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## TELEBRIEFING

Upcoming Long-Term Care and Residential Care Facilities Sector  
Telebriefing will be **Thursday, December 9, 2021, 2:00-3:00 PM**

[Zoom Meeting Link](#)

[Submit Telebriefing Questions](#)

For listen mode only, call: 1 (669) 900-6833, when prompted, enter the  
following Meeting ID: 826 2009 8291. Passcode: 242111

## SECTOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 8, 2021

We have a new look and format for our Long-Term Care Sector updates! We hope you find the information below helpful and easy to navigate.

We want to thank you for encouraging your staff and residents to get the COVID-19 booster dose. If you have immobile residents and/or residents who are unable to leave the facility (such as those with dementia or behavioral health challenges), please email [COVID-Healthcarestatus@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:COVID-Healthcarestatus@sdcounty.ca.gov) and our team will coordinate on-site COVID-19 booster vaccines for your residents. If you haven't already, please read the County of San Diego Public Health Officer's [letter](#) which strongly recommends the COVID-19 booster dose by December 15. COVID-19 booster doses are available at all [County vaccination sites](#).

If you haven't received your flu shot yet, check out the County website for a list of [Flu Vaccine Locations](#). Due to possible holiday closures, please check the [vaccine schedule](#) to ensure the site is open before arriving.

For more information for long-term care facilities, visit [www.coronavirus-sd.com/LTC](http://www.coronavirus-sd.com/LTC). For other questions, email [COVID-LTC@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:COVID-LTC@sdcounty.ca.gov).

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

**Health Advisory Update #44:  
SARS-CoV-2 virus variant of concern B.1.1.529  
(Omicron)**

On December 1, 2021, the CDC classified Omicron a variant of concern for the United States. Whole genome sequencing of SARS-CoV-2 is critical to better understand the emergence and clinical significance of this new variant. Indications for specimen referral for WGS are provided in this advisory.

[Health Advisory Update #44](#)



**Increasing Seasonal Influenza A Activity, Among  
Young Adults and in College and University  
Settings, During SARS-CoV-2 Circulation**

Recent increases in influenza activity in many places in the United States could mark the beginning of the 2021-2022 influenza season. While influenza activity is still low overall nationally, an increase of influenza A(H3N2) viruses has been detected in recent weeks, with most of these infections occurring in young adults. CDC is aware of influenza outbreaks in colleges and universities in several states. Influenza vaccination coverage is

still low and there is still time this season to benefit from getting an annual influenza vaccine.

[https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/2021/pdf/CDC\\_HAN\\_458.pdf](https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/2021/pdf/CDC_HAN_458.pdf)



## California Department of Public Health

[AFL 21-44](#) to Skilled Nursing Facilities, November 19, 2021

Provides recommendations for the prevention and control of Influenza in California Skilled Nursing Facilities for the 2021-2022 season during the COVID-19 pandemic.

[AFL 21-45](#) to Long-Term Care Facilities, November 19, 2021

Notifies long-term care facilities of the chaptering of Assembly Bill 323 that changes the burden of proof CDPH must meet when issue Class "AA" citations. This bill also creates a new category of citation and increases civil penalty amounts in Skilled Nursing Facilities and intermediate care facilities.

[AFL 21-46](#) to Skilled Nursing Facilities, November 19, 2021

Notifies Skilled Nursing Facilities of the chaptering of Assembly Bill 749 establishing new medical director certification requirements.

[AFL 21-47](#) to Skilled Nursing Facilities and Intermediate Care Facilities, November 19, 2021

Notifies facilities of the of the chaptering of Assembly Bill 849 changing a court's method of computing damages in a civil action against a Skilled Nursing Facility or Intermediate Care Facility for violation of a resident's rights under federal or state law.

[AFL 21-48](#) to Hospices, November 19, 2021

Notifies hospices of the chaptering of Assembly Bill 1280 prohibiting hospices from paying referral sources, specifying staff than can assist in the election of hospice and requiring a specified notice of rights.



## California Department of Social Services

[PIN 21-23-CCLD](#) to All Residential Community Care Providers, November 19, 2021  
Releases the updated estimated Social Security Income and State Supplementary Payment payment standards effective January 1, 2022, for Non-Medical Out-of-Home - Licensed Facility or Without In-Kind Room and Board.

[PIN 21-49-ASC](#) to All Adult and Senior Care Program Licensees, November 17, 2021  
Supersedes in part PIN 21-17.2-ASC, dated May 14, 2021, and provides specific updates to communal dining and entertainment. PIN 21-49-ASC also provides new guidance related to transportation of residents and maintains guidance on non-essential services and group activities.

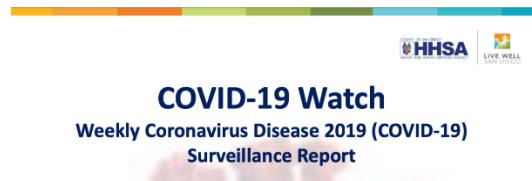
[PIN 21-48-ASC](#) to All Adult and Senior Care Program Licensees, November 17, 2021  
Provides guidance regarding the authority of conservators and agents under powers of attorney related to specified residents' rights.

[PIN 21-47-ASC](#) to All Adult and Senior Care Program Licensees, November 17, 2021  
Powerpoint Slides from Informational call "[Infection Prevention: Boosters and Latest Celebration Guidance](#)"

[See the full list of recent PINs](#)

## COVID-19 UPDATES & RESOURCES

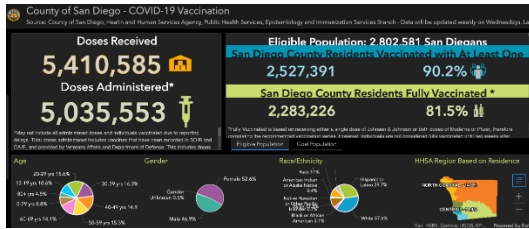
### COVID-19 in San Diego County



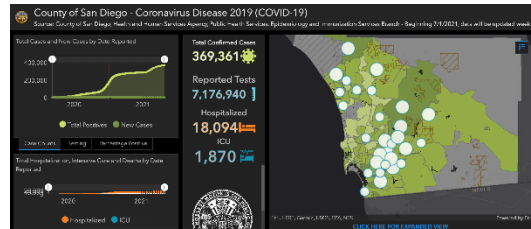
[COVID-19 Watch: Weekly COVID-19 Surveillance Report](#) (12/1/21)



[COVID-19 Weekly Update Presentation](#) (12/1/21)



[County of San Diego - COVID-19 Vaccination Dashboard](#)



[County of San Diego - COVID-19 Dashboard](#)



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

The CDC allocates 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. Not every LTC pharmacy in California is enrolled in the the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program (FRPP). 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): [cvsr@guardianpharmacy.net](mailto:cvsr@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)

## COVID-19 Omicron Variant

As we learn more about the Omicron variant, San Diego County health officials are urging people to continue following existing guidance. To [protect yourself from the Omicron variant](#), you can get vaccinated and get a booster if you qualify, wear a well-fitting mask, get tested if you have COVID-19 symptoms, wash your hands frequently, and practice physical distancing.

- Answers to Tough Questions: [Omicron Variant](#)
- [CDPH Fact Sheet: Omicron Variant](#)
- [CDC Statement on the Omicron Variant](#)



### COVID-19 Booster Dose

Everyone ages 18 and older who received their second Pfizer or Moderna dose at least six months ago or the Johnson & Johnson vaccine at least two months ago **should** get a booster dose. No-cost booster vaccines are widely available throughout the region, including at medical providers' offices, pharmacies, health clinics, and County vaccination locations. Visit [coronavirus-sd.com/vaccine](https://coronavirus-sd.com/vaccine) for more information.

**Resources:** [COVID-19 Booster Vaccines](#), [COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters Questions & Answers](#), *Updated:* [COVID-19 Booster Dose Messaging & Outreach Tools](#)



### COVID-19 Vaccines Myths Toolkit

The FDA has created a new [COVID-19 Vaccines Myths Toolkit](#) with messages and images to help address common myths about the COVID-19 vaccines and share the facts with community members. Messages are available in English, Spanish, Simplified Chinese, Korean, Tagalog, and Vietnamese.

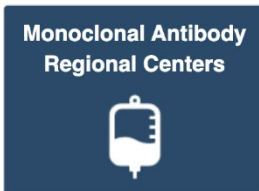


## COVID-19 Vaccination & Testing

- [COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccination in San Diego County](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Questions & Answers](#)
- Vaccination Site Flyers in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)
- [Testing in San Diego County](#)
- [COVID-19 Testing Options](#)

## COVID-19 Educational Materials

- [COVID-19 Educational Materials](#)
- [Evaluating COVID-19 Information](#)
- [COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- Local Doctors Address COVID-19 Misinformation. You can watch the recorded panel in [English](#) or [Spanish](#).



## Monoclonal Antibody Therapy

Monoclonal antibodies may help people with mild or moderate COVID-19 by preventing them from getting sicker and/or hospitalized due to COVID. Monoclonal antibodies are also available for post-exposure prophylaxis as a prevention method for medically eligible individuals. **Call (619) 685-2500** for more information or to schedule an appointment. You are also encouraged to talk to your doctor to see if you are medically eligible for this treatment and to receive a referral. To learn more, visit the [COVID-19 Health Professionals Website](#).

Rapid Response Teams can conduct on-site administration of the treatment and provide training for Skilled Nursing Facility staff in order for your staff to administer the treatment in the future. Skilled Nursing Facility staff can contact [MCSDNursingM\\_MAT.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:MCSDNursingM_MAT.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov) to request Rapid Response Teams or ask questions.

## COMMUNITY RESOURCES



### Get Your Flu Vaccine

Everyone 6 months and older should get a flu vaccine every flu season. The influenza vaccine is now available at doctors' offices, pharmacies, the County's six Public Health Centers, and local community clinics. [Learn more about the flu](#) and find a vaccination site near you!

### Misinformation Toolkit

The US Surgeon General recently released a [Community Toolkit for Addressing Health Misinformation](#). It provides guidance and resources for health care providers, educators, librarians, faith leaders, and trusted community members to understand, identify and stop the spread of misinformation in communities.



### Toolkit for Community & Healthcare Organizations

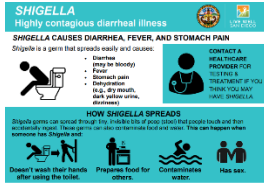
HealthBegins, in partnership with the Commonwealth Fund and the Nonprofit Finance Fund, recently launched the [One-Stop Shop for Clinical-Community Partnerships](#). The guide has resources and tools to support partnerships between healthcare and community organizations, including how to initiate, structure, and finance their partnerships.



### Safer Ways to Celebrate Holidays

For ways to safely celebrate holidays this season, view the [CDC Holiday Celebrations](#), [Spread Joy, Not COVID](#) fact sheet, & [Toolkit: Holiday Safety Tips 2021](#).





## Shigella Fact Sheet

There is a new [Shigella fact sheet](#) available in English and Spanish. With the recent Shigella outbreak in San Diego County, this resource shares important information about how Shigella spreads, who is most at risk, how to prevent the spread, and what to do if you think you may be infected.

## Community Testing, Vaccination, & Outreach Events

Visit the [Community Testing, Vaccination, and Outreach Events Calendar](#) for upcoming events in San Diego County. You can also submit events to be added to this calendar online.