



County of San Luis Obispo Public Health Department Disaster Healthcare Coalition (DHCC) Virtual Update October 6, 2021

Corrections to: phep@co.slo.ca.us

TOPIC	DISCUSSION
COVID-19 UPDATE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The County of San Luis Obispo has had approximately 28,349 COVID-19 cases with around 1,294 active cases.• There are currently 21 COVID-19 patients hospitalized with 3 in the ICU.
AGENCY-PROGRAM REPORTS	
DENISE YI PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (PHEP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2021 is a First Responder Point of Distribution (FRPOD) year however the PHEP program will not be participating due to the COVID vaccine clinics offering flu vaccine as well as very limited staffing due to ongoing COVID response. Fire partners have expressed concerns in participating due to limited staffing and a very impacted fire season as well as wanting to maintain COVID precautions. SLO PHD will be distributing flu vaccine to Fire Stations wishing to host a closed POD for their staff.• We are moving forward with the planning of the Medical Shelter exercise funded by the Homeland Security Grant. This exercise was originally supposed to take place in the Spring of 2020, due to COVID we received an extension through Spring 2022.• The State Emergency Preparedness Office (EPO) announced that the Statewide Medical and Health Exercise may take place in Spring of 2022. We will share more when we have an update.
ROBIN HENDRY COMMUNICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No Update
MAYA CRAIG-LAUER TESTING BRANCH DIRECTOR MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS (MRC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The County has opened two additional free community COVID Test Sites to increase the total to four community testing sites. They are located in Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo, Grover Beach, and Morro Bay.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Visit the testing website for additional information on these testing locations: https://www.emergencyslo.org/en/testing-locations.aspx• We continue to do response testing at high-risk, congregate care settings that have had a positive case.• In the month of September, we tested 15 different facilities 28 times total.

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VINCE PIERUCCI
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

- MRC Volunteers will be participating in a medical shelter exercise that is funded through a Homeland Security grant.
- We are going to be evaluating the current MCI policy 210 in the upcoming year.

CHRISTINE GAIGER
VACCINE BRANCH DIRECTOR

- We are continuing in operation of the static and mobile vaccination clinics throughout the county.
- The flu vaccine is now being offered at all COVID vaccine clinics.
- We are working with schools to set up flu clinics.

GLEN MILLER
LABORATORY

- As of September 30, 2021, the SLO County Public Health Lab has performed more than 47,000 COVID tests using 5 different methods.
 - The lab continues to support county outbreak testing efforts.
- The laboratory is using two different sequencing technologies to determine circulating SARS-CoV-2 variants.
 - Sequencing results for >375 specimens from May to early October 2021 have demonstrated the following circulating lineages (data weighted toward later timepoints).
 - Delta: 92.6%
 - AY.3 sublineage: 8.4%
 - Alpha: 2.4%
 - Gamma: 1.6%
 - Other lineages: 3.4%
- Influenza surveillance for the 2021–2022 season began on October 1.
 - As yet, influenza has not been detected in the county but the laboratory is accepting specimens for patients with influenza-like illness.
- Laboratory staff continues to test culture isolates referred by the three-county (San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura) hospital and other diagnostic laboratories.
- The laboratory is currently verifying a new testing platform, the Roche Diagnostics Cobas 6800, to detect SARS-CoV-2 and sexually transmitted infections.

DR. RICK ROSEN
HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

- COVID activity in congregate settings has been minimal with 4 current COVID outbreaks.
- Hospital bed availability is at 38%.
- In K12 schools, there are 44 schools with at least 1 active case and a total of 115 active cases.

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- 417 students are on home quarantine; 222 students are on modified quarantine
- 1 class is shut down
- 2 pre-schools are shut down
- We are receiving weekly allocations of monoclonals.
 - Hospital and In-Home distribution are beginning this week.

JESSIE HARRIS
EPIDEMIOLOGIST

- COVID-19 cases have seen almost a plateau; though this plateau still keeps us in the CDC's High (red) Transmission Level, meaning community transmission is still rapid. We are still experiencing hospitalizations, but less so than a month ago.
- SLO Public Health Lab is performing Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS), which has provided insights into which variants are circulating in SLO County. As the primary source of variant data for the County at this time, the lab expanded their WGS capacity.
- Most variants identified in the past month have been Delta, with sub-lineages regularly identified.
- As of today, there have been zero flu cases in SLO county since January 1, 2021.

LAURIE SALO
COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

- Cases for the week since Monday 10/4 and Tuesday 10/5:
 - Ages 0-18: 18 cases
 - Ages 19-64: 47 cases
 - Ages 64+: 12 cases

JEN MILLER
EQUITY BRANCH

- Conduct vaccine outreach and provide COVID-19 recovery resources to special populations: Latinx/Mixteco, African American/Black, unhoused individuals, Vietnamese salon workers, behaviorally impacted individuals, geographically isolated areas
- Work with PIO for print materials, video, radio, PSA, social media and door-to-door outreach
- Support partner organizations serving vulnerable populations with information, materials and training, as requested.

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NEXT MEETING

Thursday, January 6, 2022

Location to be determined