



11-26-2022

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

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

Sent: Saturday, November 26, 2022 8:53 AM

Subject: CPCMG/RCPMS COVID CHRONICLES 11/25/2022 (edition #226)

These are every other week updates (COVID Chronicles Edition #226) 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 hope everyone had a happy and Covid/Flu/RSV free Thanksgiving with their families.

Quick Hitters

- After peaking about 4 months ago at around 20%, Covid positivity rates at Rady's remain lower at 3.5%-4.1% over the past 2 weeks. After briefly showing an upward trend enterprise wide at CPCMG, the # of weekly positive Covid tests decreased averaging 55 positives/week over the past 2 weeks (was 91 positive tests/week over the preceding 2 weeks).
 - While a decrease in positivity and cases was seen in our cohort of pediatric patients, the same does not hold true for overall Covid positivity rates and cases rates in San Diego, Riverside and at the state level with numbers trending upward.
 - Additionally, San Diego Covid wastewater levels have slowly increased over the past 3 weeks from 1.1 million viruses/liter à 4.3 million viruses/liter.
- BQ.1 and BQ.1.1 now account for more than 57% of new Covid Infections in the US. From Becker's: here is what the experts are saying about therapeutics against these two variants:
 - Moderna Bivalent: When tested against BQ.1.1, the Moderna bivalent booster showed "robust neutralizing activity." Follow-up tests of Moderna bivalent booster found higher neutralizing antibody responses against BA.4, BA.5, BA.2.75 and BA.1

- Pfizer's Bivalent: Compared to its original formula, neutralizing antibodies against BQ.1.1 increased 8.7 times in Pfizer's omicron-focused booster, the company [said](#) Nov. 18. The tweaked vaccine also offers better protection against omicron subvariants BA.4.6, BA.2.75.2 and XBB.1.
- Paxlovid: The drug does not bind to the spike protein like other treatments; rather, it binds to SARS coronavirus' main proteinase "to inhibit viral replication" according to a Pfizer spokesperson. As such, Paxlovid has avoided resistance from current variants of concern.
- Evusheld: New viral variants may be resistant to Evusheld, the only COVID-19 preexposure prophylaxis treatment with emergency use authorization, the FDA [said](#) Oct. 3. The agency still recommends Evusheld as a preventive measure for people at the highest risk of severe illness who cannot get vaccinated.
- Monoclonal Ab (Bebtelovimab): The FDA [updated](#) its healthcare provider fact sheet for the COVID-19 treatment Nov. 3 with the warning that bebtelovimab is unlikely to neutralize omicron subvariants BQ.1 and BQ.1.1

The Quest for Immunity

- **Bivalent Boosters**
 - At **CPCMG**: availability varies site by site
 - For Health Care Workers: While strongly encouraged at CPCMG/RCPMS, the Bivalent Covid-19 vaccine is not mandatory at this time.
 - Coming Soon! Pfizer Bivalent single dose vials for boosters
 - Available to order the week after Thanksgiving (beginning 11/28/22)
 - 10 single dose vials/carton
 - Same storage and handling (may refrigerate 10 weeks within expiration date)
 - See updated product guide: <https://eziz.org/assets/docs/COVID19/IMM-1399.pdf>
 - Coming Soon! Bivalent vaccine boosters for 6 m/o 4 y/o in mid to late December
- **Covid Vaccination Status (VACCIMETER)**: As of 11/24/22, CPCMG offices have administered more than 34,500 Covid vaccine doses (mostly in the 5-11 y/o and the 6 m/o-4 y/o age groups).
- **Covid Vaccine Mandates**
 - All HCW's continue to be required to be "fully vaccinated" (see revision re definition above) unless they have a medical or religious exemption (which can be extended in some cases when appropriate).

Masking Guidelines

- Note: states can choose to be more restrictive and at this point, CDPH has chosen not to follow CDC guidance with regards to healthcare workers. Currently as of 9/30/22, there are no changes for us in CA.

Masking and COVID-19 in California: When is Masking Recommended? When is it Required?

- Masking is required at all times in healthcare facilities.

Cases & Numbers (as of 11/25/2022)

- National
 - As of November 25th, there have been more than 98.4 million Covid cases reported to the US.
 - CDC 7-Day Trends in US COVID-19 Cases: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/covid-data/covidview/index.html>
 - As of November 9th, the Covid case 7-day average (41,412) **increased** 6.1% compared to the previous 7-day average (39,016)
 - As of November 16th, the Covid case 7-day average (40,102) decreased 3.2% compared to the previous 7-day average (41,412)
 - For the week ending November 26th, the CDC variant projected estimates for new cases (looking back over 4 weeks): <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#variant-proportions>

• BQ.1.1	18.8%-->24.1%-->24.2%-->29.4%
• BQ.1:	16.5%-->20.1%-->25.5%-->27.9%
• BA.5:	39.2%-->29.7%-->24.0%-->19.4%
• BF.7:	9.0%-->7.8%-->7.8%-->7.0%
• BA.4.6:	9.5%-->5.5%-->4.4%-->3.3%
• XBB:	3.1%
• BN.1:	4.3%-->5.1%-->2.9%
• BA.2.75:	2.3%-->1.2%-->1.1%-->2.6%
• BA.5.2.6:	3.1%-->2.9%-->1.9%-->1.8%
• BF.11:	1.0%-->1.1%
• BA.2:	1.3%-->1.2%-->0.8%
• BA.2.75.2:	1.3%-->0.9%-->0.8%-->0.6%
- State
 - At the state level, average daily case rates **increased** over the past 14 days (5,280 vs 3,101) compared to the previous reporting period.
- Local
 - In San Diego, average daily case rates **increased** over the past 14 days (388 vs 265) compared to the previous reporting period
 - COVID-19 Weekly
Update: https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/hhsa/pr/ogams/phs/Epidemiology/COVID-19_Daily_Status_Update.pdf

- [San Diego Wastewater Surveillance - SEARCH \(searchcovid.info\)](#) levels were at 1.1 million viruses/liter on 11/1/22, 1.4 million viruses/liter on 11/8/22, 3.0 million viruses/liter on 11/15/22 and 4.3 million viruses/liter on 11/22/22 at the Pt. Loma treatment facility.
- In Riverside, average daily case rates **increased** over the past 14 days (248 vs 158) compared to the previous reporting period (although there was no new data submitted Wednesday prior to Thanksgiving).

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 you have symptoms and your test is negative, this is not a license to come to work!**
- **If you have symptoms at work, you must reach out to Occ Health for permission to test at your site (whether that is Covid or Flu)**
- **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:

- School Decision & Childcare Decision Trees
- Rady's Town Hall News
- 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: Conventional
- 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: Low (**Green**)
 - Riverside: Low (**Green**)
 - CA: The entire state of CA is in the **Green** now for the first time in months

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: Substantial (**Orange**)
 - Riverside: Substantial (**Orange**)

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%

COVID CASES (as of 11/25/22)

- **CPCMG (Clinician) COVID Positive cases (confirmed): 109à111** (since the last Chronicles)
- **RCPMS (Staff) COVID Positive Cases (confirmed): 445à448** (since the last Chronicles)

- 2 **NEW** Clinician 3 **NEW** Staff Cases:
- We are up to (5) staff who have had Covid three or more times with two of the five reportedly having had Covid four separate times.
- 11 of 550+ 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 11/21/2022: >14,451 (↑85 two weeks ago and ↑25 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: 702,343 (as of 11/17/22)

Riverside County Total Pediatric (0-17 y/o) Cases: 120,416 (17.1% of cases)

average # of new daily cases with the previous report	158
average # of new daily cases over the past 14 days	248↑

7 Day Test Positivity Rate: 7.7% (↑from 6.4% 2 weeks ago)

San Diego County Total Covid Cases: 938,321 (as of 11/23/22)

San Diego County Total Pediatric (0-19 y/o) Cases: 196,502 (20.9% of cases)

average # of new daily cases with the previous report	265
average # of new daily cases over the past 14 days	388↑

7 Day Test Positivity Rate: 6.55% (↑from 4.56% 2 weeks ago)

Statewide Total Covid Cases: 10,611,075 (as of 11/23/22)

Statewide Total Pediatric (0-17 y/o) Cases: 1,893,360 (18.0% of cases)

average # of new daily cases with the previous report	3,101
average # of new daily cases over the past 14 days	5,280↑

7 Day Test Positivity Rate: 7.6% (↑from 5.3% 2 weeks ago)

MIS-C: 1,036 cases as of 11/14/2022 (↑11 cases in the past month)

Total Pediatric Deaths in CA: 27 (↑0 for < 5 y/o) and 54 (↑1 for 5-17 y/o) as of 11/1/22

SCHOOL DECISION & CHILDCARE DECISION TREES

The school decision tree is linked as follows: [SDCOE School Decision Tree](#). It has been last updated **September 1st**.

- SDCOE e-decision tree (updated 9/1/2022): <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 **October 4th**.

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

- An Emerging Infections Town Hall was held last week. Items of interest were fit into this week’s CMO report that went out.

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 11/25/22	BA.5.2.1 (O)	BA.5.2 (O)	BQ.1 (O)	BF.7 (O)	Other
Lineage % ≥3% (over 30 days)	12%	8%	11%	10%	58%

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](#)
[Home Antigen Test Expiration Date Extensions-FDA](#)

Rady Children's:

- **COVID Drive Through Testing (as of 8/6/2022)**
 - 8001 Frost Street (parking lot near the vaccine clinic)
 - Hours are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. M-F & 7 a.m.-11 a.m. Saturday and Sunday
 - 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>

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](#)

CDC Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine & Age Transitioning: [Pfizer Age Transition-Younger to Older Age Group](#)

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

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

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

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/>

COVID-19 Vaccine Schedules & Timing by Age (Routine & Immunocompromised)

- CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/downloads/COVID-19-vacc-schedule-at-a-glance-508.pdf>
- CDPH: <https://eziz.org/assets/docs/COVID19/IMM-1396.pdf>

CDPH COVID-19 Vaccine Product

Guide: <https://eziz.org/assets/docs/COVID19/IMM-1399.pdf>

THE FOLLOWING 3 TOPICS HAVE REPEATED GUIDANCE FROM PREVIOUS COVID CHRONICLES EDITIONS (thanks to Dr. Jacobson, they are now hyperlinked from the CPCMG Health Hub)

- [TESTING-FALSE POSITIVE EVALUATION \(last 12/11/2020\)](#)
- [NEWBORNS & COVID-19 POSITIVE MOTHERS \(last 7/31/2020\)](#)
- [IN CLINIC ALBUTEROL & NEBULIZER GUIDANCE \(last 10/28/2022\)-
REVISED](#)
 - Note: revision to suggest a 1-hour room closure instead of 2-hour closure
- [CDC HIGHER RISK CONDITIONS FOR SEVERE COVID ILLNESS \(as of 6/15/2022\)](#)

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CPCMG Health Hub Intranet

Please visit the [CPCMG Intranet - Children's Primary Care Medical Group](#) 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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