rates
- Telebriefing PowerPoint Slides and Recording on July 22, 2021
  - Dr. Sayone Thihalolipavan, County of San Diego, Medical Consultant, COVID-19 Update
  - Dr. Raymond Chinn, County of San Diego, Medical Consultant, Vaccine Information
  - Jennifer Wheeler, County of San Diego, LTC Update
- **County of San Diego Public Health Laboratory closed temporarily effective 7/1/2021**

- [State Public Health Officer Order](#) - July 26, 2021
- [AFL 21-26](#) Mandated Reporting Requirements of Potential Abuse, Neglect, Exploitation, or Mistreatment of Elders or Dependent Adults
- [AFL 20-74](#) Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Recommendations for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Resident Placement/Movement, and Staffing in Skilled Nursing Facilities
- [AFL 21-23](#) Ending of the Emergency Blanket Waiver of Minimum Data Set (MDS) Timeframe Requirements
- [AFL-21-22](#) Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 Health Care Facility License Fee Schedule
- [AFL-20-35](#) Suspension of Professional Certification Requirements for Certified Nurse Assistants (CNAs)
- [PIN 21-30-ASC](#): Announcing the Availability of The California Department of Public Health's BinaxNOW™ Antigen Testing Program For Coronavirus Disease 2019 (Covid-19) For Adult And Senior Care (ASC) Facilities
- [PIN 21-31-ASC](#) Resumption of Annual Inspections Using the Compliance and Regulatory Enforcement (Care) Tools
- [PIN 21-11](#) Changes to Administrator Certification Program Fees
- Monoclonal Antibody Treatment Available at New Locations

For other questions, email [COVID-LTC@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:COVID-LTC@sdcounty.ca.gov) or visit [www.coronavirus-sd.com/LTC](http://www.coronavirus-sd.com/LTC).

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

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## UPCOMING TELEBRIEFINGS



### Long-Term Care and Residential Care Facilities Sector

Next telebriefing will be held on **Thursday, August 12, 2:00 - 3:00 PM.**

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

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

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

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## Special Telebriefing with Dr. Wilma Wooten July 26, 2021 PowerPoint Slides and Recording

**NEW:** Wilma Wooten, MD, MPH, County of San Diego Public Health Officer and Public Health Services Director, [COVID-19 Vaccination Rates](#)  
Recording of the July 26, 2021 Telebriefing is available [here](#)

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## Long-Term Care & Residential Care Facilities Sector July 22, 2021 Telebriefing PowerPoint Slides and Recording

**NEW:** Dr. Sayone Thihalolipavan, County of San Diego Medical Consultant, [COVID-19 Update](#)  
**NEW:** Jennifer Wheeler, County of San Diego, [LTC Update](#)  
**NEW:** Dr. Raymond Chinn, County of San Diego Medical Consultant, [Vaccine Information](#)  
Recording of the July 22, 2021, telebriefing is available [here](#)

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## County of San Diego Public Health Laboratory

**NEW:** The County of San Diego Public Health Laboratory closed temporarily effective 7/1/2021 and will not be able to process COVID-19 samples due to unforeseen events. Your facility will be notified once operations and services have been restored.

Your testing needs and that of the entire community in San Diego are very important to us. During this time, facilities will need to utilize other laboratory resources for testing services to test staff and residents. These other laboratories could be local hospitals with testing capacity in your area or commercial

laboratories that conduct COVID-19 testing (see *Table #1* below for commercial laboratory contact information).

Commercial Laboratory	Website or Email	Phone
BioCept	<a href="https://biocept.com/covid-19/">https://biocept.com/covid-19/</a>	888-332-7729
Bioreference Laboratories	<a href="https://www.bioreference.com/">https://www.bioreference.com/</a>	833-684-0508
Helix	<a href="https://www.helix.com/pages/covid19-efforts">https://www.helix.com/pages/covid19-efforts</a>	415-805-3360
LabCorp	<a href="https://www.labcorp.com/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/provider-information">https://www.labcorp.com/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/provider-information</a>	858-210-0926
Mayo	<a href="https://news.mayocliniclabs.com/covid19/">https://news.mayocliniclabs.com/covid19/</a>	800-533-1710
Mira Dx	<a href="mailto:info@miradx.com">info@miradx.com</a>	424-387-8100
Quest Diagnostics	<a href="https://www.questdiagnostics.com/home/Covid-19/">https://www.questdiagnostics.com/home/Covid-19/</a>	866-697-8378
ARUP Laboratories	<a href="https://www.aruplab.com/">https://www.aruplab.com/</a>	800-522-2787
Mayo Clinic	<a href="https://www.mayoclinic.org/">https://www.mayoclinic.org/</a>	480-301-8000



## 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](mailto:LNCPolicy@cdph.ca.gov)

### **NEW:** [State Public Health Officer Order of July 26, 2021](#)

The State Public Health Officer Order is now live. We are working on several FAQs for the order and will share as soon as possible.

### **NEW:** [AFL 21-26](#) to Adult Day Health Center, Congregate Living Health Facility Intermediate Care Facility, Intermediate Care Facility/Developmentally Disabled Nursing Facility, Skilled Nursing Facility - July 26, 2021

This All Facilities Letter reminds facilities of mandated reporting requirements of abuse, neglect, exploitation, and/or mistreatment of residents, particularly elders or dependent adults. Pursuant to Title 42 CFR section 483.12(c)(1) and WIC section 15630, facilities must report suspected or known abuse to their local law enforcement agency, long term care (LTC) ombudsman, and district office.

**NEW:** The California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) and Department of Healthcare Services (DHCS) have activated the Medical and Health Coordination Center (MHCC) at **Level 3 (low)** in response to **the July 2021 Wildfires on July 21, 2021 at 0800 hours**. The MHCC will be open July 21, 2021 from **0800 hours to 1700 hours, seven days a week** until further notice. Operational areas should follow the guidelines and

procedures in the Emergency Operations Manual (EOM) for all situation reporting and resource requests. **Resource requests should be entered into Salesforce indicating "2021 Wildfires" as the "Incident Name" for any wildfire related resource request.**

The MHCC email address for situational information and questions is [MHCCSITREPS&ResourceRequests@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:MHCCSITREPS&ResourceRequests@cdph.ca.gov). After-hours reports should be made to the CDPH and EMSA Duty Officer at the contact information below.

CDPH: (916) 328-3605 or [dutyofficer@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:dutyofficer@cdph.ca.gov)

EMSA: (916) 431-0475 or [emsadutyofficer@emsa.ca.gov](mailto:emsadutyofficer@emsa.ca.gov)

**NEW:** [AFL 20-75](#) to Skilled Nursing Facilities - July 22, 2021

This All Facilities Letter (AFL) supersedes AFL 20-75, and reminds licensed health facilities of requirements to report outbreaks and unusual infectious disease occurrences to their local health department (LHD) and Licensing and Certification District Office and provides investigation and reporting thresholds for reporting for COVID-19. This AFL notifies all facilities that the webpage for county COVID-19 case rates has changed. To check county case rates after June 15, 2021 please visit [Tracking COVID-19 in California - Coronavirus COVID-19 Response](#).

**NEW:** [AFL 20-74](#) to Skilled Nursing Facilities - July 22, 2021

This AFL supersedes AFL 20-74, and provides recommendations for PPE, resident placement/movement, and staffing based on the residents' Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) status. This revision updates the chart of recommendations to clarify when eye protections must be used and to align with the latest CalOSHA requirements no longer allowing extended use and reuse of respirators.

**NEW:** [AFL 21-23](#) to Skilled Nursing Facilities, Nursing Facilities, Swing Bed Hospitals - July 22, 2021

This AFL informs Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs) that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) ended the emergency blanket waiver for Title 42 CFR section 483.20, effective May 10, 2021. All SNFs are now required to complete and transmit Minimum Data Set (MDS) assessments timely, as required at Title 42 CFR section 483.20.

**NEW:** [AFL 20-35.3](#) to All Health Facilities - July 20, 2021

This AFL informs licensees of FY 2021-22 license renewal fees as approved by the Governor and effective on July 1, 2021.

**NEW:** [AFL 20-35.3](#) to All Facilities - July 19, 2021

This AFL 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 also notifies all facilities that the temporary waiver of specified regulatory requirements contained in this AFL will expire September 30, 2021 and informs applicants and certificate holders how to obtain/maintain an active/employable status after the expiration of the listed waivers on September 30, 2021.

[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.

[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.

[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](mailto:CCLASCPSanDiegoRO@dss.ca.gov).

**NEW:** [PIN 21-31-ASC](#) to All Adult and Senior Care Program Residential Licensee - July 21, 2021. PIN 21-31-ASC supersedes [PIN 21-25-ASC](#), dated May 3, 2021, and announces that onsite inspections using the Community Care Licensing Division's (CCLD) full inspection tools, known as the CARE Tools, are scheduled to resume on August 1, 2021.

**NEW:** [PIN 21-30-ASC](#) to All Adult and Senior Care Program Residential Licensee -

July 20, 2021: Announcing the Availability of The California Department of Public Health's BinaxNOW™ Antigen Testing Program For Coronavirus Disease 2019 (Covid-19) For Adult And Senior Care (ASC) Facilities.

**NEW:** [PIN 21-11-CCLD](#) to Certified Administrators (Prospective and Current), Adult and Senior Care Program Licensee, Administrator Certification Program Training Vendors - July 20, 2021 PIN 21-11-CCLD provides information about the changes to Administrator Certification Program (ACP) fees made pursuant to Assembly Bill (AB) 135. These changes affect prospective and certified administrators of Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly, Adult Residential Facilities, Group Homes, and Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Programs and ACP training vendors.

[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.

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

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## **Monoclonal Antibody Treatment Available at New Locations!**

**NEW:** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration issued an [Emergency Use Authorization \(EUA\)](#) for a monoclonal antibody therapy combination called REGEN-COV, comprised of the casirivimab and imdevimab monoclonal antibodies from Regeneron. This life-saving combination therapy is authorized for the treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19 in symptomatic patients with positive SARS-CoV-2 results who are 12 years of age and older weighing at least 40 kg and at [high risk](#) for progressing to severe COVID-19 disease and/or hospitalization. [High risk persons](#) include those  $\geq 65$  years of age, OR with a BMI  $\geq 25$ , OR with diabetes, OR pregnancy, OR who have certain chronic medical conditions. Other medical conditions or factors (such as, race or ethnicity) may



qualify a patient as [high risk](#). See the [EUA](#) the combination of casirivimab and imdevimab and the [California Health Alert Network – San Diego \(CAHAN-SD\)](#) released on July 22 for more details.

**Treatment should be administered as soon as possible following a positive test result, preferably within 72 hours of symptom onset and no later than 10 days after symptoms begin. Refer medically eligible individuals by calling (619) 685-2500. Patients may self-refer by also calling (619) 685-2500.**

Accepting all medically eligible patients, regardless of health insurance or immigration status.

- **NEW Locations**
  - MARC at Vista Community Clinic in Vista
  - MARC at Neighborhood Healthcare in Escondido
  - Family Health Centers of San Diego in Chula Vista and Hillcrest
- Promotional Resources
  - Patient Flyer ([English](#) / [Spanish](#))
  - [Provider Flyer](#)
  - [Messaging Tips for Providers](#)
  - Promotional video ([English](#) / [Spanish](#))
- Transportation
  - [Medi-Cal Health Plan Contact Card](#)
  - [Medi-Cal Transportation FAQs](#)

For questions, call 619-685-2500 or contact [COVIDtreatment@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:COVIDtreatment@sdcounty.ca.gov)



**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 not intended for [healthcare settings](#). Please always consult with your local licensing staff if you have questions.



## **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](mailto: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.

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# 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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You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

