

Members (CEOs, CMOs, CFOs, COOs),

Here is a run-down of COVID news and guidance related to: state centralization of vaccines, mass vaccination sites in LA, DPH office hours, upcoming webinars to support health center vaccination efforts, x. Stay tuned for additional updates. Let me know if you have questions. Thanks! LMc

DPH Health Center Office Hours & Webinars

Office Hours: This week DPH started hosting twice-weekly office hours for health centers – Tuesdays and Fridays from 12-12:30. Please email your questions to amohamadzadeh@ccalac.org by COB the day prior to each call. Notes from today's call will be sent out early Monday.

Webinars: CCALAC and DPH will host weekly webinars on key topics related to vaccine administration. Our first webinar will be Thursday, February 11th from 10-11am and will include a demo of the MyTurn system. Information below. MyTurn will be used to register, schedule, and record vaccinations. Dulmini Wilson, and Vaccine Data Team, from LA County Department of Public Health, will lead us through a demonstration of its functionality and use so that FQHCs can prepare for launch when 2nd dose clinics are finished in PrepMod for each provider. Future sessions will cover clinical and operational workflows, addressing data mismatch issues, billing and best practices in planning weekly dose counts. Stay tuned for meeting info. We'll record these webinars and send you the link afterward.

Webinar Schedule:

1. MyTurn Demonstration. Thursday, February 11, 10-11am.
2. Thursday, February 18, 11am-12pm
3. Thursday, February 25, 11am-12pm
4. Thursday, March 4, 11am-12pm

To Join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89749374992>

Meeting ID: 897 4937 4992

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Vaccine Distribution – State Centralization / Third Party Administrator

This week CPCA met with Blue Shield Health Plan and HHS regarding including health centers in the new centralized state network. Blue Shield made it clear that they are not inclined/interested in contracting with all health centers in the state. Both Blue Shield and HHS emphasized the importance of administering a high volume of vaccines to be included. That will be a major point of advocacy for us moving forward. Beyond that, little was shared as far as metrics or payments. CPCA sent a letter to the Governor regarding the centralization **(attached)**.

In follow up to those discussions, CPCA is providing the state health center demographic data and an overlay of health centers across the state's Healthy People Index (HPI) to show the strong correlation between health center patients and those most hard hit by the pandemic. CPCA is advocating for every CHC that wants a contract should be able to secure a contract, along with weighing equity separately from volume, with equity being weighted higher for CHCs.

Repositioning and Redistributing Vaccines

Following are the guidelines for moving vaccines internally within the organization. Please note the difference between **repositioning** and **redistributing** vaccines.

REPOSITIONING: Moving the doses to another clinic site and they must be administered within the same day. To reposition and move doses out of inventory quickly, it is suggested that clinics schedule vaccination Clinics via PrepMod and take vaccines to other locations to vaccinate for the day.

REDISTRIBUTING: Requires CDPH's approval. Instructions and template Redistribution Plan are attached. Once the plan is approved, vaccines may be transferred to other sites within the plan. Please also visit <https://eziz.org/covid/vaccine-management/> and scroll down to the bottom of the page for the Redistribution Resources.

Mass Vaccinations Sites

The state is launching several mass vaccination sites as part of its centralization of vaccine efforts—2 run by FEMA and up to 12 run by Kaiser Permanente in partnership with Adventist Health, the California Medical Association, Dignity Health, and Futuro Health. All sites will follow the state guidelines on eligibility (65+ and health workers for now) and will use MyTurn for their appointments and notifications.

Our concerns: CCALAC has raised concerns with the state and with KP that these sites prioritize volume over value (equity), and that these sites may impact the ability of health centers to participate in the new state network.

Many of our members are administering vaccines already, including some offering vaccines to the public. Many also plan to be part of the new state network, to be launched in 3 weeks. In order to be included in the state network, health centers will need to demonstrate their capacity to successfully vaccinate (and document it) in order to be considered for the state network. If the mass vax sites actively recruit health center patients, this can take away from health centers' ability to demonstrate their capacity to successfully vaccinate. Therefore, if you want to be in the state network, you may want to vaccinate all of your patients over 65, rather than send them elsewhere. While we recognize that limited supply is impacting your ability to scale up, we anticipate the supply to begin to improve.

FEMA Site: one FEMA site will be located at Cal State LA, expected to open February 16. The site will be jointly run by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Governor's Office of Emergency Services and will be able to administer up to 5,000 doses a day.

Kaiser Permanente Site: Kaiser Permanente opened a mass vaccination site at Cal Poly Pomona today. KP plans to scale up to provide 10,000 doses per day, 7 days a week, at the site. KP would like to engage with health centers near the site to offer vaccines to their patients over 65. They are still figuring out how this could work best, from a scheduling as well as a travel/access perspective. They've reached out to a couple members in the area so far. They understand the considerations outlined above, and do not want to have an unintended impact on health centers participating in the state network. If you are not administering the vaccine, or do not anticipate that you will be vaccinating under the state network, this offer from KP may be a good fit for you. Please let me know if you're interested, and I'll let KP know.

New County Vaccine Plan?

On Tuesday, LA County is slated to unveil a new vaccination plan. The plan will likely aim to coordinate efforts across many of the sites currently in operation. According to the Daily News, the plan may include several facets: a) the new statewide partnership of Blue Shield of California and Kaiser Permanente; an initiative to reach those without insurance or with limited access to services and mobility already; and c) focus on pharmacies and community clinics where people can go to receive a vaccine. It's unclear how this plan intersects with the state centralization happening in 3 weeks. Stay tuned for more details.