



Mendocino County Health & Human Services Agency

Healthy People, Healthy Communities

Bekkie Emery, DOC Manager
H. Andrew Coren, MD, County Health Officer



DATE: March 23, 2021
TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: H. Andrew Coren, MD, Health Officer
Bekkie Emery, DOC Manager
SUBJECT: COVID-19 Update

Every level of our nation has been hit hard with the number of cases and deaths from COVID-19, the overall impact

Population	COVID-19 Cases		COVID-19 Deaths	
United State (328.2 Million)	29,850,767	9.1%	525,653	.16%
California (39.5 Million)	3,547,278	8.98%	56,545	.14%
Mendocino County (86,749)	3920	4.52%	46	.05%

The current data shows that Mendocino County is progressing well in our efforts to minimize the exposure and spread of the virus with overall cases continuing to decrease. Currently there are 40 people isolating in their homes, 2 in the hospital (this includes 1 out of county in the ICU and 1 in Med Surge), and 46 people have passed away, resulting in the overall total number of cases as 3,920. We are finding that the cases are predominantly community spread.

We have moved to the Red Tier, allows for school openings to 7-12th grade. Increase in indoor activities for: places of worship; museums; retail stores; grocery stores; and restaurants including wineries, breweries, and distilleries that serve food. It also allows for gyms and fitness centers to open with 10% capacity though no indoor pool activities are allowed. It also allows for small indoor gatherings of up to 3 people though it is discouraged, especially for those households with vulnerable people. Currently there are no outbreaks under investigation through Mendocino County Public Health, however we need to remain vigilant.

Testing throughout California continues to be low, with Mendocino holding at 72% utilization rate. We have submitted our proposal to the State for the traveling testing team to be approved to visit two sites in one day and are waiting for the final approval of the requests. Will take some time to hear back, likely at least two weeks.

Optum Serve Sites will be operating as follows:

Event	Days	Hours
Ukiah – Redwood Empire Fairgrounds	Saturday – Thursday	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Ft. Bragg – Veterans Hall	Tuesday	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Rotation : Boonville, Covelo, Laytonville, Point Arena, Willits (order of rotation is pending)	Friday (3/23 – Round Valley Library)	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (Closed noon -1 p.m.)

The Solano lab our new County Lab has begun **Whole Genome Sequencing** to detect emerging Corona Virus Variants—and we have already had the opportunity to send them 2 samples for evaluation. They are still in the process of doing Quality Control, but in the future we will be working with them to arrange to automatically do a small % of every test processed through Optum for Mendocino County. To date there have been no variants identified through the State testing for Mendocino County residents.

Vaccines continue to be distributed throughout Mendocino County. As of March 20th, 42,383 vaccines have been recorded at the State level for Mendocino County, with approximately 40% of eligible residents receiving their first dose.

Vaccine supplies are expected to be stable for the next 2-3 weeks, with a projected increase thereafter in all three approved vaccines. Though we are not planning any first dose clinics due to need to administer 2nd doses over the remainder of this week and next. The mobile testing unit has worked well for support to nursing homes, homebound, inmates and other smaller groups. This week they will work with an outreach team in HHS to connect with several known homeless encampments.

We are increasing our community education efforts in both Spanish and English and will be working with partners to encourage vaccines. We are asking people to take selfies and post them on their social media accounts when getting vaccinated to encourage their friends and loved ones.

My Turn is making improvements, starting with improving access to Spanish access both online and telephonically.

Mendocino County is clearly moving in the right direction, community members are encouraged to continue masking, social distancing and regular hand washing in effort to continue on this path of decreasing cases and supporting our community in moving forward.