

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



September 2, 2021

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

The State Public Health Orders regarding [health care worker vaccine requirements](#) only applies to certain facilities (such as Skilled Nursing Facilities and General Acute Care Hospitals) and does not apply at this time to Adult and Senior Care Facilities licensed by the California Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing Division (CCLD). However, the State Public Health Order regarding [visitation requirements](#) in indoor settings was recently amended and now **does** apply to ASC facilities licensed by CCLD. For more information, please see [PIN 21-40-ASC](#) below.

The [monoclonal antibody combination treatment](#) from Regeneron has been authorized for emergency use by the Food and Drug Administration to treat mild to moderate COVID-19 in adults and pediatric patients (12 years of age and older). Monoclonal antibodies are proteins made in a lab that help boost the immune system to fight viruses. A new Monoclonal Antibody Treatment Center (MARC) location is coming soon to the Clairemont Friendship Center. Skilled Nursing Facilities staff can request a **Monoclonal Antibody Rapid Response Team** to administer the treatment to immobile residents on-site and provide training for staff to administer the treatment in the future. Please email [mcsdnursingmabinfusion.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:mcsdnursingmabinfusion.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov) with any questions or to request assistance from the program. Skilled Nursing Facilities can also request

the treatment from their local LTC pharmacy to receive the drug for SNF facility staff to administer to their residents.

Through the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program (FRPP), the CDC is allocating COVID-19 vaccines directly to enrolled retail and Long-Term Care (LTC) pharmacies. Three LTC-specific groups (MHA, Innovatix-PharMerica, and GeriMed) receive federal doses and allocate them to member pharmacies who can then provide vaccines to LTC facilities. To request vaccines from your contracted LTC pharmacy, please follow the steps outlined near the bottom of this update.

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 on Thursday, September 9, 2021, 2:00 - 3:00 PM
- Telebriefing PowerPoint Slides and Recording from August 26, 2021
  - Dr. Raymond Chinn, County of San Diego, Medical Consultant, COVID-19 Update
  - Jennifer Wheeler, County of San Diego, LTC Update
- [AFL 21-33](#) Facility Emergency Contact and All Facilities Letter Recipient Information
- [PIN 21-41-ASC](#) Informational Call on Friday, September 3, 2021, 2:00-3:00 PM, Focusing on PIN 21-40-ASC and Providing Updated Statewide Visitation Guidance
- [PIN 21-40-ASC](#) Updated Statewide Visitation Waiver, and Testing and Vaccination Verification Guidance for Visitors Related to COVID-19
- [PIN 21-39-ASC](#) Governor's Executive Order N-12-21 Regarding Coronavirus Disease 2019 and the Expiration of COVID-19 Waivers
- Coming Soon: Monoclonal Antibody Regional Center at Clairemont Friendship Center in Clairemont

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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## TELEBRIEFINGS

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

Next telebriefing will be held **Thursday, September 9, 2:00 - 3:00 PM.**

[Zoom Meeting Link](#)

[Submit Telebriefing Questions](#)



## Long-Term Care & Residential Care Facilities Sector

**August 26, 2021 Telebriefing**

**PowerPoint Slides and Recording**

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

**NEW:** Jennifer Wheeler, County of San Diego, [LTC Update](#)

Recording of the August 26, 2021, telebriefing is available [here](#)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS



## CAHAN Health Advisory

### [Increased Interseasonal Activity of Respiratory Syncytial Virus in San Diego County](#)

There is currently increased activity of interseasonal respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) in San Diego County. RSV can be associated with severe disease in young children and older adults. Clinicians may consider off-season immunoprophylaxis with anti-RSV monoclonal antibody Palivizumab (Synagis®) in high-risk infants and young children.

[Health Advisory Update #38: Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Survey of Views on COVID-19 Vaccination](#)

The CD recommends an additional mRNA COVID-19 vaccine dose for moderately and severely immunocompromised people after an initial 2-dose primary mRNA vaccine series. The FDA is still evaluating data on the effectiveness of an additional dose for immunocompromised individuals for those that received the single dose Janssen (Johnson and Johnson) vaccine. Other fully vaccinated persons do not need an additional dose nor a booster dose of COVID-19 vaccine, at this time. A decision regarding a booster dose for non-immunocompromised individuals, who are fully vaccinated, may be announced by the CDC in the near future. Fully vaccinated immunosuppressed individuals should consult with their primary care provider when obtaining an additional vaccine dose. The CDC does not recommend serologic testing to assess response to vaccine in the fully vaccinated or to determine the need for an additional vaccine dose.

View [CAHAN Alerts](#)

## 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	<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:Mac_logs_hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov">Mac_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)**




**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)

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.

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. There is no requirement to obtain a religious statement from a clergy person if the employee declines due to religious reasons.

**NEW:** [AFL 21-33](#) to All Facilities - August 24, 2021

This All Facilities Letter (AFL) notifies that the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is requesting updated emergency contact information from all facilities. CDPH is also requesting updated AFL recipient information.

[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.

[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 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](#) including guidance for safely facilitating in-person visitation in indoor and outdoor facility settings.

[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.

[See a full list of recent AFLs](#)

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## 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 21-41-ASC](#) to All Adult and Senior Care Program Residential Licensees, August 27, 2021

This PIN announces an **Informational Call** via Zoom on **Friday, September 3, 2021, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM.**

Please click the link to join the Zoom webinar: [Launch Meeting - Zoom](#)  
Passcode: 899649 Webinar ID: 994 8165 3923

**NEW:** [PIN 21-40-ASC](#) to All Adult and Senior Care Program Residential Licensees, August 27, 2021

PIN 21-40-ASC supersedes in part PIN 21-17.2-ASC, dated May 14, 2021, related to the Visitation Waiver and processes for verifying the vaccination status of all visitors, COVID-19 diagnostic tests of visitors who are unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated, and adds a requirement that licensees obtain and track documentation of vaccination or COVID-19 diagnostic tests of visitors who are unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated, in order to have an indoor visit. This PIN also supersedes in part PIN 21-17.2-ASC related to Best Practices for Visitation.

**NEW:** [PIN 21-39-ASC](#) to All Adult and Senior Care Program Residential Licensees, August 25, 2021

Notifies Adult and Senior Care (ASC) licensees and Continuing Care Retirement Community providers that pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order N-12- 21, dated August 16, 2021, authority for COVID-19 related waivers was extended and the waivers will expire no later than December 31, 2021, or earlier as determined by California Department of Social Services.



[PIN 21-38-ASC](#) to All Adult and Senior Care Program Residential Licensees, August 19, 2021

PIN 21-38-ASC supersedes [PIN 21-12-ASC](#), dated February 10, 2021, and [PIN 21-17.2-ASC](#), dated May 14, 2021, in part and provides updated guidance to Adult and Senior Care residential licensees related to face masks, surgical masks, and N95 respirators for facility staff, residents, and visitors. Important! Guidance in PIN 21-12-ASC related to resident isolation and cohorting, staffing considerations based on the resident's COVID-19 status, and use of personal protective equipment (i.e., eye protection, gowns, and gloves) still applies.

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

[PowerPoint Slides](#) from informational call with Adult and Senior Care licensees and their staff to provide information on the Delta variant of COVID-19 and review new infection control guidance.

[PIN 21-36-ASC](#) to Adult Day Program Providers, August 12, 2021

[PowerPoint Slides](#) from informational call with Adult Day Program providers and their staff to provide information on the Delta variant of COVID-19 and review infection control guidance.

[See 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 results who are at high risk for progressing to severe COVID-19 disease 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.

**NEW:** A new MARC location is coming soon to Clairemont Friendship Center in Clairemont. For more information, please visit the [Monoclonal Antibody Regional Center webpage](#).

**NEW:** Rapid Response Teams were recently developed to conduct on-site administration of the treatment and provide training for Skilled Nursing Facility staff in order for the Skilled Nursing Facility staff to administer the treatment in the future. Skilled Nursing Facility staff can contact [mcsdnursingmabinfusion.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:mcsdnursingmabinfusion.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov) to request Rapid Response Teams or ask questions.



## Federal Retail Pharmacy Program (FRPP) Update on COVID-19 Vaccines

**UPDATED:** Through the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program (FRPP), the CDC is allocating COVID-19 vaccines directly to enrolled retail and **LTC pharmacies**. Three LTC-specific groups (MHA, Innovatix-PharMerica, and GeriMed) receive federal doses and allocate them to member pharmacies who can then provide vaccines to LTC facilities. Please note, not every LTC pharmacy in California is enrolled in the FRPP. Those not enrolled in the FRPP may enroll as vaccine providers at [myCAvax](#) or LTC pharmacies may enroll under one of the current Group Purchasing Organizations (MHA, Innovatix-PharMerica, and GeriMed) to receive federal vaccine doses. **To request vaccines from your contracted LTC pharmacy:**

1. Enroll in the San Diego Immunization Registry: <http://www.sdiz.org/cair-sdir/enrollment.html>
2. Contact your pharmacy to determine if they are enrolled in the FRPP.
  - If the LTC pharmacy is enrolled in the FRPP, the pharmacy can subcontract with facilities to also administer the vaccine, and the facility does NOT need to enroll as a vaccine provider.
  - **If the LTC pharmacy is not enrolled in the FRPP, facilities can register to be a vaccinator through <https://mycavax.cdph.ca.gov/s/>.**
3. If your contracted pharmacy cannot assist, you may request assistance from other San Diego LTC pharmacies enrolled in the FRPP:
  - Guardian Pharmacy Services (MHA): [cvrs@guardianpharmacy.net](mailto:cvrs@guardianpharmacy.net)
  - Omnicare of San Diego: [Chadd.Eno@omnicare.com](mailto:Chadd.Eno@omnicare.com)
  - Pharmerica (Innovatix): [ImmunizeLTC@pharmerica.com](mailto:ImmunizeLTC@pharmerica.com)
  - SNP Pharmacy LLC (MHA): [vaccines@snp-rx.com](mailto:vaccines@snp-rx.com)



# 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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