

Today we have a spectrum of new guidances, ranging from those to inform the higher education community, to others designed for restaurants and bars. All are resources for keeping communities safe.

Testing

HHS Extends COVID-19 Testing Public-Private Partnership: HHS will [extend its partnership with national pharmacy and grocery retail chains](#) CVS, Rite-Aid, Walgreens, Quest (through services at Walmart) and eTrueNorth (through services at Kroger, Health Mart, and Walmart) so they may continue to seamlessly provide Americans convenient access to COVID-19 testing. The partnership, which is part of the Community-Based Testing Program, has scaled up to more than 600 COVID-19 testing sites in 48 states and the District of Columbia

All About COVID-19 Testing: In the second FDA Insight podcast, titled "[All About COVID-19 Testing](#)," host Dr. Anand Shah, FDA's deputy commissioner for Medical and Scientific Affairs, is joined by Toby Lowe, associate director for FDA's In Vitro Diagnostics Program in the Center for Devices and Radiological Health, discussing "all things" COVID-19 testing.

Finding Antibodies that Neutralize SARS-CoV-2: NIH Director Dr. Francis Collins released a [blogpost on finding antibodies that neutralize COVID-19](#). The study, published in the journal *Nature*, shows that most people, in fact, do produce antibodies that can effectively neutralize SARS-CoV-2. But there is a catch: 99 percent of the study's participants didn't make enough neutralizing antibodies to mount an ideal immune response.

Testing for Past Infections: CDC updated their information on [antibody testing](#). Antibody tests check your blood by looking for antibodies, which may tell you if you had a past infection with the virus that causes COVID-19. Antibodies are proteins that help fight off infections and can provide protection against getting that disease again (immunity). The information includes how to get an antibody test and what the results mean.

Testing Updates: To date, the FDA has authorized 157 tests under EUAs; these include 132 molecular tests, 24 antibody tests, and 1 antigen test.

Treatment

Action to Help Facilitate Timely Development of Safe, Effective COVID-19 Vaccines: FDA took [important action to help facilitate the timely development of safe and effective vaccines](#) to prevent COVID-19 by providing [guidance](#) with recommendations for those developing COVID-19 vaccines for the ultimate purpose of licensure. The guidance, which reflects advice the FDA has been providing over the past several months to companies, researchers, and others, describes the agency's current recommendations regarding the data needed to facilitate the manufacturing, clinical development, and approval of a COVID-19 vaccine.

Interim Clinical Guidance for Management of Patients with Confirmed COVID-19: CDC updated [clinical care guidance](#) for clinicians caring for patients with confirmed infection with SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.

Framework for Healthcare Systems Providing Non-COVID-19 Clinical Care During the COVID-19 Pandemic: CDC updated [information to provide healthcare systems with a framework to deliver non-COVID-19 health care](#) during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Training for Healthcare Professionals: CDC updated [training information for healthcare professionals](#) on clinical care, infection control, PPE, non-pharmaceutical interventions, emergency preparedness and response, and additional topics.

EUA to LifeHope Labs: FDA issued an Emergency Use Authorization to LifeHope Labs for its molecular-based [LifeHope 2019-nCoV Real-Time RT-PCR Diagnostic Panel](#).

CMS Information:

Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Resources: CMS and SAMHSA released [mental health and SUD resources](#) to remind health insurance issuers in the individual and group markets of the importance of ensuring access to mental health and substance use disorder resources. Because substance use disorders can cause or exacerbate a variety of physical ailments and conditions, it is important for health providers to routinely screen, treat and support the recovery of individuals with substance use disorders. Issuers may wish to consider implementing some or all of these practices in response to COVID-19.

FAQs on COVID-19 for Medicaid and CHIP: CMS posted [additional Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#) to Medicaid.gov, to aid state Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) agencies in their response to the COVID-19 pandemic. They also posted a [standalone document](#) containing only the new questions.

Reopening Information

Interim Considerations for Institutions of Higher Education Administrators for SARS-CoV-2 Testing: CDC updated [considerations for higher education administrators](#) to protect students, faculty, and staff to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Considerations for Restaurants and Bars: As restaurants and bars resume operations in some areas of the United States, CDC offers the following [considerations for ways in which operators can protect employees, customers, and communities](#) and slow the spread of COVID-19.

Information for Specific Populations

Re-Establishing the Ready Reserve Corp: The CARES Act gave HHS statutory authority to [re-establish the reserve component of the US Public Health Service Commissioned Corps](#) and provide compensation and benefits. The USPHS Commissioned Corps will commission its first officers into the Ready Reserve Corps beginning in Spring 2021. Like other uniformed services, the Ready Reserve Corps will provide trained and ready personnel available on short notice to fill critical public health needs.

Supporting Rural Communities Webinar: ACL is hosting a webinar on Wednesday, July 1, at 2pm, on connecting older adults and people with disabilities in rural America to resources during the COVID-19 pandemic. Registration is not required, use [this link](#) to join the webinar.

Road Travel Toolkit for Transportation Partners: CDC updated a [road travel toolkit for transportation departments](#) and other partners to help reach domestic travelers with COVID-19 prevention messaging during road travel.

Recommendations for Pet Stores, Distributors and Breeders: CDC updated their information for [Pet Stores, Pet Distributors, and Pet Breeding Facilities](#). Recommendations were added for establishing an animal health and disease management plan specific to the facility, monitoring animals in store daily for signs of illness, and separating sick animals and enhanced precautions were added for introducing new animals or groups of animals to a facility. These replace the previous recommendation to consider a 2-week quarantine period.

Research Updates

MMWR on Exposures Before Issuance of Stay-at-Home Orders: CDC released a MMWR on [exposures before issuance of stay-at-home orders](#) among persons with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 in Colorado.

MMWR on Characteristics of Adult Outpatients and Inpatients with COVID-19: CDC released an MMWR on [characteristics of adult outpatients and inpatients with COVID-19](#) at 11 different academic medical centers in the U.S. In a multistate telephone survey of 350 adult inpatients and outpatients who tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 infection, only 46% reported recent contact with a COVID-19 patient. Most participants' contacts were a family member (45%) or a work colleague (34%). Two thirds of participants were employed; only 17% were able to telework.

Maximizing Impact of Federally Funded Research: AHRQ released a blogpost by Director Gopal Khanna on [maximizing the impact of federally funded health services research and primary care research](#) and implementing results quicker, especially in the midst of a pandemic.

Global COVID-19: CDC is [working closely with the WHO and other partners](#) to assist countries to prepare for and respond to COVID-19. CDC routinely provides technical assistance to ministries of health and subnational and international partners to improve our collective response to infectious disease threats like COVID-19.