

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



Wednesday, August 4, 2021

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

The recent [State of California Public Health Order](#) focuses on vaccine importance and includes verification of vaccine status of all workers at facilities, respirator or mask requirements, and testing requirements. This order is effective August 9, 2021, and facilities must be in compliance by August 23, 2021.

The County case rate and positivity rate of COVID-19 have been increasing in recent weeks. Our current transmission rate indicates “**high**” 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. Please keep up-to-date with the case rate/positivity rates through the 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](#).

In an effort to increase COVID-19 vaccination rates, facilities that have less than 75% vaccination rates of residents and/or staff received a letter via email from Dr. Wilma Wooten, County of San Diego Public Health Officer and Director, Public Health Services. This letter requires those facilities to submit an action plan to the County of San Diego by Friday, August 6. If your facility received a letter and you have questions, please contact us directly at [COVID-LTC@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:COVID-LTC@sdcounty.ca.gov). The County has 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 and materials for staff and residents who are hesitant to receive the vaccine; 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](#).

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
- CAHAN #38: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) - Urgent Need to Increase Vaccination
- [AFL 21-30](#) Coronavirus Testing, Vaccination Verification and Personal Protective Equipment for Health Care Personnel at the Various Types of Intermediate Care Facilities
- [AFL 21-29](#) Coronavirus Testing, Vaccination Verification and Personal Protective Equipment for Health Care Personnel at Health Care Facilities
- [AFL 21-28](#) Coronavirus Testing, Vaccination Verification and Personal Protective Equipment for Health Care Personnel at Skilled Nursing Facilities
- [PIN 21-35-ASC](#) Update Regarding Resumption of Annual Inspections Using the Compliance and Regulatory Enforcement (CARE) Tools
- [PIN 21-34-ASC](#) Update to Facility Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Status Survey Sent Via Everbridge
- California Department of Social Services published new Evaluator Manual document [Reference Material for Complaints](#)

For other questions, email [COVID-LTC@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:COVID-LTC@sdcounty.ca.gov) or for more information for long-term care facilities 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 \(click here\)](#)



### Health Advisory Update #38: Coronavirus Disease 2019

#### Key Messages

- **NEW:** Circulating SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern, especially the highly infectious Delta variant (B.1.617.2), are accelerating spread of infection.
- Unvaccinated persons account for most new COVID-19 infections, hospitalizations, and deaths.
- Increasing vaccination for COVID-19 can prevent: surges in COVID-19 related morbidity and mortality, overwhelming healthcare capacity, and widening existing health disparities
- Click [here](#) for CAHAN #38

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

Click [here](#) for PDF printable version of a document summarizing  
**Health Requirements for Long-Term Care Facilities**  
per the [State Public Health Officer Order](#)  
**Effective August 9, 2021**

***Full Compliance by August 23, 2021***



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

**STATE PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER ORDER**  
**EFFECTIVE AUGUST 9, 2021**  
*Full Compliance by August 23, 2021*

**Health Requirements for Long-Term Care and Residential Care Facilities**

LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY TYPE	VACCINE VERIFICATION	RESPIRATORS OR MASKS	TESTING FREQUENCY
<b>Acute Care Settings</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Skilled Nursing Facilities (including Subacute Facilities)</li><li>• Intermediate Care Facilities</li></ul>	Vaccination verification for all workers	Respirators (N95) for all unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated workers	At least 2x/week testing for unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated staff
<b>High-Risk Congregate Settings</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Adult and Senior Care Facilities (licensed by the Community Care Licensing Division)</li></ul>	Vaccination verification for all workers	Surgical masks for all unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated workers	At least 1x/week testing for unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated staff
<b>Other Health Care Facilities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Adult Day Health Care Centers</li><li>• Adult Day Programs</li><li>• Congregate Living Health Facilities</li><li>• Hospice Facilities</li><li>• Residential Substance Use Treatment and Mental Health Treatment Facilities</li></ul>	Vaccination verification for all workers	Surgical masks for all unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated workers	At least 1x/week testing for unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated staff

The State Public Health Order of July 26, 2021, requirements include additional facilities. The types of settings above are related to long-term care facilities only. Please review the entire State Public Health Officer Order [here](#) for more details.

For more information on COVID-19 vaccines, please visit:  
[coronavirus-sd.com/vaccine](https://coronavirus-sd.com/vaccine)



Click [here](#) for PDF printable version of  
**County of San Diego Resources for Long-Term Care Facilities**

**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	<a href="mailto:COVID-HealthcareStatus@sdcounty.ca.gov">COVID-HealthcareStatus@sdcounty.ca.gov</a>
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as masks, gloves, and gowns	<a href="mailto:Moc.logs.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov">Moc.logs.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov</a>
Rapid Antigen Tests	<a href="mailto:Logs.testing.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov">Logs.testing.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov</a>
Assistance with Monoclonal Antibody Treatments	<a href="mailto:COVIDtreatment@sdcounty.ca.gov">COVIDtreatment@sdcounty.ca.gov</a> or call 619-685-2500
Staff training on infection control and prevention	<a href="mailto:COVID-HealthcareStatus@sdcounty.ca.gov">COVID-HealthcareStatus@sdcounty.ca.gov</a>
Educational session(s) for staff or residents who are hesitant to be vaccinated	<a href="mailto:COVID-HealthcareStatus@sdcounty.ca.gov">COVID-HealthcareStatus@sdcounty.ca.gov</a>
Other questions, needs, or concerns or to receive our weekly updates	<a href="mailto:COVID-LTC@sdcounty.ca.gov">COVID-LTC@sdcounty.ca.gov</a>

For more information on COVID-19 vaccines, please visit:

**[coronavirus-sd.com/vaccine](https://coronavirus-sd.com/vaccine)**



07-28-2021



**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 *Table #1* below for commercial laboratory contact information).

<b>Commercial Laboratory</b>	<b>Website or Email</b>	<b>Phone</b>
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:** [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.

**NEW:** [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.

**NEW:** [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.

[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 ombudsman, and district office.

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

This All Facilities Letter 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](#).

[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' 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.

[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 21-35-ASC](#) to All Adult and Senior Care Program Residential Licensees, July 30, 2021

PIN 21-35-ASC delays implementation of [PIN 21-31-ASC](#), dated July 21, 2021, and announces a *temporary delay* in the resumption of inspections using the Community Care Licensing Division's (CCLD) full inspection tools, known as the CARE Tools, which were scheduled to resume on August 1, 2021.

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

PIN 21-34-ASC 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

**NEW:** 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.



The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is hosting Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) weekly meetings where all participants can learn more about the CDPH's BinaxNOW™ Antigen Testing Program for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) for Adult and Senior Care facilities licensed by the Community Care Licensing Division. Please see [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>

[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 21-32-ASC](#) to All Adult and Senior Care Program Residential Licensees, July 27, 2021

This PIN is regarding 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.

[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](#), 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.

[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](#)

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## 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  $\geq 65$  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)

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## 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.

## 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



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO  
**HHSA**  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY





**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](#).