

5-13-21 COVID-19 Update for Local Partners

On the Colorado counties that have quarantine restrictions, do persons that are vaccinated still have to quarantine?	If they are fully vaccinated then they do not have to quarantine.
For quarantine after travel, how should families handle quarantine if all adults have been vaccinated, but children under age that can not be vaccinated are not?	Adults that are fully vaccinated would not be required to quarantine, but children who are not fully vaccinated would need to quarantine.
Do providers still need to report our inventory to Vaccine Finder daily?	Yes, reporting to Vaccine Finder is a stipulation of the CDC Vaccine Provider agreement.
KDHE was previously not reporting variants directly to providers. Now that providers need to know if a patient has P1 variant for monoclonal antibody treatment has the reporting variants to providers changed?	We still do not report directly from the laboratory but the epi team will support getting that information to the providers.
Is the Cepheid capable of detecting the P1 variant and giving a positive results?	There is no indication that I am aware of that any of the variants would give a false negative result.
And its ok to do co-administration on either the first or 2nd dose?	Yes, it is fine with both doses.
Has the timeframe b/w receiving a COVID vaccine and TB skin test changed?	No change with TB testing, only with vaccinations.
Where do the 12-15 y.o. go to receive the vaccine and is it also a 2-step ?	Providers across the state have access to Pfizer vaccines. Many areas are doing school clinics. Other special events are being planned and conducted in various counties. PCPs may have vaccine if they are COVID vaccine providers. Pharmacies have access to Pfizer vaccine. Use Vaccine Finder to find the closest vaccine.
Someone was saying they had seen the CDC released that you could have one shot of Moderna and one shot Pfizer. I haven't been able to find this. Is this true?	This applies only if you are unable to gain access to the same vaccine you had a prime dose. This is an exception used for lack of access to matching boost dose. https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/clinical-considerations.html
If we have already submitted our vaccine request for next week and want to modify the Pfizer due to increased interest in those 12-15, can we submit a new request?	Yes, by 5:00 Thursday.
Co-worker's family member is 14+ days post J&J and last night had diminished taste/smell. Should this be reported as side effect, quarantine the individual? They also suffer with several seasonal allergies.	I would encourage them to get tested for COVID-19. It could be due to allergies, but it would be better to rule out COVID-19.
Any word on when the Pfizer standing order will be updated to ages 12+? The CDC still hosts a version indicating 16+:	The CDC said it would be updated by early next week.

https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/pfizer/downloads/standing-orders.pdf	
I thought CDC had stopped posting data on the Variants and Testing page, is the NowCast the answer? (They're extrapolating old data as opposed to posting new?)	The thing they said they were going to stop was the receiving and counting of sequences performed by states and local labs. They are still counting the sequences that they either do themselves or have their contractors performed.
I was just able to join, was there more info about the LTC outbreaks that were shared earlier?	There are 10 active LTC outbreaks. Most of these are driven by unvaccinated staff.
Most patients are being given monoclonal antibodies before the sequencing results return. What recommendation do you have for providers if monoclonals are not to be administered in the P1 variant but the patient qualifies for monoclonal treatment?	Sequencing does take several days. One strategy would be to evaluate where the P.1 variants are circulating in Kansas and if the patients live in those areas, consider treatment with the REGEN-COV product.
According to the results from ARC, my wife is still showing antibodies, from her recent donation. Currently, it's been 10 months since she had Covid. Are there any studies being done from the ARC results?	Not that I am aware of. However, we are examining the literature to determine if the length of immunity after natural disease or vaccination can be extended.
Will the courier service be able to transport non-covid specimens?	Yes
How many positive Covid test have there been with fully vaccinated individuals in Kansas?	We are looking at that data now and plan on posting it in the next week or two.
Are the test kits and instruments free for clinics?	We can probably help you with that. Reach out to the emergency manager in your area and copy the lab and we will see what we can do. The guidance would be to support testing without any charges to patients or insurance.
Will the statewide courier also be able to pick up specimens at local hospitals and/or clinics?	We are not planning on multiple stops but for some counties, the hospital might be the best location for the county. The courier is for both environmental and health samples for each county. The hospitals and clinics that need to send specimens to the state lab will be welcome to add their shipments to the LHD pickup (or wherever the pickup ends up being defined).
Are there recommendations for quarantine or testing for someone who has recently returned from India? Not sure their vaccine status.	India is on the travel quarantine list. Testing can be considered, particularly if symptomatic.
We are a private practice - how do I find our emergency manager? Is this through the local health department? Thank you!	You can find the list of emergency managers on KDEM's website: https://www.kansastag.gov/KDEM.asp?PageID=200