

6-10-21 COVID-19 Update for Local Partners Q&A

<p>If someone comes in fully vaccinated for COVID and is having symptoms, what type of testing needs to be done? PCR?</p>	<p>Either PCR or Antigen should pick up any active infection. PCR would be preferred as it would then also allow for sequencing. You would also want to notify EPI Hotline to track potential vaccine breakthrough.</p>
<p>If an international individual arrives to Kansas from a country that is listed as needing to quarantine, but they received the COVID Vaccine in their home country...do they still need to quarantine?</p>	<p>If they are fully vaccinated they do not need to quarantine.</p>
<p>As we are hearing of more outbreaks in vaccinated people is there any talking points for health departments or data from these outbreaks? Surrounding counties are hearing all kinds of rumors and we really have no good information or data for the vaccine breakthrough</p>	<p>Most of the outbreaks are occurring in unvaccinated populations. We have looked at LTC outbreaks, most are started by unvaccinated staff and while there is some breakthrough disease the infection is generally mild or asymptomatic.</p>
<p>Any concern in the sharp rise in B1617.2? Is it due to specific clusters?</p>	<p>We have been working with several other states on a multistate outbreak of this variant. There is some literature that suggests that this variant maybe resistant to some antibody treatment and that maybe the reason that we are seeing an increase in KS.</p>
<p>Any new guidance from CDC on facemask requirements for vaccinated healthcare workers</p>	<p>Masks are still required in healthcare settings.</p>
<p>Do we need to complete the declination form if parent refuses COVID-19 vaccine for 12 years and above?</p>	<p>Typically the declination form is only used for required vaccines. Since this is not a required vaccine, so it seems like the answer for this would be no, but if you have more information or a specific scenario to talk to, please contact us.</p>
<p>My pharmacists are still doing a lot of directing people with symptoms to COVID testing. If they run across someone who is fully vaccinated and suspect vaccine breakthrough, should they be directing the patients to be tested at a health department site to ensure the sample has a chance to be sequenced?</p>	<p>It would be best if they suspect vaccine breakthrough to notify EPI Hotline and ideally use a PCR test so that we can sequence it if positive. If for your community that means the health department is the best place for PCR testing, then yes, that would be ideal.</p>
<p>Any new guidance anticipated for eye protection?</p>	<p>Use of eye protection is recommended in areas with moderate to substantial community transmission. For areas with minimal to no community transmission, eye protection is considered optional, unless otherwise indicated as part of standard precautions.</p>
<p>Do Independent Living facilities qualify for the increased vaccination reimbursement for 'at home' vaccinations?</p>	<p>I am not certain, but encourage review of the information on the specifics at the Medicare/CMS link here which details it all.</p>

	https://www.cms.gov/medicare/covid-19/medicare-billing-covid-19-vaccine-shot-administration
As an LTC pharmacy that provides services for facilities in both Kansas and Missouri – we were previously told that we could only use vaccine received from KDHE in Kansas. However, with the recent increase in vaccine availability/decrease in demand, is it now permissible to administer vaccines received from KDHE to residents (or staff) who may reside in a Missouri LTCF? I know there is no longer a residency requirement to administer the vaccines in KS, but since we would technically be vaccinating them in Missouri, wanted to clarify. (If we order vaccine from the Federal Allocation to use, we risk wasting a significant number of doses because of their higher minimum orders, so hoping to avoid that situation.)	Yes, you can.
Are you going to have a special webinar to discuss the expiration of the emergency declaration?	We will provide an update on the emergency declaration on the next webinar after we know better what is happening/has happened with it.
Last week Dr. Ahmed said that Colorado, Maine and Minnesota were coming off of the travel list and they are still listed on the travel guidelines per the website. Clarification?	These states were taken off our list on June 3, but anyone quarantining prior to that date would need to finish out the quarantine. There are currently no states on our travel quarantine list. You can find the latest list here: https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/175/Travel-Exposure-Related-Isolation-Quaran
When will we know what "parts" KDHE will not be doing?	We will provide an update on the emergency declaration on the next webinar.
Has there been any update for schools regarding masks? Our school board has a meeting next week to discuss next year's school year and this is a hot topic locally.	As of right now, a lot of the population in schools are not eligible to be vaccinated. We still recommend masking and social distancing for unvaccinated people.
Does KDHE lose assistance of BCG at the end of the declaration?	The contracts we have with BCG are not related to the emergency declaration, so they will continue regardless what happens with the declaration.