



State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
Department of Health Care Services



GAVIN NEWSOM  
GOVERNOR

**DHCS BH All Provider Call**  
**Brief Summary – 1/27/21**

[Link](#) to meeting notes and weekly meeting invite on DHCS webpage

To get on mailing list for updates, email [LCDQuestions@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:LCDQuestions@dhcs.ca.gov)

**DSS Updates** (Ley Arquisola)

- [PIN 20-23](#) (June 20) contains practices for reconfiguring physical space for quarantining clients. Examples include:
  1. Cohort COVID-positive separately from COVID-negative people
  2. Increasing ventilation is crucial; more information at [CDC ventilation guidance](#).
  3. Use separate bathrooms or bathrooms that can be disinfected regularly. For shared bedrooms, ensure good air flow and open windows, and frequent disinfection.
  4. Keep beds in the same room six feet apart and configure individuals head to toe.
  5. Put curtains or dividers between beds.
  6. Designate one area to enter, one to exit, one to screen, and one hand washing station; create a physical barrier when screening individuals
- [PIN 20-38](#) (October 2020)
  1. Updated testing, screening, visitation, dining procedures, similar to [PIN 20-23](#)
  2. Post information outside of facility to let visitors know the testing and visitation rules
- Will be issuing an updated guidance soon, menu of PINs can be found [here](#)

## CDPH Updates (Miren Klein, Dr. Erin Epton)

### Vaccine Updates

California data is likely better than is shown; some providers are struggling to enter data in the registry.

#### 1. New Vaccine Strategy

- **Simplifying Eligibility:** Beginning mid-February, the state will implement a statewide standard under which health care workers, individuals 65+ and education and child care, emergency services and food and agriculture workers will be eligible to start making appointments to receive the vaccine, pending vaccine availability. These are the groups identified in Phase 1B, Tier 1. Future groups will become eligible based on age. This statewide standard will move in unison across all 58 counties. This will allow the state to scale capacity up while also ensuring the vaccine goes to disproportionately impacted communities.
- **Standardizing Information and Data:** Leveraging California's innovation and technology assets, the state is officially launching My Turn today, a new system for Californians to learn when they are eligible to be vaccinated, a place to make an appointment when eligible and a mechanism to easily track vaccination data.

Through My Turn, individuals can sign up for a notification when they are eligible to make an appointment and schedule one when it is their turn. My Turn will also help track those who have yet to receive a second vaccine dose and need additional outreach. Technology from California companies Salesforce and Skedulo are the foundation for My Turn. Having been piloted in Los Angeles and San Diego counties, individuals can visit My Turn webpage to register for a notification immediately. Scheduling appointments beyond the pilot counties is expected to be available in February.

The My Turn system will also automatically report vaccination information into state data systems. Providers will be required to either administer vaccines via the My Turn scheduling system or an electronic health record with an automatic data feed into the state's system. This will reduce data lags and give real-time information on how we are doing at the local and statewide levels.

- **Streamlining Vaccination Process:** Based on recent learnings, the state vaccine team will build on the work of counties and health providers to coordinate vaccine delivery statewide, with an eye toward ensuring safety, equity and the fastest possible delivery of vaccine.

California will build a statewide vaccine administration network to speed the equitable delivery of current supply to eligible Californians. The state, through a Third Party Administrator (TPA), will allocate vaccines directly to providers to maximize distribution efficiency. This will also give the state greater visibility into what is happening on the ground. [note: since the meeting, the third party administrator was announced to be Blue Shield of California].

## 2. Vaccine safety

While CDPH did briefly pause a specific lot of Moderna vaccines due to allergic reactions, it was determined on 1/21/21 that vaccine reactions were rare and providers could administer again.

### Other CDPH updates:

#### 1. [Governor's Press Release](#)

- a. Early this week the governor lifted regional stay at home orders based on improved ICU capacity projections.
- b. Counties are reverting back to the colored tier they were before the stay at home order, with updates to the tiers as conditions change.
- c. Surge public health order remains in effect because it is tied to current ICU capacity.
  - Includes delay of elective surgeries.
  - Requires hospitals to accept transfers from hospital on emergency contingency plans when patient can be transferred safely.

#### 2. Routine Screen Testing for individuals discharged from acute facilities

- a. Screening tests should not be used prior to admission for asymptomatic people with history of COVID-19 infection in the last 90 days. Reinfection is very rare during the 90 day period – people can test positive during the 90 days without being infectious.
- b. Pre admission screening for people with no COVID infection previously:
  - For SNF, we recommend obtaining a pre-admission screening test
  - For other facilities there is no explicit guidance. Consider avoiding requiring pre-admission testing for all facilities routinely, because it can cause challenges in throughput and placement, create long waits in emergency departments for patients needing crisis treatment, and a negative test can be falsely reassuring in a person who was exposed in the few days prior to admission and later becomes positive.
- c. Facilities are encouraged to work with local public health departments to maximize bed capacity, and to manage outbreaks while avoiding unnecessary facility closure.

### **Questions, Answers and Suggestions:**

***Suggestion from chat:*** One of the things that will assist BH facilities in considering admits from referring facilities is for referring facilities to include the following in admission packets:

- a. Original date of positivity
- b. Details and documentation that the period of infectiousness has passed
- c. Documentation that the patient is medically stable, symptom-free and with medical needs that don't exceed outpatient level of care needs.

**Q: How will highly impacted communities be prioritized in vaccination?**

**A: Once the third-party vendor creates a network of providers, the local health departments will coordinate providers to reach out to those communities.** The office of health equity is ensuring equity is a consideration in the continued allocation of the vaccine. The allocation is still low with only 480,000 received this week; hopefully there will be an increase in supplies this week.

**Q: Can a vaccinated person transmit the virus to others?**

**A: It takes a few weeks to build up immunity after receiving the second vaccine;** it is crucial to follow all of the precautions currently in place even after receiving the vaccine (social distancing, wearing a mask, washing your hands). This information will be communicated to the public in a new media campaign that will be rolling out soon.

**Q: Has there been an update on if acute care freestanding psychiatric hospitals should be vaccinating their inpatient patients as well as their outpatient clients?**

**A: We want to avoid any missed opportunities to vaccinate.** Even if patient is being discharged, we don't want the challenges scheduling a second dose to preclude anyone from getting the first dose. We encourage hospitals to make follow-up appointments and reach out to anyone they are vaccinating to ensure they receive the same brand for the second dose. Relative to priority level of patients in inpatient and residential facilities, the only update on this is administration's strategy to simplify the tiers. See [Governor's press release](#).

**Q: Can you give more information about the long term care facility (LTCF) federal pharmacy partnership program? How do we, as providers, ensure that we are registered?**

**A: Please call your local licensing office or local public health office,** both agencies have lists from Walgreens and CVS to verify if your facility was assigned. We are not signing up any new facilities as they are working through the list they already have. Reach out to local health department or Miren Klein to get more information on vaccinating your facility.

Counties with on-line vaccination information:

<a href="#">Alameda</a>	<a href="#">Alpine</a>	<a href="#">Amador</a>	<a href="#">Butte</a>	<a href="#">Calaveras</a>
<a href="#">El Dorado</a>	<a href="#">Fresno</a>	<a href="#">Glenn</a>	<a href="#">Inyo</a>	<a href="#">Lake</a>
<a href="#">Los Angeles</a>	<a href="#">Mono</a>	<a href="#">Placer</a>	<a href="#">Riverside</a>	<a href="#">Sacramento</a>
<a href="#">San Benito</a>	<a href="#">San Diego</a>	<a href="#">San Bernardino</a>	<a href="#">San Joaquin</a>	<a href="#">San Luis Obispo</a>
<a href="#">Santa Barbara</a>	<a href="#">Santa Clara</a>	<a href="#">Santa Cruz</a>	<a href="#">Shasta</a>	<a href="#">Solano</a>
<a href="#">Stanislaus</a>	<a href="#">Sutter</a>	<a href="#">Tehama</a>	<a href="#">Trinity</a>	<a href="#">Tuolumne</a>
<a href="#">Ventura</a>	<a href="#">Yuba</a>			

Individuals can also go the My Turn webpage where you can register to be notified when you become eligible and schedule vaccination appointments.