



**COVID-19 Question and Answer Session
for Long-Term Care and Congregate Residential Settings**

August 27th, 2021

Housekeeping

- All attendees in listen-only mode
- Submit questions via Q&A pod to **All Panelists**
- Slides and recording will be made available later

Agenda

- Upcoming Webinars
- Monoclonal Antibody Therapy (Mabs)
- Testing Reminders and Updates
- LTC Updates and Review
- Vaccination Requirements for Health Care Workers
- Vaccine Success Story: Heritage Health Litchfield
- Open Q & A

IDPH webinars

Upcoming Friday Brief Updates and Open Q&A 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Friday, September 10 th	https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/onstage/g.php?MTID=e3ee6c1ba65efa87fba89f4e4ecfd86d3
Friday, September 17 th	https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/onstage/g.php?MTID=e39282b2e43bce5165134aa688863b95b
Friday, September 24 th	https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/onstage/g.php?MTID=e6b101f68f65c80033fc3b3c609b8719e

Previously recorded webinars can be viewed on the [IDPH Portal](#)

Slides and recordings will be made available after the sessions.

Monoclonal Antibody Therapy (Mabs)

08/27/2021

What is Monoclonal Antibody Therapy?

- EUA issues November 2020 to use Mabs to treat COVID-19 illness
- A treatment option for mild to moderate COVID-19 illness for non-hospitalized people
- A way to prevent the potential for progression to severe illness or hospitalization

What products are available in Illinois and how do I order for my facility?

- **REGEN-COV** – a Regeneron product that is a drug combination of casirivimab and imdevimab that are administered together (most used)
 - Ordered direct through the distributor, Amerisource Bergen at no cost
 - Order by clicking on this [link](#)
- **Sotrovimab** – available in the open market through [GlaxoSmithKline](#)
 - Costs associated with this drug

Who can receive Mabs?

- High risk individuals
 - 65 years or older and weight greater than 80 lbs.
 - 12 years or older, weight greater than 80 lbs have chronic illnesses such as:
 - Chronic kidney disease
 - Heart or lung disease
 - BMI greater than 25
 - Pregnancy
 - Diabetes
 - Immunosuppressive disease
 - Told by a doctor they are high risk of a serious case of COVID-19

How is Mabs Administered? REGEN-COV

- Intravenously (IV)
 - 1 hr infusion
 - 1 hr observation
- Subcutaneous (SubQ)
 - 4 subQ injections 2.5 mls each
 - 1 hr observation after
- All sites administering Mabs must follow all terms of the EUA which includes the ability to identify anaphylaxis and quickly activate EMS services if necessary

Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP)

- REGEN-COV is authorized for PEP
- Adults or peds patients greater than 12 yrs of age and weighing at least 80 lbs
- High risk for progression to severe disease or death
- Not fully vaccinated OR not expected to mount an adequate immune response to COVID vaccination (those with immunocompromised conditions)
- Exposed to an individual with COVID-19
- Those who are high risk for exposure to a person with COVID-19 (individuals in institutional settings, LTCs, prisons, etc.)

Limitations to the use of PEP

- Not a substitute for vaccination for COVID-19
- Not authorized for PEP for prevention of COVID-19

Eligibility for Post-Exposure Prophylaxis

¹ Individuals are considered to be **fully vaccinated** 2 weeks after their second vaccine dose in a 2-dose series (such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines), or 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine (such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine). See this website for more details: [CDC's *When You've Been Fully Vaccinated: Have You Been Fully Vaccinated?*](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html#vaccinated) at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html#vaccinated>

² [CDC's *Science Brief: COVID-19 Vaccines and Vaccination*](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-briefs/fully-vaccinated-people.html) at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-briefs/fully-vaccinated-people.html>

³ **Close contact** with an infected individual is defined as: being within 6 feet for a total of 15 minutes or more, providing care at home to someone who is sick, having direct physical contact with the person (hugging or kissing, for example), sharing eating or drinking utensils, or being exposed to respiratory droplets from an infected person (sneezing or coughing, for example). See this website for additional details: [CDC's *Quarantine and Isolation*](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html) at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html>

Eligibility for **Treatment** of Mild-Moderate Covid-19 Infection in High Risk Individuals

Products granted EUA for **mild to moderate COVID-19 cases** early in infection, who are at **high risk for progressing to severe COVID-19 and/or hospitalization**; with following criteria:

- Adult or pediatric (≥ 12 years of age and weighing at least 40kg) patient
- Confirmation via **positive PCR or antigen test**
- Treatment **as soon as possible** following positive viral test and **within 10 days of symptom onset**
- Patient symptomatic but **not yet progressed to require hospitalization or oxygen therapy (or increase from baseline chronic oxygen therapy)**



Updates – LTC testing supplies



HHS Distribution of BinaxNOW Tests to LTC

- **Purpose:** Supplement existing testing capabilities for staff testing
- **Eligibility:** See table below

FACILITY TYPE	DESIGNATION CRITERIA	EPIDEMIOLOGY CRITERIA
Assisted Living Facility	CLIA waiver under 04- Assisted Living Facility Confirm “Facility Type” Designation here	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yellow County: 5-10% positivity• Red County: >10% positivity
Nursing Homes	CLIA waiver under Medicare-certified Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) and/or Medicaid-certified Nursing Facility (NF) Confirm Designation here	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yellow County: 5-10% positivity• Red County: >10% positivity

My facility should be eligible. Why am I not receiving tests?

- Ensure you have a CLIA Certificate of Waiver.
 - Form available [here](#).
 - Submission instructions on IDPH CLIA [website](#).
- Ensure you have the correct CLIA Certificate of Waiver designation in place (i.e., 04-Assisted living or 27-SNF/NF)
 - If you believe the designation on your CLIA Certificate of Waiver is incorrect, please reach out to dph.clia@Illinois.gov.

My facility should be eligible. Why am I not receiving tests? (cont.)

- If you are a nursing home, verify with CMS that you are certified as a Medicare Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) and/or Medicaid Nursing Facility (NF).
- Eligibility also depends on county positivity rates. HHS/CMS update eligibility list biweekly.
- If you have other questions about laboratory testing, please contact LabExcellence@cms.hhs.gov.

Testing reminders and updates

- **COVID-19 testing plan:** Each LTC facility is required to have a plan for routine & outbreak testing
 - Named laboratory partner
 - Named testing methods (e.g., lab-based RT-PCR, point-of-care antigen, etc)
- **HHS test exchange:** working on new platform for facilities to make surplus available or request tests
- **From HHS:** “You can contact Abbott to inquire if you are eligible to purchase commercially at [BinaxNOW COVID-19 tests at NAVICA APP & BinaxNOW™ COVID-19 Ag | Abbott Point of Care Testing \(globalpointofcare.abbott\).](https://globalpointofcare.abbott)”
- **Local health departments should have supply of BinaxNOW**
 - Supply may be limited depending on other community needs
 - Priority for facilities with outbreaks

REDCap Slowdown

- REDCap has had system issues since earlier this week.
- In the interim, LTC facilities trying to report point-of-care test results:
 - Can use NHSN POC module instead (if have access)
 - If not, wait to report results until REDCap issue resolves.
 - However, as usual, any positives need to be reported to local health department.
 - Suggest documenting the REDCap issue in your reporting logs for future reference.





State of Illinois
Illinois Department of Public Health

COVID-19

Long-Term Care Facility Risk Assessment

For determining whether Transmission-Based Precautions should be implemented upon return after a resident leaves the facility.

- Finalizing changes
- Thank you to those who have reviewed!
- CDC is reviewing



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NEWS / Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine COMIRNATY® Receives Full U.S. FDA Approval for Individuals 16 Years and Older

PFIZER-BIONTECH COVID-19 VACCINE COMIRNATY® RECEIVES FULL U.S. FDA APPROVAL FOR INDIVIDUALS 16 YEARS AND OLDER

Monday, August 23, 2021 - 11:57am

- COMIRNATY is the first COVID-19 vaccine to be granted FDA approval
- Approval is based on a comprehensive submission package including six-month efficacy and safety data after second dose
- More than 1.2 billion Pfizer-BioNTech doses have been delivered to more than 120 countries or territories around the world since December 2020

“The FDA-approved COMIRNATY (COVID-19 Vaccine, mRNA) and the FDA-authorized Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine under Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) have the same formulation and can be used interchangeably to provide the COVID-19 vaccination series.”

<https://www.fda.gov/media/144414/download>

Stop Using Certain N95 Respirators Manufactured by Shanghai Dasheng - Letter to Health Care Providers

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[t Tweet](#)
[in LinkedIn](#)
[✉ Email](#)
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Medical Device Recalls

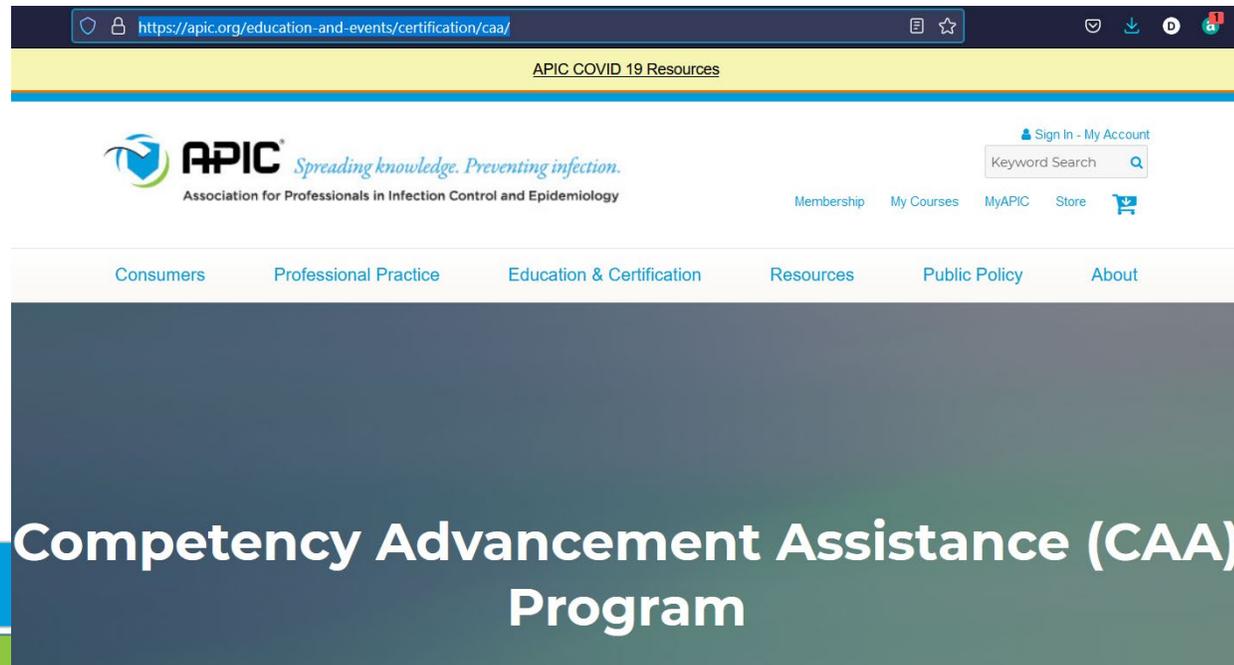
August 25, 2021

Content current as of:
08/25/2021

How to Identify Affected N95 Respirators

Affected respirators can be identified by referring to the NIOSH approval numbers below and using the [label reference from NIOSH](#). Respirators marked with a NIOSH approval label that includes any of the approval numbers listed below are no longer NIOSH-approved. In addition, respirators manufactured by Shanghai Dasheng and marketed using another brand name that include any of the approval numbers below are no longer NIOSH-approved:

TC-84A-4329, TC-84A-4330, TC-84A-4331, TC-84A-4332, TC-84A-4334, TC-84A-4335, TC-84A-4336, TC-84A-4337, TC-84A-4398, TC-84A-4399, TC-84A-4400, TC-84A-4401, TC-84A-4463, TC-84A-4464, TC-84A-4465, TC-84A-4466, TC-84A-4467, TC-84A-4468, TC-84A-4469, TC-84A-4470, TC-84A-4471, TC-84A-4472, TC-84A-4473, TC-84A-4483, TC-84A-4484, TC-84A-4485, TC-84A-4486, TC-84A-4487, TC-84A-8150, TC-84A-8425, TC-84A-8543, TC-84A-8544, TC-84A-8545, TC-84A-8546, TC-84A-8547, TC-84A-8634, TC-84A-8635, and TC-84A-8636.



▶ What's included?

▼ Who is eligible to apply?

- Individuals who have been members of APIC for at least one full continuous year, without any lapses or interruptions, as of July 2020 may apply. Members who do not meet this criterion can plan to apply in 2022-2023.
- APIC members who have no other financial support for certification/recertification are encouraged to apply.
- APIC members pursuing either initial certification or recertification may apply for assistance.
- Individuals must understand the Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology (CBIC) [eligibility criteria](#).
- CAA program applicants must be prepared to take the CIC® CBT examination or complete the recertification exam no later than May 13, 2022. No extensions will be granted after that date. Applicants who take the exam prior to acceptance into the program or after May 13, 2022, will be ineligible for reimbursement through the 2021-2022 Competency Advancement Assistance Program.

<https://apic.org/education-and-events/certification/caa/>

APIC Members (for 1 year minimum): CIC assistance



Coronavirus Response



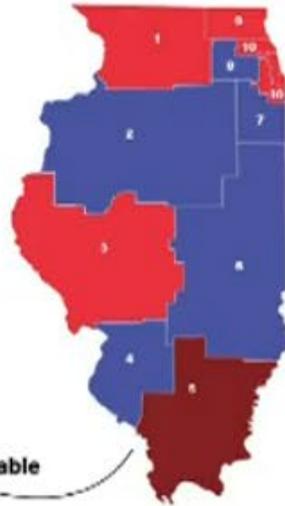
Current vaccination rates aren't enough to slow Delta hospitalization surge

Hospitalizations

6 of 11 regions are currently below the 20% ICU threshold that indicates stressed capacity.

- >20%
- 10-20%
- <10%

3% ICU Beds Available



Vaccinations

6 of 11 regions have less than 60% of their population fully vaccinated.

- >70%
- 60-70%
- 50-60%
- <50%

44.2% Population Fully Vaccinated



State of Illinois
COVID-19 Update
August 26, 2021





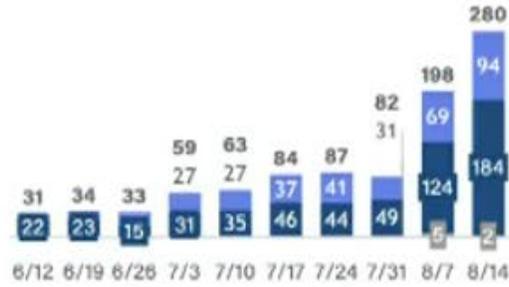
Coronavirus Response



Our most vulnerable pay the price when staff aren't vaccinated

40% of COVID cases in LTCs over the last several weeks are driven by employees

Weekly COVID-19 Cases from LTC Facilities



Employee Resident Other/Unknown

More than 90% COVID hospitalizations in LTCs are residents

Weekly COVID-19 Hospitalizations from LTC Facilities



State of Illinois
COVID-19 Update
August 26, 2021



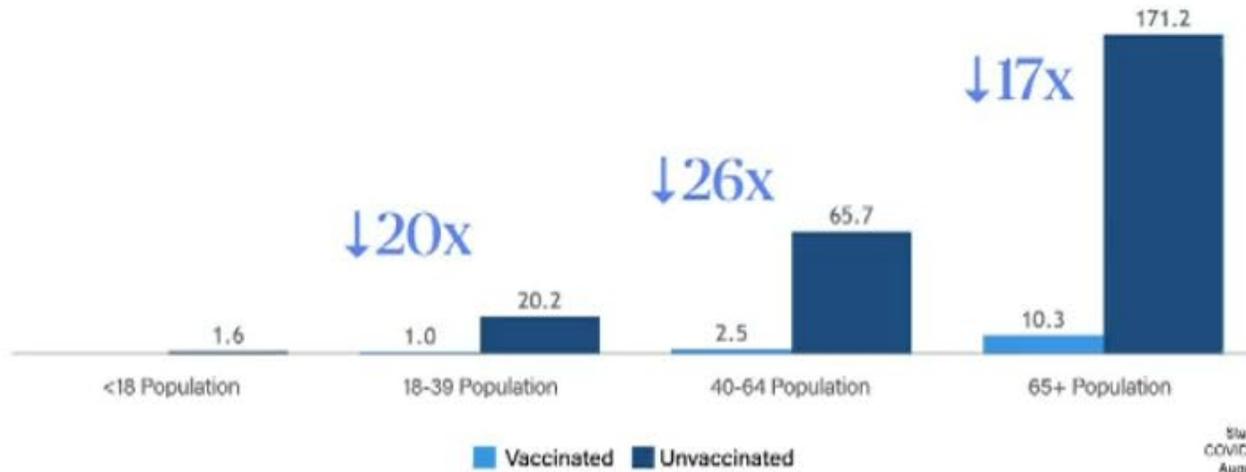


Coronavirus Response



Vaccines dramatically reduce the risk of hospitalization

Monthly COVID-19 admissions per 100K (IL), July 2021



State of Illinois
COVID-19 Update
August 26, 2021





SARS-CoV-2 Infections and Hospitalizations Among Persons Aged ≥ 16 Years, by Vaccination Status — Los Angeles County, California, May 1–July 25, 2021

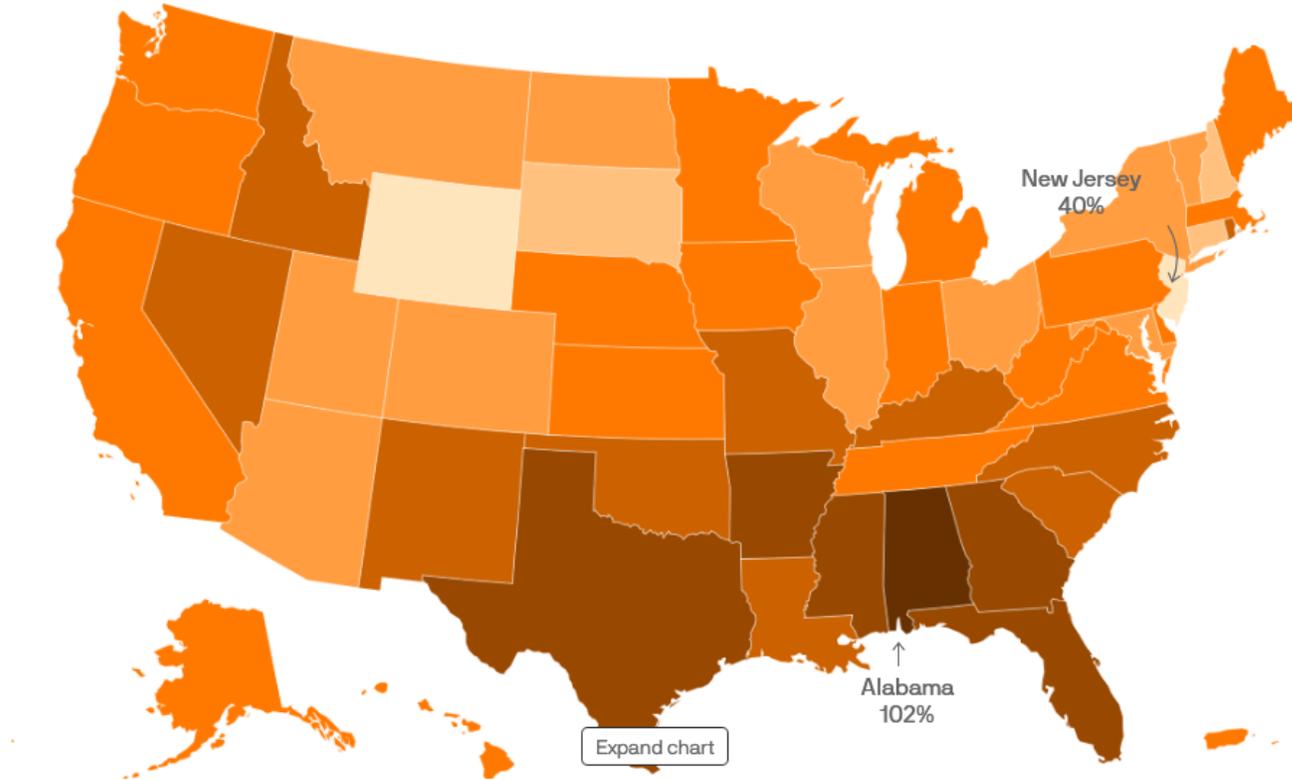
- May 1–July 25, 2021, among 43,127 SARS-CoV-2 infections in residents of Los Angeles County
- 10,895 (25.3%) were fully vaccinated
- 1,431 (3.3%) were partially vaccinated
- 30,801 (71.4%) were unvaccinated



SARS-CoV-2 Infections and Hospitalizations Among Persons Aged ≥ 16 Years, by Vaccination Status — Los Angeles County, California, May 1–July 25, 2021

- Consistent with Illinois data
- Only 3.2% of fully vaccinated persons infected with SARS-CoV-2 were hospitalized
- Less than 1% of fully vaccinated persons required ICU (0.5%) or mechanical ventilation (0.2%)

Data collected Aug. 19 to Aug. 23, 2021

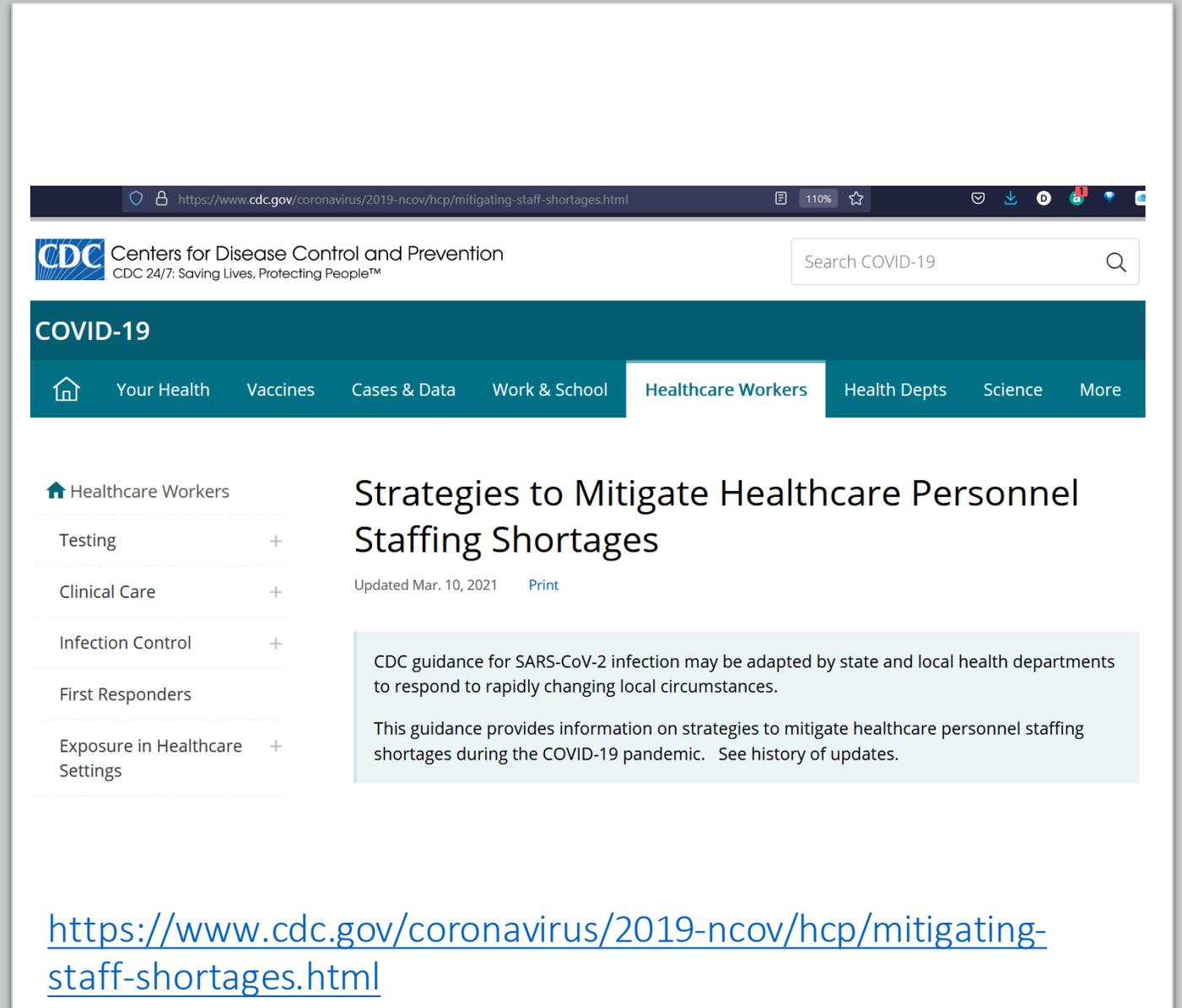


Data: [HHS](#); Map: Danielle Alberti/Axios

More than 77% of America's ICU beds are being used right now as hospitals grapple with a crush of severely ill COVID patients, almost all of them unvaccinated.

Crisis Staffing

- Must work with local health department prior to consideration of Crisis Staffing



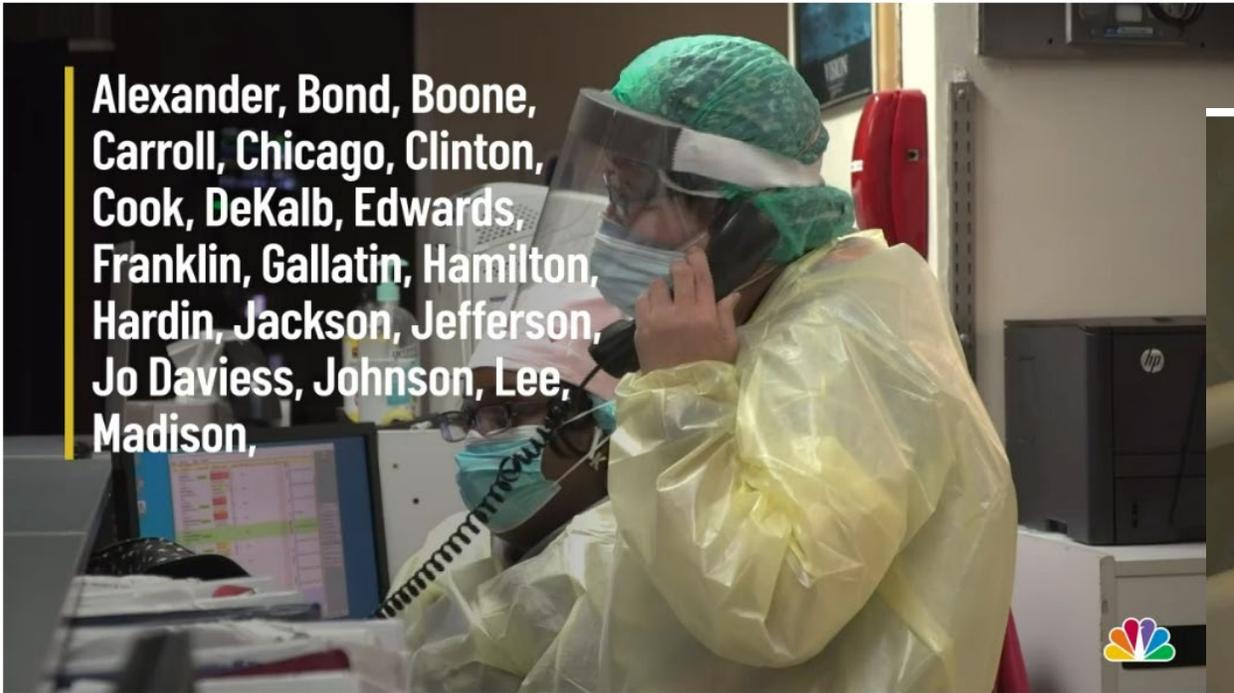
The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the CDC website. The address bar shows the URL: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/mitigating-staff-shortages.html>. The page header includes the CDC logo and the text "Centers for Disease Control and Prevention" and "CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™". A search bar contains the text "Search COVID-19". The main navigation menu includes "Your Health", "Vaccines", "Cases & Data", "Work & School", "Healthcare Workers", "Health Depts", "Science", and "More". The "Healthcare Workers" menu item is selected. The page content features a sidebar with a "Healthcare Workers" section containing links for "Testing", "Clinical Care", "Infection Control", "First Responders", and "Exposure in Healthcare Settings". The main content area is titled "Strategies to Mitigate Healthcare Personnel Staffing Shortages" and includes a "Print" link and a "Updated Mar. 10, 2021" date. A light blue box contains the text: "CDC guidance for SARS-CoV-2 infection may be adapted by state and local health departments to respond to rapidly changing local circumstances. This guidance provides information on strategies to mitigate healthcare personnel staffing shortages during the COVID-19 pandemic. See history of updates."

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/mitigating-staff-shortages.html>

CORONAVIRUS ILLINOIS

37 Illinois Counties, Chicago Are at 'Warning Level' For ICU Availability, IDPH Data Shows

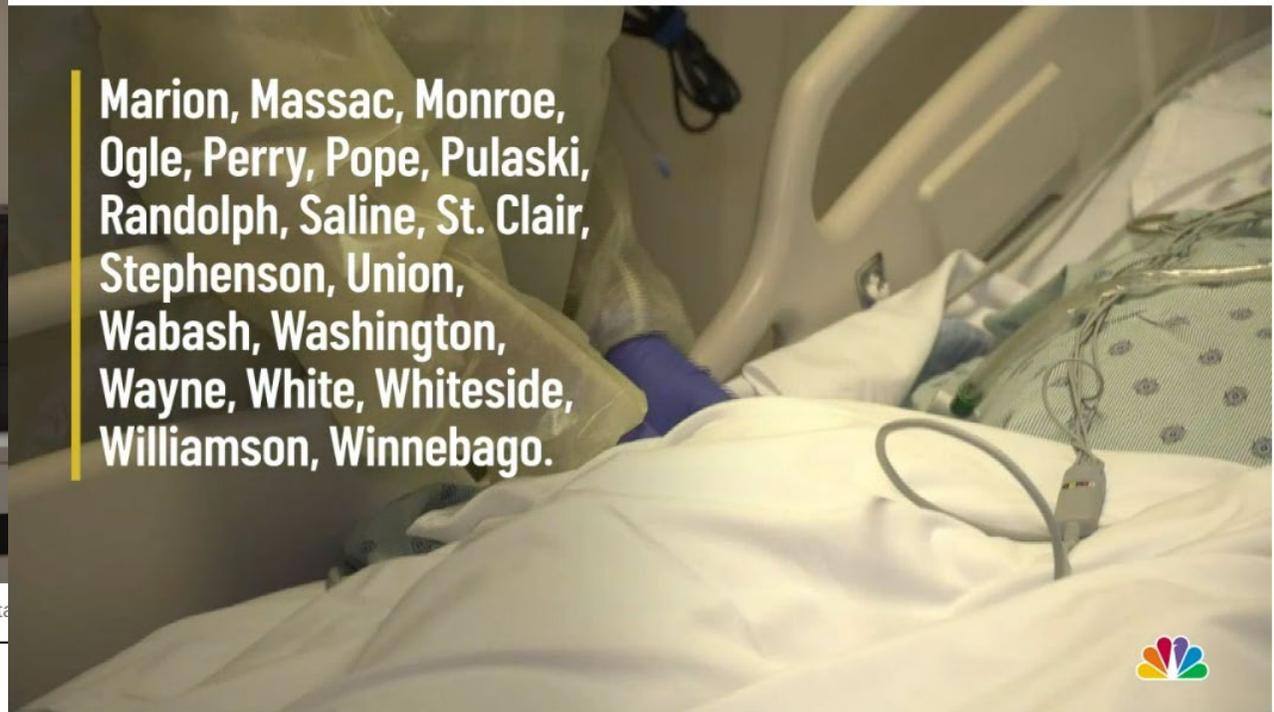
Published August 24, 2021 • Updated on August 24, 2021 at 3:33 pm



Alexander, Bond, Boone, Carroll, Chicago, Clinton, Cook, DeKalb, Edwards, Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jackson, Jefferson, Jo Daviess, Johnson, Lee, Madison,



Thirty-seven Illinois counties and Chicago are now at "warning level" for intensive care unit bed availability, according to COVID-19 data from the state health department.



Marion, Massac, Monroe, Ogle, Perry, Pope, Pulaski, Randolph, Saline, St. Clair, Stephenson, Union, Wabash, Washington, Wayne, White, Whiteside, Williamson, Winnebago.



Thirty-seven Illinois counties and Chicago are now at "warning level" for intensive care unit bed availability, according to COVID-19 data from the state health department.

COVID-19 Unit Guidance

- The location of the COVID-19 care unit should ideally be physically separated from other rooms or units housing residents without confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection. This could be a dedicated floor, unit, or wing in the facility or a group of rooms at the end of the unit that will be used to cohort residents with SARS-CoV-2 infection.
- Identify HCP who will be assigned to work only on the COVID-19 care unit when it is in use. At a minimum this should include the primary nursing assistants (NAs) and nurses assigned to care for these residents. If possible, HCP should avoid working on both the COVID-19 care unit and other units during the same shift.



Coronavirus
Response



Masks are required indoors,
regardless of vaccination status.

State of Illinois
COVID-19 Update
August 25, 2021





Coronavirus Response



New vaccination requirements in Illinois

Effective September 5, individuals working in the following settings who are unable or unwilling to receive the vaccine will be required to get tested for COVID-19 at least once a week.

- 1 P-12 teachers and staff
- 2 Higher education personnel
- 3 Higher education students
- 4 Healthcare workers in a variety of settings, like hospitals, nursing homes, urgent care & doctors' offices
Includes previous requirement for state workers in congregate care

State of Illinois
COVID-19 Update
August 26, 2021



Vaccination Requirements for Health Care Workers



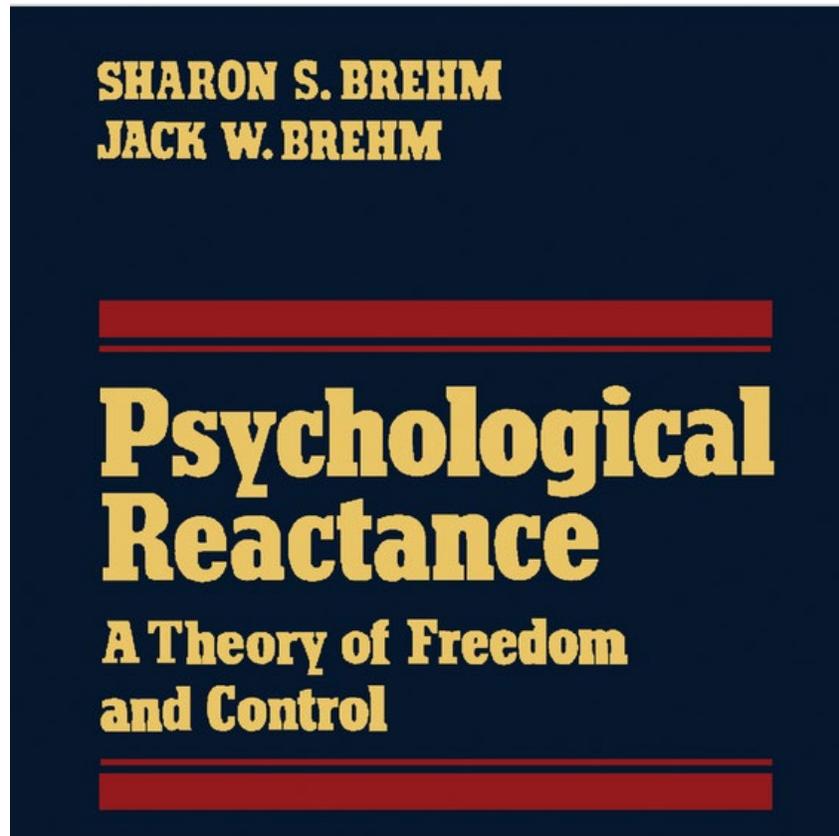
FILED
INDEX DEPARTMENT
AUG 26 2021
IN THE OFFICE OF
SECRETARY OF STATE

August 26, 2021

Executive Order 2021-20

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2021-20
(COVID-19 EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 87)

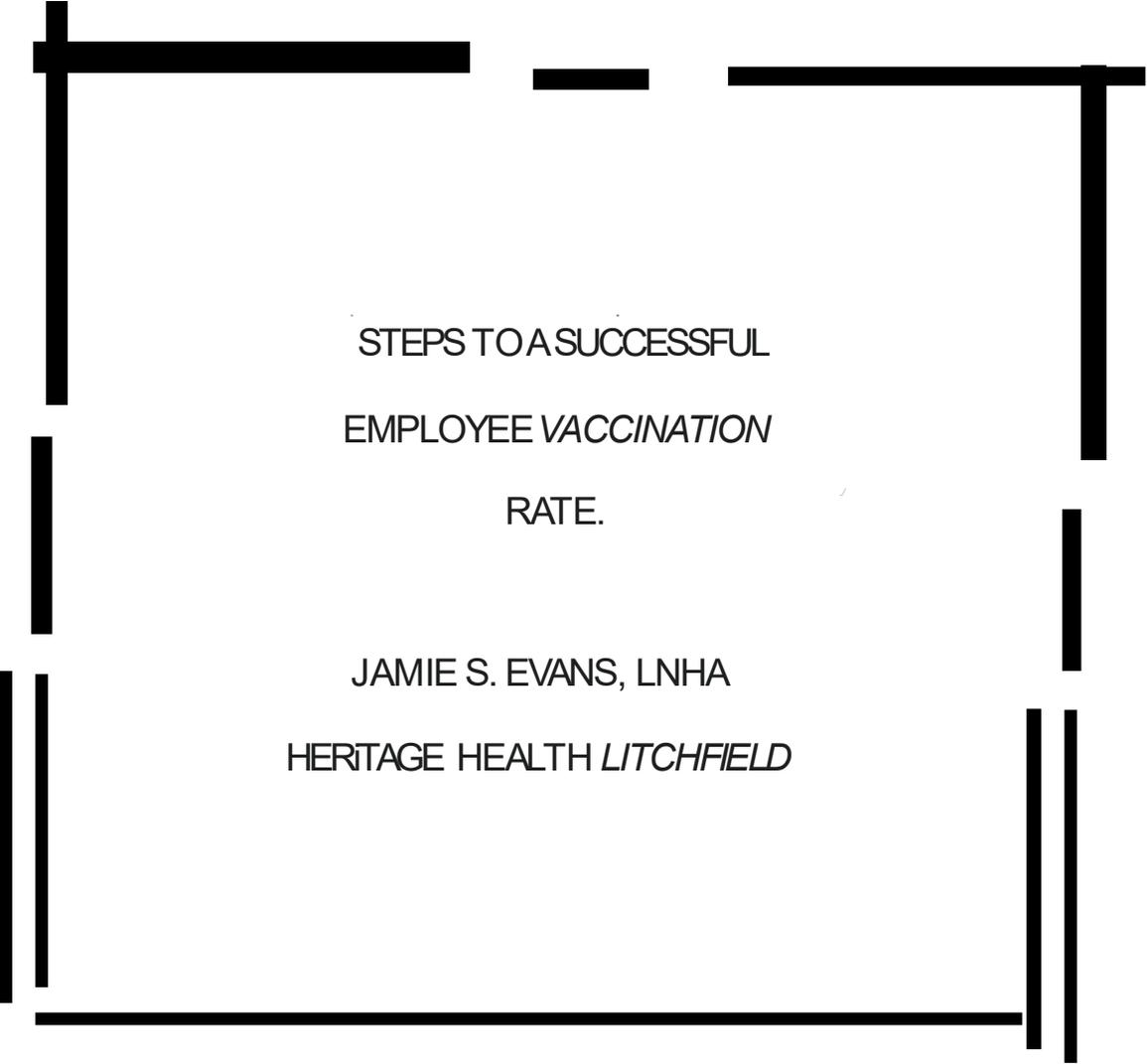
- Defines Health Care Workers (page 3)
- Defines Health Care Facility (page 3)
- Defines Timeline: First dose within 10 days (page 3)
- Defines Exemptions: “Individuals who demonstrate they are exempt from the vaccination requirement shall undergo, at a minimum, weekly testing...” (page 4)



Goal is Protecting Humans and Reducing Hospitalizations and Deaths: Expectation of Employment

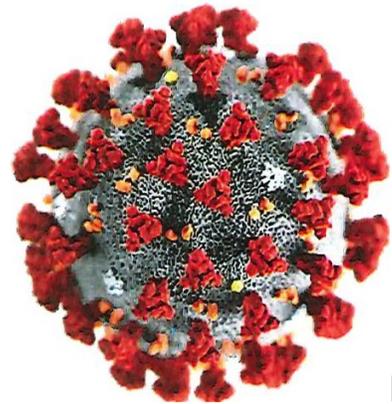
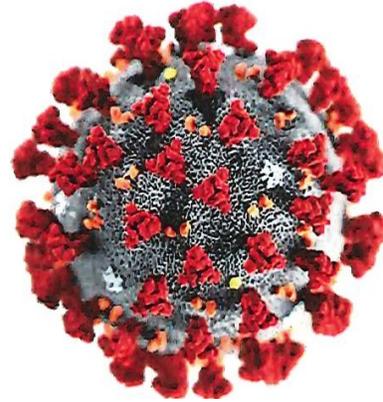
<https://books.google.com/books?hl=en&lr=&id=6ZxGBQAAQBAJ&oi=fnd&pg=PP1&dq=psychological+reactance+definition&ots=lbH7FmTR6Y&sig=Tj6kfEHCHjY14trisEXHa6LOA5l#v=onepage&q=psychological%20reactance%20definition&f=false>

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/news/2021-06-16-treating-needle-fears-may-reduce-covid-19-vaccine-hesitancy-rates-10>



STEPS TO A SUCCESSFUL
EMPLOYEE *VACCINATION*
RATE.

JAMIE S. EVANS, LNHA
HERITAGE HEALTH *LITCHFIELD*



BACK TO THE BEGINNING



VACCINE HESITANCY

LISTEN WITHOUT JUDGEMENT

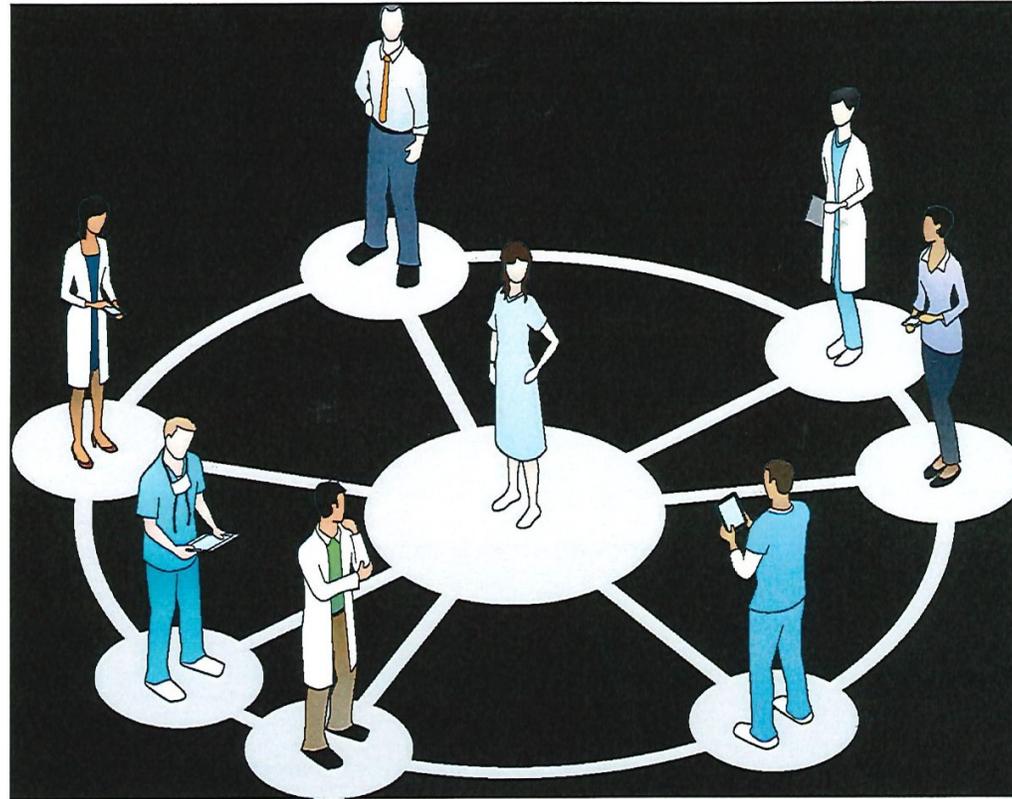
..



PULL OUT ALL THE STOPS
AND
EDUCATE!

PULL OUT YOUR ARSENAL OF SUPPORT

IT TAKES A VILLAGE!



Medical Director
Attending Physicians
Peers
Facility Social Media Page
Educational Posters
Meeting Agenda
Central Office Leadership
Local Health Department
Facility Pharmacy
Science Based Website





EDUCATE ! EDUCATE ! EDUCATE !

93%

thank you

Highlighting LTCF Successes

- Does your facility have a high staff vaccination rate? If so, we are interested in hearing from you:
 - What you did
 - What worked
 - Lessons learned
- Contact Shannon.Calus@hektoen.org if interested in sharing your story during a September webinar

Open Q&A

Submit questions via Q&A pod to **All Panelists**

Please do not resubmit a single question multiple times

Slides and recording will be made available after the session.

Reminders

- SIREN Registration
 - To receive situational awareness from IDPH, please use this link to guide you to the correct registration instructions for your public health related classification: <http://www.dph.illinois.gov/siren>
- Telligen Webinar: Promoting COVID-19 Vaccine Confidence Now
 - Wednesday, September 1, 2021, at 3pm CT
 - Register [HERE](#)
- NHSN Assistance:
 - Contact Telligen: **nursinghome@telligen.com**