

Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▼

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



Wednesday, July 7, 2021

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

As summer is upon us, we recognize those of you who work in long-term care facilities continue to follow more stringent guidance to ensure infection control and prevention, such as screening visitors, masking, and social distancing when walking through facilities regardless of vaccination status. Please continue adhering to guidance from your state licensing entity.

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 8, 2:00 - 3:00 PM
- County COVID-19 Vaccination Transitioning to Public Health Sites
- Rapid Antigen Test Kits Continue to be Available
- CDPH - [News Release 21-209](#) - Vaccinations Prevent Nearly All COVID-19 Related Hospitalizations and Deaths, New Data Shows

Vaccinations are still important for facility staff and residents. 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 by having a team come out to provide vaccinations at your site.

Please also note that other vaccinations are important and often required to be

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Practices for vaccination against pneumococcal disease which is also endorsed by the Centers for Disease Control at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/pneumo/hcp/recommendations.html>

Although rare, breakthrough cases are occurring at facilities. Please ensure infection control and prevention measures are being taken by staff, residents, and visitors in your facility. These protocols can not only help mitigate the spread of COVID-19 but also help in the spread as we enter flu season this fall and of other infectious organisms in your facilities. 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.

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 8, 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

**County COVID-19 Vaccination
Transitioning to Public Health Sites**

Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▼



NEW! A handful of County vaccination sites have closed due to a significant drop in vaccine demand. There is still an ongoing push for all San Diegans to get vaccinated, and there are plenty of avenues to do so. Currently more than [2.19 million people in the region or 104.1% have received at least one COVID-19 vaccine](#) and more than [1.87 million or 88.9% are fully vaccinated](#).

Vaccinations will continue to be available at locations such as doctors' offices, retail pharmacies, and County clinics. Some sites will continue to offer extended hours to make it easier for people to get immunized. For a list of County testing and vaccination locations near you, visit www.coronavirus-sd.com/vaccine.



Rapid Antigen Test Kits Available

NEW! The County of San Diego has free COVID-19 rapid antigen test kits available for community groups or organizations that need them. If you are interested in receiving kits, please email a request to logs.testing.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov



California Health Action Network Health Advisory Updates

NEW! California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is reminding unvaccinated Californians that the COVID-19 vaccine is safe, free, and provides excellent protection from severe COVID-19 illness, hospitalization, and death. Out of over 20 million vaccinated individuals, only 0.003% (584 people) contracted COVID-19 and required hospitalization. The data and science clearly demonstrate vaccines are highly effective at preventing serious illness and death from COVID-19, including the Delta variant.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

The entire News Release is available at the following link:

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/OPA/Pages/NR21-209.aspx>



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

[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.

[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.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

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.

[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 21-09-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

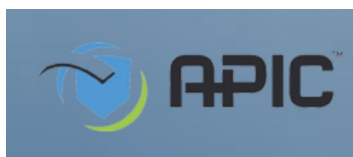
[PIN 21-29-ASC](#) to All Adult and Senior Care Program Licensees - June 10, 2021

"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, 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](#).

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Click here to browse the full list of recent PINs](#)[Translate ▼](#)

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 available at no-cost to those who live or work in San Diego County, regardless of health insurance or immigration status.

- 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 \(Spanish\)](#).

Subscribe

Past Issues

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid

Translate ▼



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 – 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.



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

The [Federal Retail Pharmacy Program for COVID-19 Vaccination](#) program

Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▼

[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.

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Subscribe | Past Issues | FACILITY RESOURCES AND GUIDANCES | Translate ▼ |
|------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|

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

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).