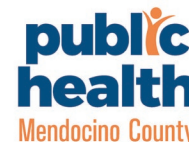




**Public Health Department
Mendocino County**

Healthy People, Healthy Communities



H. Andrew Coren, MD
Public Health Officer

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Transition Director

DATE: 9-28-2021
TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: H. Andrew Coren, MD, Health Officer
SUBJECT: COVID-19 Update

Mendocino County's **testing positivity** rate **6.9%, with testing rates over 600/100,000/day.**

New **daily cases** average **36/day/100,000.** There are currently **12 people with COVID in Mendocino hospitals**--2 are from out-of-County. 5 additional Mendocino residents are in out-of-county hospitals for a higher level of care. We have 3 COVID patients in our County Intensive Care Units, leaving only **2 staffed ICU beds (12%) available today (9/27).**

82 people have passed away, 12 more in the last 2 weeks

Total COVID cases is now 6,685; of these **2,704** are Hispanic (disproportionately high)

We have **Outbreaks** now in our Jail (new), 2 Skilled Nursing Homes, and Round Valley. The State has been assisting with all the non-jail outbreaks, in different ways. Sherwood Oaks has significant long-term challenges that go beyond COVID.

Vaccines: 3rd doses for the **immune compromised** is ongoing. **Boosters (3rd dose after completed series)** has just been authorized for certain patients who have received Pfizer more than 6 months before. Moderna and J&J approval is pending for Boosters. We hope to see vaccines approved for the 5-11 year olds this month, and possibly for the 6 month to 5 year olds in December. The vaccines remain extremely effective against severe disease, hospitalization and death.

Booster doses are available from providers, pharmacies, hospitals and the Health Department without the use of mass vaccine events we had last winter. When vaccines are approved for children under 12 years old they will be administered in providers' offices as well as in school clinics which Public Health is coordinating.

As of September 27th, 106,078 total doses have been administered to 78.1% of those over 12 years old: 69.4 % of those eligible, over 12 years old) are fully vaccinated, which is less than the state average (71.2). From an Equity perspective, our least resourced, Quartile #1 have 78% fully vaccinated, is better than the state. In Quartile 3 only 64.3% are fully vaccinated, which is less than the state average, for the first time. Hispanic vaccination rates are 55.9% fully vaccinated. This is gradually closing the disparity with the white population (65.7%) The uptake in all age groups is

increasing. However, those between 18-49 years old less vaccinated than the state. We have continued regular vaccine events at the Fairgrounds in Ukiah and started them at Public Health in Willits and Ft Bragg. 3rd Doses (for Immune-compromised) and Booster Doses for Pfizer patients more than 6 months past their initial series have started.

Our highest priority is still to give everyone their initial series. Boosters are recommended for people over 65, long-term care residents and people over 50 with underlying medical conditions or other vulnerabilities. Boosters should be considered for people 18-49 with underlying medical conditions and those with occupational risk due to increased risk of exposure or transmission.

In summary, this recent surge of cases and hospitalizations seems to be tapering off. However, we have suffered a lot of recent mortality. Since our case rates are still very high, we are at risk for another winter surge. We encourage early planning for the holidays to avoid a greater winter surge. Our Health care workers and school staff are doing heroic jobs but are stressed out. We are working on Vaccine mobilizations now for those who have held back, for children and those who may need boosters.