



# California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Infection Prevention Webinar

Wednesday, September 15, 2021

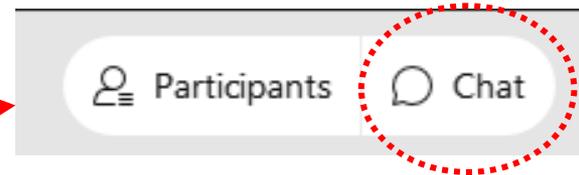
# Upcoming Calls



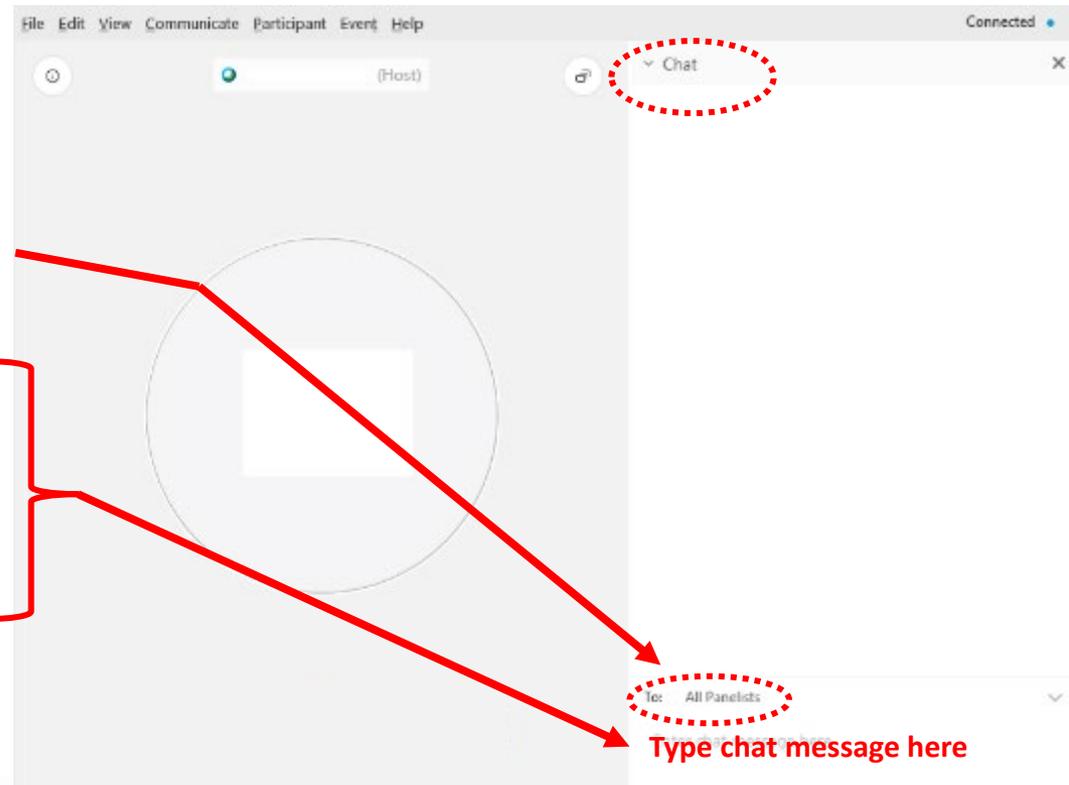
- CDPH Tuesday, 8 a.m., All-Facilities Phone Calls:
  - Call in: **1.844.721.7239**
  - Access code: **799 3227**
- CDPH Wednesday, 3 p.m., SNF Infection Prevention (IP) Webinars:
  - Register at: [hsag.com/cdph-ip-webinars](https://hsag.com/cdph-ip-webinars)
  - Recordings, notes, and slides are posted at registration site
  - Trouble logging in: check link and date at registration site
- CDPH Thursday, 12 noon, SNF IP Phone Calls:
  - Dial-in: **1.877.226.8163**
  - Access Code: **513 711**

# How to Find the Chat Button and Submit a Question

1. To submit a question, click on the **Chat Button** located in the bottom right corner of your Webex window.



2. The **Chat** panel will open on your right.



3. Indicate that you want to send a question to **All Panelists**.

4. Type your question in the box at the bottom of the panel.

5. Press **Enter** on your keyboard to submit your question.

To connect to the audio portion of the webinar, please have Webex call you.

# Please Take 5 Seconds and Let Us Know



We want this call to be meaningful to you, so we need your input.

At the end of the webinar, you will be asked **one question** to determine if this call equipped your organization to manage COVID-19 and/or your infection prevention practices.

# Agenda



- CDPH Updates
- Testing Task Force Updates
- Immunization Branch Update
- National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Vaccine Reporting Updates
- Healthcare-associated Infections (HAI) Updates
- Polls: Staff Shortages & Use of Registry
- Q&A



# CDPH Updates

# Biden-Harris Administration to Expand Vaccination Requirements for Health Care Settings

- CMS, in collaboration with CDC, announced on September 9, 2021, that emergency regulations requiring vaccinations for nursing homes will be expanded to include hospitals, dialysis facilities, ambulatory surgical settings, and home health agencies, among others, as a condition for participating in Medicare and Medicaid.
- CMS is developing an Interim Final Rule with Comment Period that will be issued in October 2021.
- CMS Newsroom Press Release: <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/biden-harris-administration-expand-vaccination-requirements-health-care-settings>
- List of facilities impacted: <https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Find-Your-Provider-Type/Facilities/Facilities-page>



# Testing Taskforce Updates



# Immunization Branch Updates

# Q: When can the flu vaccine be administered?

- **October is optimal but avoid missed opportunities!**
- Don't delay vaccination to find a particular product if an appropriate one is available.
- In September, if the resident might not have an opportunity to be vaccinated after discharge, they may be vaccinated before discharge.
- During flu season, continue to offer vaccine as long as influenza is circulating and unexpired vaccine is available.

# Flu Vaccine Resources and Guidance

- CDC 2021 Flu Clinical Recommendations  
<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/rr/rr7005a1.htm>
- COCA Call: Influenza Vaccination Recommendations and Guidance on Coadministration with COVID-19 Vaccines [https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2021/callinfo\\_090921.asp](https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2021/callinfo_090921.asp)
- #Don'tWaitVaccinate flu campaign materials  
<https://www.immunizeca.org/flu-season/>
- **Reminder:** Other vaccines and TB testing may be done on the same day as COVID-19 vaccines, or within 14 days of any COVID-19 vaccine dose.
  - Coadministration of COVID-19 Vaccine with Other Vaccines job aid  
<https://eziz.org/assets/docs/COVID19/IMM-1385.pdf>
  - If administering COVID-19 vaccine and adjuvanted flu vaccine (Fluad) at the same time, use different arms.



## Q: Are LVNs allowed to administer the COVID-19 vaccine after proper training?

- Yes. LVNs can vaccinate following written standard procedures, under the direction of a physician.
- Licensees authorized to administer vaccines in California: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/Authorized-Licensees-backup.aspx>
- COVID-19 vaccine provider trainings related to vaccine preparation, administration, storage and handling, documentation, and safety at: <https://eziz.org/covid/vaccine-administration/>
  - Scroll down for training for vaccinators



# NHSN Vaccine Reporting Updates

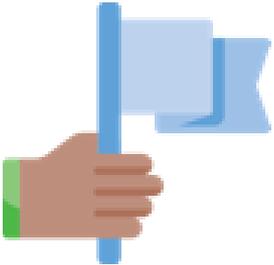
# Reporting Updates—POC Test Reporting Tool

- September 18, 2021
- Additional POC devices added, including some titled “home use”
- Check model name
- NHSN routes reported POC laboratory test result data to the public health agency at the local or state level with jurisdictional authority and responsibility for receiving those data
- Additional options for the race and ethnicity fields

# Reporting Updates—COVID-19 Pathway Data Reporting

- **Resident Impact and Facility Capacity Pathway**
  - Vaccination status will be categorized by initial series and additional or booster dose.
  - Capture residents with a newly positive SARS-CoV-2 viral test result who have also received an additional or booster dose of COVID-19 vaccine 14 days or more before the specimen collection date.
  - “Unspecified” initial series section will include two categories
    - Unspecified partial
    - Unspecified complete

# Upcoming Training #1



- **Topic:** LTCF COVID-19 Module: Resident Impact and Facility Capacity Pathway Updates
- **Date:** Monday, September 20, 2021
- **Time:** 10–11 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:**  
[https://cdc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_LVIK4Kt-Q5O-T2v2J6QydQ](https://cdc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_LVIK4Kt-Q5O-T2v2J6QydQ)
- **Registration required**

# Reporting Updates—Weekly Vaccination Data

- September 2021
- Healthcare Personnel (HCP) section with new required categories
  - **Employees:** Staff on facility payroll
  - **Licensed independent practitioners:** Contracted physicians, advanced practice nurses, and physician assistants
  - **Adult students/trainees and volunteers:** Non-employee students/trainees and volunteers aged 18 or older
  - **Other contract personnel:** Contracted staff who do not fall into any of the other denominator categories
- Question #3.2 (offered but declined COVID-19 vaccine) and question #3.3 (unknown COVID-19 vaccination status) will now be required.

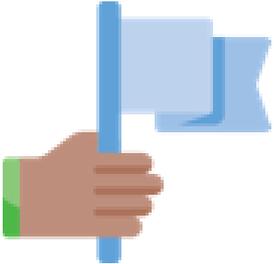
# Reporting Updates—Weekly Vaccination Data

- **Monthly reporting plans** will be required to enter weekly HCP and resident COVID-19 Vaccination data beginning **October 1, 2021**.
- **Level-3** access will be required.
- Must have a NHSN user with Level-3 access to submit or update weekly COVID-19 vaccination data for reporting weeks starting with week ending **October 3, 2021**.

# Level-3 Access

- Instructions to upgrade to Level-3 access available on the NHSN website:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/ltc/covid19/sams-access.html>.
- **Begin this process as soon as possible.**
- E-mail [nhsn@cdc.gov](mailto:nhsn@cdc.gov) with **“SAMS LEVEL 3 ACCESS”** in the subject line for any questions related to this process.
- NHSN strongly encourages all facilities to have at least 2 registered users with Level-3 access.

# Upcoming Training #2



- Changes to Weekly NHSN COVID-19 Vaccination Data Modules
- **Date:** Thursday, September 23, 2021
- **Time:** 11–12 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:**  
[https://cdc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_wQWphrcdRvCy4ATVbJ6BpQ](https://cdc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_wQWphrcdRvCy4ATVbJ6BpQ)
- **Registration required**



# HAI Updates

# New CDC and CMS Guidance, September 10, 2021

- CDC: Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations to Prevent SARS-CoV-2 Spread in Nursing Homes  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/long-term-care.html>
- CMS QSO-20-38-NH  
<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-38-nh-revised.pdf>
  - Revised COVID-19 staff testing is based on the facility's county level of community transmission instead of county test positivity rate. The frequency of testing has also been updated.
  - Two options to conduct outbreak testing, through either a contact tracing or broad-based testing approach.
  - Updated recommendations for quarantine of fully vaccinated residents.
- Testing frequency for exempt unvaccinated HCP required by the July 26, 2021, State Public Health Officer Order exceeds and supersedes frequency based on county transmission.
- CDPH is reviewing updated CDC outbreak testing and quarantine guidance and incorporating into relevant AFLs; in the meantime, SNF should continue to follow current guidance in existing AFLs.

# NEW CDPH AFLs Updated September 9, 2021

- AFL 21-08.4 Guidance on Quarantine for HCP  
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/AFL-21-08.aspx>
  - Revision includes guidance on return to work for HCP diagnosed with COVID-19, including strategies to mitigate HCP staffing shortages.
- AFL 21-34 COVID-19 Vaccine Requirement for HCP  
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/AFL-21-34.aspx>
  - Notifies facilities of the August 5, 2021, State Public Health Officer Order related to mandatory vaccination for health care workers.
  - Requires HCP to receive COVID-19 vaccination no later than September 30, 2021, unless exempt.
  - Facilities must document HCP COVID-19 vaccination or exemption status by September 30, 2021, to be in full compliance.
  - “The employer may request documentation of a medical exemption or a religious exemption in accordance with federal and state antidiscrimination law.”

# Guidance for SNFs if HCP is Not Fully Vaccinated by September 30, 2021

- **Q:** What should SNFs do if HCP (existing or new hires) have had their first dose, but they are scheduled to get their second dose after September 30, 2021? Can they still work if they wear an N95 and test two times a week like an HCP with an exemption?
- **A:** Following September 30, 2021, unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated HCP (including new hires) that do not have an exemption are not able to work in areas that could potentially expose residents or other HCP that could expose residents. While waiting to become fully vaccinated, they can work on other functions that do not expose residents and they need to be tested twice a week.

# Q: Is a negative test result required prior to a SNF accepting a new admission from a hospital?

- **A:** No, a negative test result is not required prior to admission to a SNF from a hospital. See CDPH AFL 20-53.5:  
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/AFL-20-53.aspx>
  - Testing recommended for unvaccinated or partially vaccinated newly admitted residents prior to admission, including transfers from hospitals or other healthcare facilities.
  - If the hospital does not test the patient within 72 hours prior to transfer, the SNF must test upon admission.
  - Results for asymptomatic patients tested in the hospital do not have to be available prior to SNF transfer.
  - **SNFs may not require a negative test result prior to accepting a new admission.**
  - If tested at the hospital, two negative tests are not required prior to transfer.



# Polls: Staff Shortages & Use of Registry

How many days during the week do you have registry staff working in your facility (or per facility on average)?

- A. 5-7 days
- B. 2-4 days
- C. 0-1 days
- D. We do not need registry staff normally

On an average day, how many registry staff do you have working at any given time in your facility (or per facility on average)?

- A. 10 or more
- B. 5-9
- C. 1-4
- D. Infrequent use or less than one per day on average

How many RNs, LVNs, and CNAs do you currently need in your facility (or per facility on average)?

- A. 16 or more RNs, LVNs, and CNAs
- B. 11-15 RNs, LVNs, and CNAs
- C. 6-10 RNs, LVNs, and CNAs
- D. 1-5 RNs, LVNs, and CNAs
- E. No open positions for care staff

# Questions?





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