



DATE: June 25, 2020

TO: Southern Nevada District Board of Health Members

FROM: Fermin Leguen, MD, MPH, Acting Chief Health Officer *FL*

SUBJECT: Chief Health Officer Report

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Southern Nevada Health District is continuing to collaborate with jurisdictional partners to provide testing resources for seniors, minorities, and those most at risk for COVID-19. Community collection sites have been expanded to individuals of all ages and those who are not experiencing symptoms. Additional activities include working with Medical Surge Area Command (MSAC) to prioritize testing of skilled nursing facilities, coordinating the deployment of strike teams to shelters and homeless encampments, and supporting community-wide collections sites.

The Health District is training additional contact tracers, including Food Handler Safety Training Card staff members, to support increased case investigations as a result of expanded community-wide testing and reopening of businesses. The Health District's recently launched notification mobile app is being translated into Spanish, and additional contract tracing and testing information and educational items are being developed for the public in both English and Spanish.

Assembly of the 29-bed non-congregate shelter (NCS) is on schedule for completion by July 1, as well as plans to onboard and train staff. Health District staff is developing its referral protocol and case management plan for the NCS.

The Health District's COVID-19 Dashboard, demographic information, trend report, ZIP code and city maps, and case counts per ZIP code are posted on the Health District's website at www.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org/coronavirus.

Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C)

The Southern Nevada Health District reported the first confirmed case of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) in Clark County on June 12. The patient is a child who tested positive for COVID-19. The child did require hospitalization but has been discharged and is recovering.

Reporting of MIS-C is required under NRS 441A.120 and NAC 441A.108, subsection 2, c. NAC 441A.085 "Extraordinary occurrence of illness" defined. The Nevada Division of Public and

Behavioral Health released a technical bulletin, available [here](#), with case definition, clinical presentation, and instructions for reporting. Cases of confirmed and suspected cases of MIS-C in Clark County should be reported to the Health District's Office of Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance by fax - (702) 759-1414; phone - (702) 759-1300; or online - www.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org/news-info/reportable-diseases/reportable-diseases-form/.

MIS-C is a rare but serious illness that may be associated with COVID-19. The Health District advised parents to watch for symptoms that include fever, abdominal pain, vomiting, diarrhea, neck pain, rash, bloodshot eyes, and fatigue. Not all children will have the same symptoms. If symptoms in a child develop, parents should contact a health care provider immediately. Parents should seek emergency care right away if their child is having trouble breathing or experiencing severe chest or stomach pain.

There isn't a known cause for MIS-C. Many children with MIS-C had the virus that causes COVID-19 or had contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19. MIS-C is a condition where different body parts can become inflamed, including the heart, lungs, kidneys, brain, skin, eyes, or gastrointestinal organs. Treatment includes supportive care for symptoms and various medications to treat the inflammation.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is advising that it is still learning about MIS-C and its impact on children. Based on current information, the best way to protect children is by taking precautions against the virus that causes COVID-19.

The Health District continues to encourage people to take steps to protect children, themselves and others:

- **Clean hands often** using soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Teach children to do the same.
- **Avoid people who are sick** (coughing and sneezing).
- **Put distance between children and other people** outside of your home. Keep children at least 6 feet from other people. Limit time with other children.
- **Children 2 years and older should wear a cloth face covering** over their nose and mouth when in public settings where it's difficult to practice social distancing. This is an additional public health measure people should take to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in addition to (not instead of) the other everyday preventive actions listed above.
- **Clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces daily** in household common areas (like tables, hard-backed chairs, doorknobs, light switches, remotes, handles, desks, toilets, and sinks).
- **Laundry items**, including washable plush toys as needed. Follow the manufacturer's instructions. If possible, launder items using the warmest appropriate water setting and dry items completely.

2019-2020 Influenza Season Update

The Health District has issued its last influenza weekly report for the 2019-2020 season. During week 20 (May 10, 2020 - May 16, 2020), influenza-like illness (ILI) activity was minimal in Nevada. In Clark County, 1,398 influenza-associated hospitalizations and 54 influenza-related

deaths, including one pediatric death, were reported to the Health District since the beginning of the 2019-2020 influenza season. The proportion of emergency department and urgent care clinic visits for ILI was 2.0 percent in week 20, which was slightly higher than week 19 (1.9 percent). Approximately 42.8 percent of area emergency department and urgent care clinic visits for ILI were made by adults 18-44 years of age. Influenza A has become the dominant type circulating.

The Health District will resume influenza weekly reports on September 27, 2020. Weekly surveillance reports are available on the Health District website at www.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org/news-info/statistics-surveillance-reports/influenza-surveillance/.

Community Meetings

Week ending May 1

- Participated in CDC Coronavirus Disease Nevada State Update call
- COVID-19 Regional Policy Group Meeting with Commissioner Kirkpatrick
- Downtown Vegas Alliance and Health District Webinar with Councilman Brian Knudsen
- Maureen Shaffer, Councilman Brian Knudsen conference call
- Nevada FQHCs Covid-19 Weekly Update meeting
- HealthHIE Nevada Grant conference call with Jerry Reeves, Comagine
- New York Times interview with Joe Becker
- Las Vegas R-J interview
- Telemundo interview regarding COVID-19 impact on Latinx community
- COVID-19 Regional Policy Group Meeting with Commissioner Kirkpatrick
- Clark County Medical Society Townhall

Week ending May 8

- Participated in CDC Coronavirus Disease Nevada State Update Call
- COVID-19 Regional Policy Group Meeting with Commissioner Kirkpatrick
- Participated on Conference Call Task Force Initiative - Teachers Health Trust
- Interview with KUNR-FM
- Quest: COVID Testing & Clinical Aspect WebEx Meeting
- Interview with Las Vegas R-J
- Participated on Big Cities Health Coalition Conference call

Week ending May 15:

- Participated CDC Covid-19 All State & Local Teleconference
- Participated NV Hispanic Legislative Caucus & Latino Elected Officials Teleconference/Zoom
- Participated Virtual Town Hall Meeting with Commissioner Gibson
- Participated in Nevada Association of Local Health Officers (NALHO) meeting
- Participated in bilingual press conference with Councilwoman Olivia Diaz
- Interview with Las Vegas R-J on COVID vaccine
- Interview with The Nevada Independent

- Participated in Physician Coalition of Southern Nevada teleconference on current issues and priorities
- Participated in Resort Association meeting

Week Ending May 22:

- Participated Nevada State Medical Association Public Health Commission Teleconference
- Participated in Big Cities Health Coalition Teleconference for emergent COVID issues
- Participated in COVID Screening and Isolation Tabletop Planning Exercise
- Clark County Medical Society Board of Trustees
- Met and facilitated a tour of UNLV Deans of School of Medicine, Dental School and Nursing School at SNHD facility (280 S. Decatur Blvd)
- Interview with Univision regarding hospital safety related to COVID-19
- Interview with Nevada Current regarding potential budget shortfalls

Week Ending May 29:

- Participated in Gaming Control Board workshop
- Participated in Culinary Union teleconference