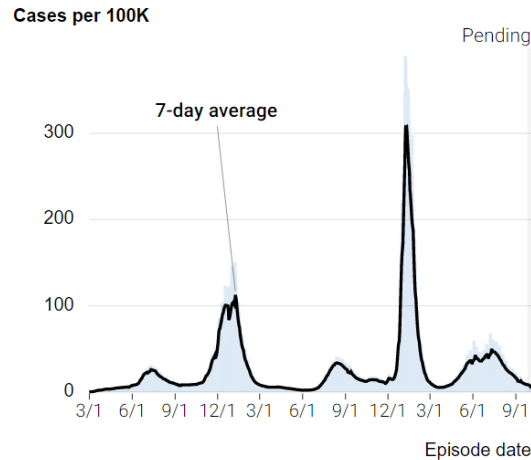
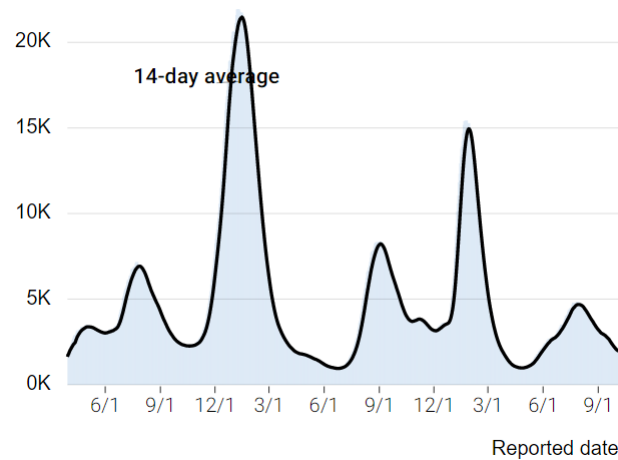


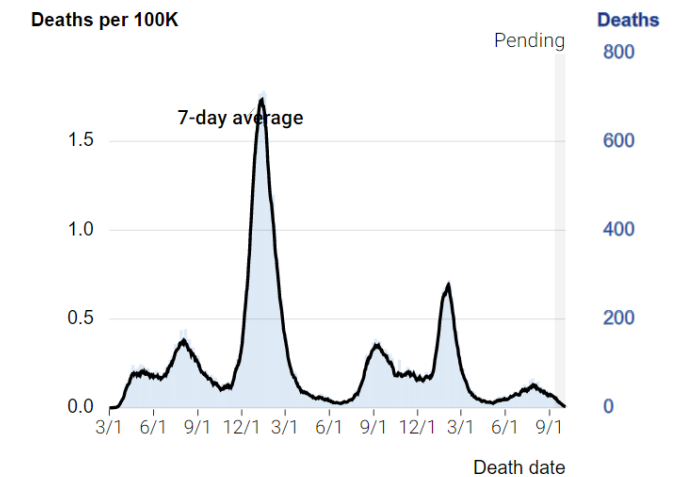
# Testing Taskforce: New California COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths



14 day average Hospitalizations



7 day Average Deaths



Average test positivity past 7 days 4.7%, Down 0.1% from last week

Cases have fallen from the peak, test positivity remains moderately high

14 day average hospitalizations have started to decline but are about 2.5 times the previous level

7 day average deaths remain at low levels.

For the week ending 9/17, 91% of molecular tests resulted in 24 hours and 98% of tests resulted in less than 48 hours.

Oct 6 2022 with data as of Oct 4, 2022.

<https://covid19.ca.gov/state-dashboard/> <https://testing.covid19.ca.gov/>

COVID-19 Cases Dashboard v2.0 - CA Open Data | Tableau Public

# CMS Memo 9/26 on POC testing Rescinded 10/7

This Memo was rescinded.

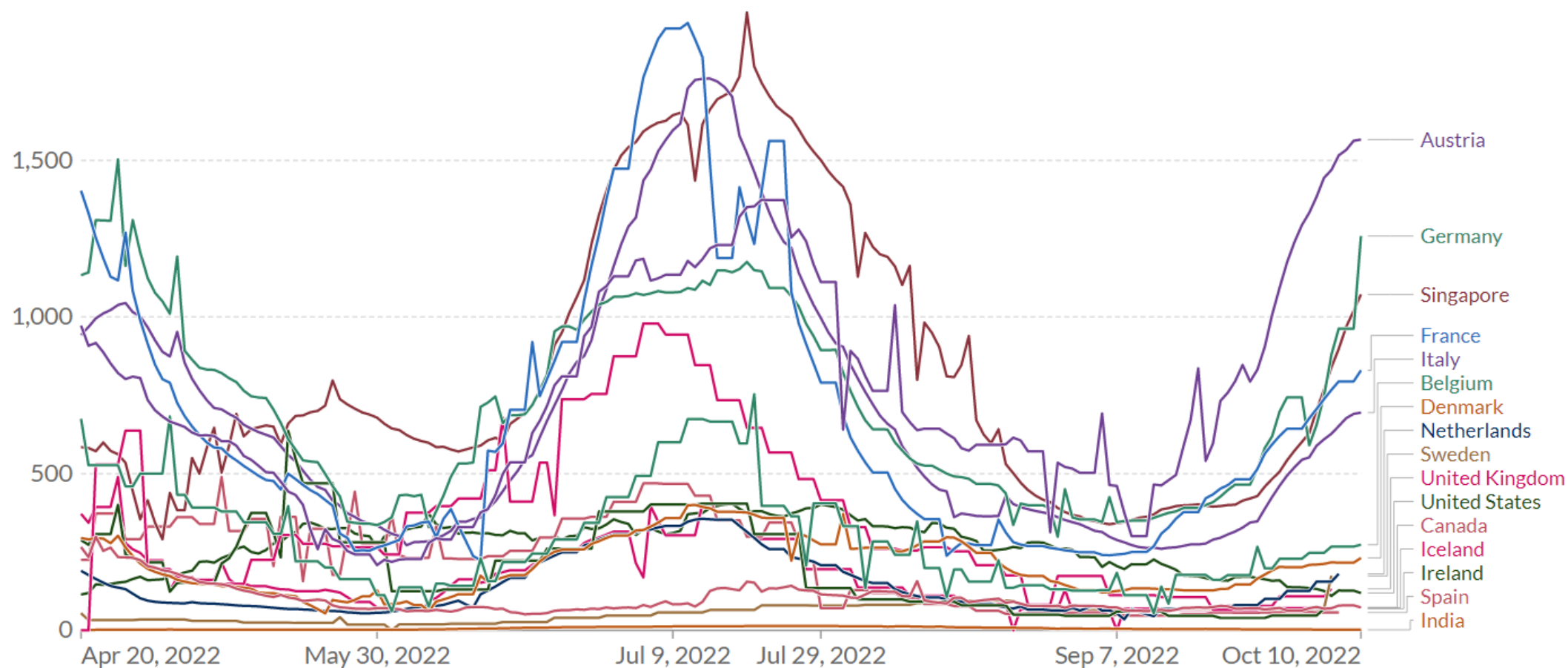
Memo stated that labs must follow the FDA EUA.

Some POC antigen and molecular tests were only approved by FDA EUA process for symptomatic testing and not asymptomatic testing.

<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-22-25-clia-rescinded-1072022.pdf>

# Daily new confirmed COVID-19 cases per million people

7-day rolling average. Due to limited testing, the number of confirmed cases is lower than the true number of infections.



# Variant update

- BA.5: US 79.2%, California 88.5%
- COVID-19 cases are beginning to rise again in Europe and Singapore. Rises in cases in Europe have often preceded rising cases in the US.
- The newer lineages (e.g.BQ.1.1) are likely not the only factor driving those waves
- Waning population immunity likely playing a role.
- Importance of new boosters
- In the US there has been a rise in deaths to ~450-500/day up from a prior baseline of ~250/day.

# Convergent mutations in different strains

- Noticing similar mutations in the emerging strains across lineages that confer fitness advantage

[California Nowcast for variants: CalCAT](#)

CDC Nowcast for variants: <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#variant-proportions>

## BA.4.6

- Defining spike mutation = **S:R346T**
- Mutation at this position within spike previously associated with immune escape
- Growth advantage approximately 16-21% over BA.5
- Most of BA4.6 cases are in the Midwest and Northeast
- Currently 13.6% of cases in the US and 5.4% of cases in California, this has increased somewhat from two weeks ago.

# BF.7, BQ.1, XBB, BA.2.3.20

- BF.7 (BA.5.2.1.7),
  - US: 3.4%
  - California 3.0%, cases are rising
- BQ.1 (daughter of BA.5) 15% growth advantage over BA.5, first reported in the UK, growing fast in Europe, cases have grown by a factor of 8 in 3 weeks. At least 17 cases in California.
- XBB – 6 cases in California
- BA.2.3.20 15% growth advantage over BA.5, at least 6 cases in California

# BA.2.75 and BA.2.75.2

- First detected in India, cases of BA2.75 are rising there, and it is outcompeting BA5
- BA.2.75 has multiple mutations in the spike protein of the virus which may increase infectivity and may evade the immune system. Estimated 5% growth advantage over BA.5
- Daughter strain BA.2.75.2 has a 10% growth advantage and is emerging in California
- BA.2.75 California: 2.3% of sequenced cases
- US 1.8% of sequenced cases
- We are watching this closely



# Paxlovid Resistance Currently Not Seen

- Currently we are **NOT** seeing signs of mutations in SARS-CoV-2 likely to impact the effectiveness of Paxlovid
- We are monitoring the genomic sequencing data for known Paxlovid resistance mutations