COVID-19 Update and Resources 12/19 - 12/30

Dr. Levine Signs Order Directing COVID-19 Vaccine Access for Health Care Personnel That are not Affiliated with a System

Earlier today, the Department of Health issued an Order of the Secretary “Requiring Health Systems, Hospitals, Federally Qualified Health Care Centers and Pharmacies to Vaccinate Certain Health Care Personnel.”

This Order, which takes effect on January 6, 2021, will require that hospitals, health systems, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and pharmacies reserve at least 10 percent of each shipment of vaccine to vaccinate health care personnel not affiliated with a hospital or health system.

Non-affiliated health care workers wishing to be vaccinated are encouraged to reference the state’s COVID-19 Vaccine Hospital Decision Tool for Phase 1A on page 60 of the plan to determine who may be vaccinated during this phase.

To support the execution of this Order the Department has created guidance for Vaccine Providers and for Healthcare Personnel Not Affiliated with a Hospital.

To view the broadcast of today’s press conference, click here, (Dr. Levine’s remarks begin at the 5:55 mark) or, read the Department’s Press Release.

The Secretary’s order does not affect the work being done by the City of Philadelphia’s Department of Public Health. Physicians in Philadelphia county can click here to learn more.

PA & Federal Updates

- There were 92,678 new cases in Pennsylvania since our last update on 12/18, bringing the total case count to 631,333 (includes confirmed and probable cases) in all 67 PA counties. Hospitalizations remain double the peak in the spring. View a breakdown of cases by region, county, gender, ethnicity, etc. here. Statewide percent positivity for the week of December 18 – December 24 decreased slightly and is 15.1%.

- Department Of Health Launches COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard To Provide Updates On Distribution Process – now available on the department’s website, the dashboard includes information on the number of vaccinations administered by county, as well as demographic information about the people being vaccinated. Read more.

Updates from AAP and Other Guidance

Visit the COVID-19 [web page on AAP.org](https://www.aap.org) to find updated resources such as clinical guidance, practice management resources, including tele-health and coding, educational resources for clinicians and families, data reports, a discussion board, and details on AAP advocacy efforts. For questions or comments related to the pandemic, email [COVID-19@aap.org](mailto:COVID-19@aap.org).

As of December 24, over 2 million children have tested positive for COVID-19 since the onset of the pandemic, representing 12.4% of all cases in states reporting cases by age. [Learn more.](#)

**Interactive Town Hall Series on COVID-19** - The AAP now hosts a [bi-weekly series of virtual town halls](https://www.aap.org) linking members with leading experts to discuss emerging issues related to caring for patients and families during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- **Register for Session #9**, Thursday, January 7th at 8 pm. Topic TBA.
- **Session #7**: December 3rd, 2020, Covid-19 Vaccine - [Listen to the recording.](#)
- **Session #8**: December 17, 2020, COVID-19 Vaccine Q&A - [Listen to the recording.](#)

Webinars

**Let's Talk will resume in the new year.**

In case you missed it:

"Let's Talk: Prioritizing Health Equity in Clinical Practice" | Katie Mcpeak, MD, FAAP, and Stacey Kallem, MD, FAAP, and Chinonyerem R Madu, MPH
[Listen to the recording](#)

"Let's Talk: Addressing Disparities in Immunization”
Kristen Feemster, MD, MPH, MSHP, FAAP & Johanna Vidal-Phelan, MD, MBA, FAAP
[Listen to the recording](#)

"Let's Talk: "Influenza: Disease, Immunization, and Working to Protect Families"
Richard Moriarty, MD, FAAP
[Listen to the recording](#)

You can listen to other recorded webinars [here](#)

Please visit our website at [www.paaap.org](http://www.paaap.org) for more resources and information on COVID-19 for Pennsylvania pediatric providers. We are doing our best to maintain up-to-date information as it becomes available.