



July 22, 2022

***New Information From Your CPMG Medical Directors...
... always interesting to us – hopefully useful to you!***

From: Morris, Kenneth MD <kmorris@rchsd.org>

Sent: Friday, July 22, 2022 12:16 PM

Subject: CPCMG/RCPMS COVID CHRONICLES 7/22/2022 (edition #217)

These are every other week updates for all CPCMG and RCPMS staff. Other valued community members which include all CPMG affiliates and Rady's Executives, as asked, have been included for the sake of collaboration. Please note that the information included herein is geared towards CPCMG & RCPMS staff and while generally useful to the broad community, all aspects may not always be applicable to your respective organizations.

Narrative

I'm back from my Portugal trip and neither Meredith nor I managed not to bring home any unwanted hitchhikers in the shape of Covid. Some might think that this is a pretty good feat considering the huge amount of travel related Covid. We were compulsive about wearing masks indoors including on the airplanes, airports and public transportation. When it came to eating, besides partaking in Portugal's excellent dining scene, we had one requirement and that was eating outdoors. Portugal had a mandatory mask requirement for public transportation, but there otherwise wasn't a lot of mask wearing. With that said, this is an improvement in compliance compared to the states.



After hitting my emails over the last several days, we continue with a large number of staff and clinician Covid infections. Most are known or suspected external exposures, a couple were suggested to be patient exposures. What is bemusing to me were several that were unknown reported attending 4th of July gatherings and BBQ's. Hello! If you attend an indoor gathering without a mask, you might as well just grab a cup of water and swallow your Covid pill with one gulp. In fact, one of our sites had a weekend gathering recently and several staff members have since tested positive tied to that gathering. This weekend, please expect that if you attend Comic-con without a mask, you can pretty much assume that it will morph into Covid-con for you! I read an article in the UT this week and a few salient points were made:

- In San Francisco, Covid wastewater levels are currently even higher than during the Winter surge (recorded cases are not as high, but this is likely due to ignoring

likely infections by many and underreported cases due to home antigen testing). Note: current wastewater virus levels in San Diego have been significantly increasing over the past 3 weeks.

- At UCSF hospitals, 5.7% of asymptomatic patients are testing positive. The article goes on to say that if you go into a group of 100 people, there is a 99.7% chance that someone in the crowd has Covid and is potentially contagious. Think about this the next time you go to a bar or in an airport.
- The current so called 6th wave of the pandemic has lasted twice as long as the fall and winter waves. Some of this is fueled by the fact that vaccine and prior infection immunity has been marginalized by the newer variants AND that we are collectively doing much less to temper the spread (no mask wearing).

The downstream impact is that SDUSD has renewed its indoor mask mandate as have many UC campuses. Other counties such as Los Angeles are currently considering reinstating indoor mask mandates by as early as sometime this month.

Quick Hitters

- The next variant said to be on the rise, named BA.2.75, has been gaining traction in parts of India with several cases identified on the West Coast of the US and 6 other states. The basis of concern is that the strain has 8 additional mutations beyond the BA.5 variant. With that said, Scripps Research Translational Institute guru, Dr. Eric Topol, describes BA.2.75 as a “scariant,” meaning that it is not really spreading anywhere except in a couple of providences in India without BA.5 to compete with it.
- UT Opinion Piece: *COVID-19 vaccination is approved for babies. As a pediatrician, here’s why I recommend it.* By Dr. John Bradley, ID specialist at Rady. <https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/opinion/commentary/story/2022-07-13/covid-19-vaccine-infant-young-children-rady>
- On July 7th, CPCMG passed the 20,000 mark of Covid vaccines administered to patients and staff. Great job team CPCMG/RCPMS!

Omicron (extracted from the Rady’s Town Hall 7/7/22)

- **Monoclonal Antibodies:** Bectelovimab is still active against BA.4 and BA.5, the currently circulating strains! It can still be used to prevent progression of infection in high-risk patients (not treatment of infection).
- **Evusheld:** Evusheld is less active (reduced activity 33-65 fold) against BA.4 and BA.5, and the FDA has authorized an INCREASED DOSE
 - 300 mg each component (tixagevimab and cilgavimab), rather than 150 mg
 - The volume of each injection for the new, higher dose will be larger, 3 mL instead of 1.5 mL (limited to large muscles on the body that can accommodate this volume)
 - Health care professionals should contact patients who received the previously authorized Evusheld dose to return for an additional 150 mg tixagevimab and 150 mg cilgavimab dose as soon as possible
- **Paxlovid:** Still retains activity against BA.2.12.1, BA.4 and BA.5
 - Documented to work for high-risk people at risk of progression of disease-hospitalization-death Pfizer (EPIC-HR)

- New study by Pfizer (EPIC-SR), no statistical benefit for younger, low risk people, particularly those who are vaccinated: no changes to EUA
- Rebound
 - If your immune system has not kicked in after 5 days of Paxlovid therapy (given to high-risk populations, not as likely to have as robust a response as healthy young people), the virus may, simply, come back
 - 5.5-8.5% of people treated with Paxlovid will have rebound within 30 days of treatment (CA Public Health)...maybe some need 10 days Rx?

The Quest for Immunity

- UT Opinion Piece: *COVID-19 vaccination is approved for babies. As a pediatrician, here's why I recommend it.* By Dr. John Bradley, ID specialist at Rady. <https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/opinion/commentary/story/2022-07-13/covid-19-vaccine-infant-young-children-rady>
- **Novavax**
 - Formal EUA granted by the FDA with a formal authorization granted by the CDC. 3.2 million doses have been ordered by the US government. It is not yet clear as to when those vaccine doses will be available to those that desire/need them.
- **Moderna/Pfizer**
 - “It is likely that we will have fall boosters of COVID vaccines, reflecting the circulating strains, similar to flu shots.”
 - BA.4/BA.5 boosters can be available by October (original Omicron boosters may be available later this summer).
- **Current COVID-19 Vaccine Timing by Age (Routine & Immunocompromised Schedules)**

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/downloads/COVID-19-vacc-schedule-at-a-glance-508.pdf>

- **Mandates (no changes)**
 - All HCW's are required to have their booster unless they have a medical or religious exemption (which can be extended in some cases when appropriate). Those with an exemption in place continue to be required to participate in 1-2 times per week surveillance testing.

Cases & Numbers (as of 7/22/2022)

- National
 - CDC 7-Day Trends in US COVID-19 Cases: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/covid-data/covidview/index.html>
 - Hospitalizations and Cases are on the rise nationally with global cases up 30% worldwide driven by BA.5 and other Omicron relatives.
 - As of July 12th, the nation's 7-day Covid case average was 129,858 (up 19% from the previous 2 weeks).

- As of July 19th, the nation's 7-day Covid case average (126,454) fell slightly compared to the previous week.
 - As of July 16th, CDC projected estimates for new cases (>90% in the US for the so called sister variants): <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#variant-proportions>
 - BA.5: 77.9%
 - BA.4: 12.8%
 - BA.2.12.1: 8.6%
 - B.2: 0.6%
 - Worldwide, BA.4/BA.5 now make up more than 69% of cases
 - State
 - At the state level, average daily case rates increased over the past 21 days (17,785 vs 16,920) compared to the previous reporting period.
 - Local
 - In San Diego, average daily case rates increased over the past 21 days (1,715 vs 1,577) compared to the previous reporting period
 - COVID-19 Weekly
Update: https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/hhsa/pr/programs/phs/Epidemiology/COVID-19_Daily_Status_Update.pdf
 - [San Diego Wastewater Surveillance - SEARCH](#) (searchcovid.info) levels were 6.0 million virus/liter on 6/29/22 and have trended upward to 8.0 million viruses/liter on 7/13/22 and **were at 15.5 million viruses/liter on 7/20/22** at the Pt. Loma treatment facility.
 - In Riverside, average daily case rates increased over the past 21 days (1056 vs 814) compared to the previous reporting period.

Dr. Morris, CDC & Public Health Words of Wisdom:

- **Don't Wait—It's not too late—Please Vaccinate-And Get Your Booster Too!**
- **Avoid Crowds, wear masks if crowds cannot be avoided**
- **Do NOT come to work with any symptoms**
 - **You are not a pest, if in doubt, please test!**
- **If unvaccinated, don't travel**
 - **If you do travel, test upon return**

In today's edition, we have some updates on new and existing topics for the following:

- Vaccimeter
- Covid Cases (48 **NEW** Staff & 14 **NEW** Clinician Cases over the past 3 weeks)
- School Decision & Childcare Decision Trees
- What Happens if my Patient Changes from 4 To 5 y/o After Receiving Their 1st Dose of Pfizer or They Are Given the Wrong Age Dose?
- Rady Town Hall News (7/7/2022)
 - Embedded in opening section
- Covid Testing Options
- SARS Co-V-2 Strain Mutations (updated)
- The Quest for Immunity-Vaccination Information (repeated)

RISK LEVEL-INCIDENT COMMAND

- CPCMG/RCPMS Risk Level: 4
- Healthcare Strategy: Contingency
- Updates:
 1. Indoor Masking: mandatory regardless of vaccination status.
 2. High Volume Scheduling: currently effective
- CDC Covid Community Level: (for determining community guidelines)
 - San Diego: Medium (Yellow)àHigh (Red)
 - Riverside: Medium (Yellow)

COVID-19 Community Levels – Use the Highest Level that Applies to Your Community				
New COVID-19 Cases Per 100,000 people in the past 7 days	Indicators	Low	Medium	High
Fewer than 200	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	<10.0	10.0-19.9	≥20.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	<10.0%	10.0-14.9%	≥15.0%
200 or more	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	NA	<10.0	≥10.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	NA	<10.0%	≥10.0%

- CDC Covid Transmission: (healthcare guidelines are based on transmission)
 - San Diego: High (**Red**)
 - Riverside: High (**Red**)

Determining Transmission Risk

If the two indicators suggest different transmission levels, the higher level is selected

	Low	Moderate	Substantial	High
New cases per 100,000 persons in the past 7 days*	<10	10-49.99	50-99.99	≥100
Percentage of positive NAATs tests during the past 7 days**	<5%	5-7.99%	8-9.99%	≥10.0%

VACCIMETER (as of 7/22/2022)

	% of Pop 1 or More Doses	% of Pop Fully Vaccinated	Booster Dose Received (≥ 5 y/o)	2 nd Booster Dose Received (≥ 50 y/o)	Comments
National CDC Vaccine Tracker	78.7%	67.2%	48.2%	29.7%	
California CA Vaccine Tracker	79.5%	71.5%	58.1%	-----	
San Diego SD Vaccine Rate	89.8%*	79.3%*	58.0%	-----	*6 m/o and above
Riverside RS Vaccine Rate	65.7%	59.4%	29.4%	-----	

- **Covid vaccines:** As of 7/21/22, CPCMG offices have administered more than 21,600 Covid vaccine doses (mostly in the 5-11 y/o age group and now adding the 6 m/o-4 y/o age group).

COVID CASES (as of 7/22/22)

- **CPCMG (Clinician) COVID Positive cases (confirmed): 80à94** (since the last Chronicles)
- **RCPMS (Staff) COVID Positive Cases (confirmed): 346à394** (since the last Chronicles)
 - 14 **NEW** Clinician 48 **NEW** Staff Cases:
 - Known External Source: 50%
 - Suspected External Source: 33%*
 - Suspected Internal Source: 0%

- Unknown Source: 17%
 - *1 case with reinfection 1 month apart
 - We are up to (5) staff who have had Covid three or more times with one of the five reportedly having had Covid four separate times.
 - 11 of 420+ positive cases that are possibly work-related exposure (worker to worker). 8 cases in question had identified breaks in PPE or social distancing protocols and the others had suspected brief breaks in PPE protocols.
 - **CPCMG Patient COVID Positives & Interesting Cases**
 - As of 7/18/2022: >12,303 (↑150 three weeks ago and ↑142 two week ago and ↑182 in the past week). This number does not include patients testing positive at County sites or hospital labs outside of the Rady, Quest or Lab Corp network. It also does not include home antigen testing of course.

Riverside County Weekly Update Total Covid Cases: 659,369 (as of 7/21/22)

Riverside County Total Pediatric (0-17 y/o) Cases: 113,722 (17.2% of cases)

average # of new daily cases with the previous report	814
average # of new daily cases over the past 21 days	1056

7 Day Test Positivity Rate: data unavailable

San Diego County Total Covid Cases: 870,079 (as of 7/21/22)

San Diego County Total Pediatric (0-19 y/o) Cases: 184,242 (21.2% of cases)

average # of new daily cases with the previous report	1,577
average # of new daily cases over the past 21 days	1,715

7 Day Test Positivity Rate: 18.6% (↑from 14.5% 3 weeks ago)

Statewide Total Covid Cases: 9,804,803 (as of 7/22/22)

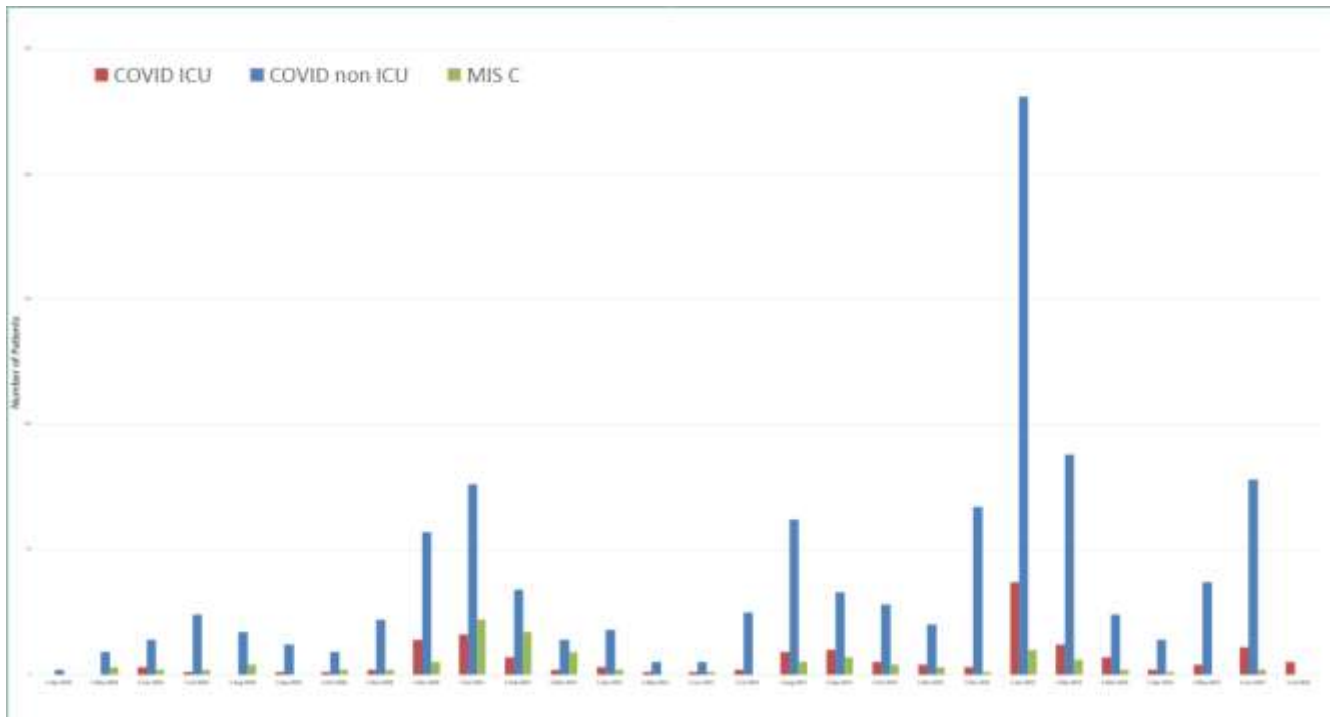
Statewide Total Pediatric (0-17 y/o) Cases: 1,795,574 (18.3% of cases)

average # of new daily cases with the previous report	16,920
average # of new daily cases over the past 21 days	17,785↑

7 Day Test Positivity Rate: 16.4% (↑from 14.8% 3 weeks ago)

MIS-C: 1,007 (↑3) total cases as of 7/18/2022 (over the past 3 weeks)

Total Pediatric Deaths in CA: 25 (↑0 for < 5 y/o) and 48 (↑1 for 5-17 y/o) as of 7/21/22



Hospitalizations at Rady's as of 7/6/22.

SCHOOL DECISION & CHILDCARE DECISION TREES

The school decision tree is linked as follows: See [COVID-19 > Health Practices > Guidelines for Schools \(sdcoe.net\)](#). It has been last updated June 28th.

- SDCOE e-decision tree (updated 4/11/2022): <https://limesurvey.sdsc.edu/limesurvey/index.php/255916?newtest=Y&lang=en>
- For the [Childcare COVID Decision Tree](#) click the hyperlink for the most up to date decision tree updated last on May 23rd.

WHAT HAPPENS IF MY PATIENT CHANGES FROM 4 TO 5 Y/O AFTER RECEIVING THEIR 1ST DOSE OF PFIZER OR THEY ARE GIVEN THE WRONG AGE DOSE?

- The CDC recommends vaccine recipients receive the recommended age-appropriate vaccine product and dosage based on their age on the day of vaccination. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/downloads/Pfizer-Child-Age-Transition-508.pdf>
 - If a person moves from a younger age group to an older age group during the primary series or between the primary series and receipt of the booster dose(s), they should receive the vaccine product and dosage for the older age group for all subsequent doses.
- If a person receives a higher than authorized dose or a lower than authorized dose at the age transition, the dose should be counted and not repeated.

RADYS TOWN HALL NEWS (courtesy of Dr. Bradley/Dr. Pong/Chris Abe)

Last Town Hall 7/7/2022 (contents of interest incorporated in the opening section

Rady’s Vaccine Clinic

- Hours: Tuesday – Saturday 7am-5pm
 - <https://scheduling.rchsd.org/rchsd-family> (password: cares2021) or by
 - Epic MyChart or by
 - <https://myturn.ca.gov/>

SARS CO-V-2 STRAIN MUTATIONS (updated)

There is now a new variant classification from the CDC:

- **Variant of Concern (VOC)**: characterized by being more contagious, likely to cause more severe symptoms, resistant to treatment and more resistant to vaccines.
 - Omicron variant (B.1.1.529, BA.1, BA.1.1, BA.2, BA.3, BA.4 and BA.5 lineages)
- **Variants Being Monitored (VBM)**: potential or known effect on treatment, more severe symptoms, increased transmission

Origin/Lineage Name: Variants Being Monitored (VBM)	Name
British-B.1.1.7 & Q lineages	Alpha
South Africa-B.1.351 & descendent lineages	Beta
Brazil-P.1 and descendent lineages	Gamma
B.1.617.2 and AY lineages	Delta
CA-B.1.427/B.1.429	Epsilon
Brazil-P.2	Zeta
Multiple-B.1.525	Eta
NY-B.1.526	Iota
India-B.1617.1	Kappa
Colombia-B.1.621, B.1.621.1	Mu

CA Variant [Tracker](#) & [Outbreak.info](#) & [CDC CA Breakdown](#)

CA Variants as of 7/21/22	BA.2 (O)	BA.4.1 (O)	BA.4 (O)	BA.5 (O)	BA.2.12.1 (O)	BA.5.2.1 (O)	BA.5.5 (O)	BA.5.6 (O)	BA.5.1 (O)	BA.5.2 (O)	Other
Lineage											
% (over 30 days)	3%	6%	5%	3%	26%	17%	8%	6%	5%	4%	18%

COVID TESTING OPTIONS

- [State of CA COVID-19 Testing Sites](#)
- [San Diego County Testing Website-Self Scheduling Options](#)
- [San Diego County Testing Sites](#)
- [Riverside County Public Health Testing Sites](#)
- [County of Riverside Funded Testing Locations](#)

[Test to Treat Locator Map](#)

Rady Children's:

- **COVID Drive Through Testing**
 - 8001 Frost Street (parking lot near the vaccine clinic)
 - Hours are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., seven days a week
 - Complete an order for your patients in Epic OR have your patient self-order: <https://redcap.rchsd.org/surveys/?s=XXPXJTT9MD>
 - Call 858-966-8399 Monday-Friday 8:30am-5pm for a drive through appointment
- **Walk in Testing at the MOB**
 - 3030 Children's Way; San Diego, CA 92126
 - Hours are 7:30-5:00 M-F, 9-1 on Saturday
 - Wait times have been as long as 2-3 hours
- Fill out the testing request form first then call 858-966-8399 Monday-Friday 8:30am-5pm
- Patient filled out request: <https://redcap.rchsd.org/surveys/?s=XXPXJTT9MD>

Private Options

- www.covidclinic.org
- <https://hummingbirdrx.com/>

THE QUEST FOR IMMUNITY-VACCINATION INFORMATION

San Diego County COVID-19 Vaccine Web Page: [San Diego County Public Health COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

CA COVID-19 Vaccine Web Page: <https://covid19.ca.gov/vaccines/>

CDC COVID-19 Vaccine Web Page: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/index.html>

CDC V-Safe Registration: <https://vsafe.cdc.gov/>

CDC COVID-19 Vaccine Special Considerations: [CDC Interim Clinical Considerations](#)

CA My Turn: <https://myturn.ca.gov/> (use google)

CA Digital COVID-19 Vaccine Record: <https://myvaccinerecord.cdph.ca.gov/>

CDC COVID-19 Vaccine Errors/Deviations: [CDC Covid Vaccine Errors/Deviations](#)

CDC COVID-19 Vaccine Info for Parents of Children &

Teens: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/adolescents.html>

AAP COVID-19 Vaccine FAQ's: [AAP About the COVID-19 Vaccine: FAQ's](#)

CDC Pediatric Professional COVID-19 Vaccine Tool

Kit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/toolkits/pediatrician.html>

Regional Covid Clinic Clinical

Direction: <https://cpcmg.knowledgeowl.com/help/covid-vaccine-administration-guidelines>

COVID Anti-Viral Med Locator: <https://covid-19-therapeutics-locator-dhhs.hub.arcgis.com/>

THE FOLLOWING TOPICS HAVE REPEATED GUIDANCE FROM PREVIOUS COVID CHRONICLES EDITIONS (thanks to Dr. Jacobson, they are now hyperlinked)

- [TESTING-FALSE POSITIVE EVALUATION \(last 12/11/2020\)](#)
- [NEWBORNS & COVID-19 POSITIVE MOTHERS \(last 7/31/2020\)](#)
- [IN CLINIC ALBUTEROL & NEBULIZER GUIDANCE \(last 9/4/2000\)](#)
- [CDC HIGHER RISK CONDITIONS FOR SEVERE COVID ILLNESS](#)

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Knowledge Base

Please visit the [CPCMG Knowledge Base](#) for all sign-ups, knowledge articles, and tip sheets.

Thanks,

-KM

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Pronouns: he/him ([why this is here](#))

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