

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



August 17, 2021

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

Last Friday, August 13, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommended an additional dose of the COVID-19 vaccine for certain immunocompromised individuals. More information can be found [here](#).

As a clarification, the two State Public Health Orders recently released by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) regarding health care worker vaccine requirements and visitation requirements in indoor settings **only apply to certain facilities (such as Skilled Nursing Facilities and General Acute Care Hospitals) and do not apply at this time to Adult and Senior Care Facilities licensed by the California Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing Division (CCLD).**

The State Public Health Officer Order regarding [Health Care Worker Vaccine Requirements](#) states that all workers, paid and unpaid, who provide services or work in facilities licensed by CDPH and listed in the Order (such as Skilled Nursing Facilities) must have their first dose of a one-dose regimen or their second dose of two-dose regimen **by September 30, 2021**. Please see the Order in its entirety for information on exemptions, maintaining records, and more.

A [template form](#) containing sample language for documenting vaccine declination under this Order due to medical reasons by your employees is available for your

use. In our most recent update from CDPH, they mentioned there is no requirement to obtain a religious signed statement by clergy if the employee declines due to religious reasons.

In addition, the State Public Health Officer Order regarding [Indoor Visitation Requirements](#) for General Acute Care Hospitals, Skilled Nursing Facilities, and Intermediate Care Facilities, states specific directives to be followed. These facilities must either 1) verify visitors are fully vaccinated, or 2) verify documentation of a negative SARS-CoV-2 test for unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated visitors. Please see the Order in its entirety for information on masks, PPE, and physical distancing requirements as well.

The County has a **variety of resources to assist with increasing vaccination rates**. We hope this [COVID-19 vaccination resource list for long-term care facilities](#) is helpful.

In addition, a reminder that the CDPH's BinaxNOW™ Antigen Testing Program for COVID-19 is available to all facilities, including CCLD-licensed Adult and Senior Care facilities. If your facility would like to conduct on-site COVID-19 testing, the best course of action for testing sustainability, ease, and resources is to apply through CDPH and use their process and CLIA waiver for the rapid antigen test kits. The County can supply and deliver test kits once approved. [Apply to partner with the State of California to offer antigen + confirmatory PCR tests, please complete this form | California Coronavirus Testing Task Force](#). Once approved, you can email logs.testing.hhsa@sdcountry.ca.gov to request test kits.

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, August 26, 2:00 - 3:00 PM
- Telebriefing PowerPoint Slides and Recording on August 12, 2021
 - Dr. Raymond Chinn, County of San Diego, Medical Consultant, COVID-19 Update, Monoclonal Antibodies
 - Jennifer Wheeler, County of San Diego, LTC Update
- [AFL 20-22.9](#) Guidance for Limiting the Transmission of COVID-19 in Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs)
- [AFL 21-14](#) Visitation Guidance for ICF/DD-H-N-CN Facilities During the Coronavirus Disease-2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic
- [AFL 21-32](#) Change to Distribution of Health Care Facility Certification Correspondence

- [PIN-21-15-CCLD](#) Kidde TruSense Smoke and Combination Smoke/Carbon Monoxide Alarms Recall
- [PIN 21-37-ASC](#) Announces an upcoming informational call with Adult and Senior Care (ASC) licensees and their staff on August 18, 2021 at 2:00 PM
- [PIN 21-36-ASC](#) Announces an upcoming informational call with Adult Day Program Providers and their staff on August 18, 2021 at 1:00 PM

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!

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

UPCOMING TELEBRIEFINGS



Long-Term Care and Residential Care Facilities Sector

Next telebriefing will be held **Thursday, August 26, 2:00 - 3:00 PM.**

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

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



Long-Term Care & Residential Care Facilities Sector

**August 12, 2021 Telebriefing
PowerPoint Slides and Recording**

NEW: Dr. Raymond Chinn, County of San Diego Medical Consultant, [COVID-19 Update, Monoclonal Antibodies](#)

NEW: Jennifer Wheeler, County of San Diego, [LTC Update](#)
Recording of the August 12, 2021, telebriefing is available [here](#)

As mentioned in Dr. Chinn's presentation, a [sample template](#) for documenting vaccine declination by your employee is available for your use. In our most recent

update from CDPH, they mentioned there is no requirement to obtain a religious signed statement by clergy if the employee declines due to religious reasons.

County of San Diego Resources for Long-Term Care Facilities

Click [here](#) for PDF printable version

BE COVIDSAFE ✓

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO COVID-19 RESPONSE:
LONG-TERM CARE AND
RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITIES SECTOR**

Support Available at No Cost	Email/Contact
On-site COVID-19 vaccination clinics at your facility for staff, residents, and visitors	COVID-HealthcareStatus@sdcounty.ca.gov
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as masks, gloves, and gowns	Moc.logs.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov
Rapid Antigen Tests	Logs.testing.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov
Assistance with Monoclonal Antibody Treatments	COVIDtreatment@sdcounty.ca.gov or call 619-685-2500
Staff training on infection control and prevention	COVID-HealthcareStatus@sdcounty.ca.gov
Educational session(s) for staff or residents who are hesitant to be vaccinated	COVID-HealthcareStatus@sdcounty.ca.gov
Other questions, needs, or concerns or to receive our weekly updates	COVID-LTC@sdcounty.ca.gov

For more information on COVID-19 vaccines, please visit:
coronavirus-sd.com/vaccine

 
01-08-2021



County of San Diego Public Health Laboratory

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 below for commercial laboratory contact information).

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

NEW: [AFL 20-22](#) to Skilled Nursing Facilities - August 12, 2021

This All Facilities Letter (AFL) supersedes AFL 20-22.8, and notifies SNFs of updated CDPH, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance for improving their infection control and prevention practices to prevent the transmission of COVID-19, including guidance for visitation.

NEW: [AFL 21-14](#) to Intermediate Care Facilities - August 12, 2021

This AFL supersedes AFL 21-14, and notifies all ICF/DD-H-N-CN facilities of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance for improving their infection control and prevention practices to prevent the transmission of COVID-19, including guidance for visitation. This AFL authorizes all ICF/DD-H-N-CN 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 clients/residents, staff, and the public. This AFL provides visitation guidance in accordance with CMS Quality, Safety and Oversight Group ([QSO](#)) [21-14](#) (PDF), including guidance for safely facilitating in-person visitation in indoor and outdoor facility settings.

NEW: [AFL 21-32](#) to All Facilities - August 12, 2021

This AFL notifies all facilities that effective August 16, 2021, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Centralized Applications Branch (CAB), will change the way it distributes certification correspondence to health care facilities.

[AFL 20-53.5](#) to Skilled Nursing Facilities - August 3, 2021

This AFL revision includes reference to the July 26, 2021 Public Health Order requiring SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic screening testing for Skilled Nursing Facility healthcare personnel that are unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated.

[AFL 21-30](#) to Intermediate Care Facilities - August 3, 2021

This AFL requires twice-weekly SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic screening testing for HCP that are unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated. Facilities must develop and implement processes for verifying the vaccination status of all HCP, and for obtaining and tracking documentation of results of weekly SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic screening testing from HCP who are not fully vaccinated when reasonably possible with full compliance no later than August 23, 2021.

[AFL 21-29](#) to Health Care Facilities - August 3, 2021

This AFL requires weekly SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic screening testing for healthcare personnel (HCP) that are unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated working the above specified in health care facilities. Facilities must develop and implement processes for verifying the vaccination status of all HCP, and for obtaining and tracking documentation of results of weekly SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic screening testing from HCP who are unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated as soon as reasonably possible with full compliance no later than August 23, 2021.

[AFL 21-28](#) to Skilled Nursing Facilities - August 3, 2021

This AFL requires SNFs to develop and implement processes for verifying the vaccination status of all HCP and for obtaining and tracking documentation of results of SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic screening testing from HCP who are unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated and includes additional PPE requirements. These requirements are effective August 9th and should begin as soon as reasonably possible, with full compliance no later than August 23, 2021.

[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 21-15-CCLD](#) to All Community Care Licensees and Providers, August 13, 2021

PIN 21-15-CCLD informs all providers and licensees of the recent recall of the Kidde TruSense Smoke and Combination Smoke/Carbon Monoxide Alarms. The smoke alarm and the combination smoke/carbon monoxide (CO) alarm can fail to alert consumers of a fire.

NEW: [PIN 21-37-ASC](#) to All Adult and Senior Care Program Residential Licensees, August 12, 2021

Announces an upcoming informational call with Adult and Senior Care (ASC) licensees and their staff on August 18, 2021 to provide information on the Delta variant of COVID-19 and review new infection control guidance

NEW: [PIN 21-36-ASC](#) to Adult Day Program Providers, August 12, 2021 announces an upcoming informational call with Adult Day Program (ADP) providers and their staff on August 18, 2021 to provide information on the Delta variant of COVID-19 and review infection control guidance.

[PIN 21-32.1-ASC](#) to All Adult and Senior Care Program Residential Licensees, August 11, 2021

This PIN supersedes PIN 21-32-ASC. It includes routine diagnostic screening testing guidance for facility staff in Adult and Senior Care residential facilities. This PIN also provides updated guidance related to N95 respirators and surgical masks for facility staff. In addition, it removes the proof of vaccination requirement identified in PIN 21-32-ASC that the QR code must confirm the vaccine record as an official record of the State of California. Underlined text in this PIN indicates where additions have been made.

[PIN 21-13-CCLD](#) to All Community Care Licensed Providers, August 11, 2021

This PIN informs providers about the need to prepare for and respond to long-term drought conditions and how to receive drought-related assistance from

CCLD.

[PIN 21-14-CCLD](#) to All Community Care Licensing Facility Licensees, August 10, 2021

This PIN provides information on the Everbridge Emergency Notification System and how it will continue to be used to notify licensees in advance of, or during, natural disasters such as wildfires, Public Safety Power Shutoffs, earthquakes, flash floods, and more.

[PIN 21-34-ASC](#) to All Adult and Senior Care Program Residential Licensees, July 30, 2021

This PIN provides an update to information provided in PIN 20-32-ASC, dated September 28, 2020, on an important licensee COVID-19 status survey regarding the COVID-19 vaccine that will be disseminated via the Everbridge Mass Notification System

The Evaluator Manual document *Reference Material for Complaints* has been reorganized and revised to improve usability and to ensure all procedures and information are current. It provides a guide to the Community Care Licensing Division's complaint process for Licensing Program Analysts and the public. The [full text](#) of the new document is available on the California Department of Social Services public website.

[PIN 21-33-ASC](#) to All Adult Day Program Providers, July 27, 2021

This PIN provides updated guidance on infection control specific to Adult Day Programs and addresses topics most frequently addressed by providers related to the prevention, mitigation, and containment of COVID-19. This PIN provides new guidance to providers on testing and masking requirements pursuant to the updated [State Public Health Officer Order](#) from CDPH issued on July 26, 2021.

[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.

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



BinaxNOW™ Antigen Testing Program for COVID-19

REMINDER: The CDPH's BinaxNOW™ Antigen Testing Program for COVID-19 is available to all CCLD-licensed ASC facility types. This CDPH-run program offers many benefits and user-friendly features including a process for CCLD-licensed facilities to obtain a free Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) waiver, which is necessary for antigen testing. These point-of-care antigen diagnostic tests detect the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and can provide results in less than 20 minutes. If you are interested in receiving these test kits, you must have a CLIA waiver. Click below to get started.

[To apply to partner with the State of California to offer antigen + confirmatory PCR tests, please complete this form | California Coronavirus Testing Task Force.](#)

CDPH is hosting Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) weekly meetings about the CDPH's BinaxNOW™ Antigen Testing Program for COVID-19 for Adult and Senior Care facilities licensed by the CCLD. View [PIN 21-30-ASC](#) for background on this program.

- FAQ sessions occur every Thursday at 1 pm, no need to pre-register.
- Please join via Zoom Meeting: <https://cdph-ca.gov.zoom.us/j/85118149890?pwd=R3c3ZDVzUTZpajBFR3NUZStaeERaZz09>

Visit the County's webpage for [BinaxNOW Antigen Testing Program](#) for more information or email moc.logs.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov for question.



Monoclonal Antibody Treatment Available at New Locations!

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 ≥ 65 years of age, OR with a BMI ≥ 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 \(CAHAN-SD\)](#) 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.

- 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



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, 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.

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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