

Members (CEOs, CMOs, CFOs, COOs),

Here is some quick news on helping hospitals with the surge and vaccine administration. Also attached is an updated FAQ document on vaccines with updates highlighted on reimbursement, FTCA, and DPH communications. Let me know if you have questions. Thanks! LMc

Helping Hospitals with the Surge: HHS Secretary Ghaly reached out to see how health centers in LA could help to support hospitals dealing with capacity constraints due to the surge. Here's where we landed:

- **Infusion Therapy:** Could health centers help with getting infusions to targeted COVID-positive patients, to help prevent them from being hospitalized? CADPH and DHCS are working to provide monoclonal antibodies to any providers who can provide them to eligible patients. CPCA hosted a webinar on this today - the slides are attached. There is interest in either doing the infusions or partnering with others that could provide infusions to these individuals. At present health centers get the infusions at no cost and can bill some of their work, but have to fund the rest of the operation themselves this – space, equipment and staffing are the main constraints.
 - **Question:** Are you interested in providing monoclonal antibodies? If so, what additional information do you need about this? Let me know.
- **Hospital Surge:** CAHHS and the LA's MHOAC is interested in identifying any health care workers that can moonlight in hospitals to help with their workforce shortages. The Secretary said they are looking for people with inpatient experience, such as recent residency grads, physicians and nurses. They are just beginning to explore this and they would need to address a myriad of issues such as deployment, credentialing, liability coverage, on boarding, etc. We are following up with them regarding next steps and how to direct interested staff to the appropriate hospitals.
 - **Question:** do you have staff that would be interested in working at a hospital? Let us know and we'll provide additional guidance shortly.
- **Hospital Decompression:** HHS is interested in exploring whether health centers can support step-down care for patients that can be moved out of the hospital. For example, can members working in recuperative care expand their footprints? Would other health centers be interested in this? Main constraints they would have to address include space, equipment and staffing. I will be following up with HHS to discuss this further.
 - **Question:** Is your organization interested in providing step down care for patients moved out of the hospital? What information/resources would you need to do this?

Vaccine Administration: We are talking with the state and county about how to maximize the administration of vaccines through health centers. Key issues we are stressing are: resources (reimbursement, staff, supplies), improved coordination (with local public health, other partners), and flexibility in tiers.

- **PrepMod:** PrepMod is the online tool used to run vaccination clinics, schedule patient appointments and handle vaccine inventory management. It is a huge problem (as recognized by the [LA Times today](#)). We have raised this with the state and county. Both will be moving to a new system in the coming weeks, so it makes little sense to have you all set up and train on a system you will migrate

from in under a month. We've also reached out to colleagues in other counties that aren't using Prepmo to see how they are handling this. Stay tuned.

- **Member Vaccine Status:** as of today, the majority of our members have either received, or are set to receive COVID-19 vaccines for their high and moderate risk staff. We continue to work with LADPH and members to make sure they're set up to receive and administer the vaccine. Contact Brenda Rodriguez, brodriguez@ccalac.org if you have questions.
- **Vaccine Tier Status:** LA is now on Phase 1a Tier 2. Click here for an updated listing of what groups are being vaccinated, and which are coming up next. While DPH guidelines indicate that vaccinators only vaccinate those in the active tiers, they recognize that a vaccine administrator may have doses at the end of the day that they could use on an individual in a later tier in order to prevent wasted vaccines. CCALAC is advocating for all health center patients to be considered as eligible in phases 1b and 1c, which includes essential service workers and patients with underlying conditions. Given the demographics of your patient population, it is likely that many would be eligible, or live with someone eligible, under these tiers.

Find out exactly which groups are approved for vaccines and those that are coming soon here:

<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/ncorona2019/covidvaccinedistribution/>