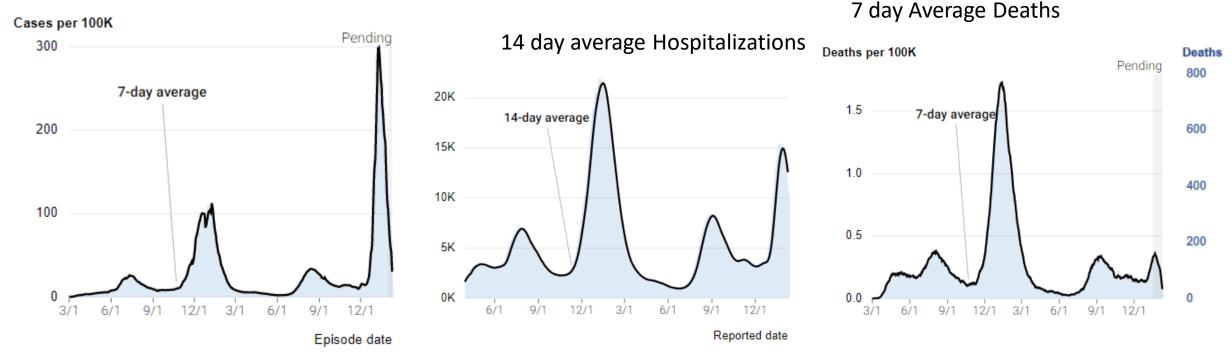
Testing Taskforce: New California COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths



New cases are falling statewide but are still at a high level. Avg. test positivity past 7 days: 8.7%, Down 3.8% from last week Daily New cases: Approximately same as fall Delta peak (Still high)

Hospitalizations and deaths (high but falling)

Test turnaround time improving: Avg. Turnaround time ending 1/29: 1.4d

Turnaround time < 2 days: 88% Turnaround time < 1 day: 71%

Study: BinaxNOW antigen tests- Where to swab? Anterior nasal Cheek, throat low sensitivity to detect COVID-19. Don't do it!

BinaxNOW works similarly against Omicron as other variants

BinaxNOW - More sensitive detecting people with higher viral levels (Same as previous).

Sensitivity of a single BinaxNow antigen test during Omicron surge:

95.2% (95% CI 92-98%); Ct <30

82.1% (95% CI 77-87%) Ct <35

65.2% (95% CI 60-71%) no threshold

Cheek and throat swabs substantially less sensitive for Omicron compared to nasal swabs

BinaxNOW Antigen specimens should be anterior nasal collection

Cheek, throat specimen have low sensitivity for detecting COVID-19 (Don't do it).

Oral cheek failed at detecting 91% of specimens that were collected nasally.

Sensitivity BinaxNOW COVID-19 Ct<30 varies based on specimen type

Nasal swab 97.7% Throat swab 48.8%

Nasal swab 85.7% versus Nasal and throat swab: 89.8%

Repeat testing should be done for high-risk persons with an initial negative antigen test result.