

Guidance and responses were provided based on information known on 10.12.2023 and may become out of date. Guidance is being updated rapidly; users should look to CDC and NE DHHS guidance for updates.



Infection Control Assessment
and Promotion Program

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

COVID-19 and LTC

October 12, 2023

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Slides and a recording of this presentation will be available on the ICAP website:

<https://icap.nebraskamed.com/events/webinar-archive/>

Use the Q&A box in the webinar platform to type a question. Questions will be read aloud by the moderator. If your question is not answered during the webinar, please either e-mail it to NE ICAP or call during our office hours to speak with one of our IPs.



Continuing Education Disclosures

- 1.0 Nursing Contact Hour and 1 NAB Contact Hour is awarded for the LIVE viewing of this webinar
- In order to obtain nursing contact hours, you must be present for the entire live webinar and complete the post webinar survey
- No conflicts of interest were identified for any member of the planning committee, presenters or panelists of the program content
- This CE is hosted by Nebraska Medicine along with Nebraska ICAP and Nebraska DHHS
- Nebraska Medicine is approved as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by the Midwest Multistate Division, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's (ANCC) Commission on Accreditation

TMF Health Quality Institute CMS Quality Innovation Network- Quality Improvement Organization (QIN-QIO)

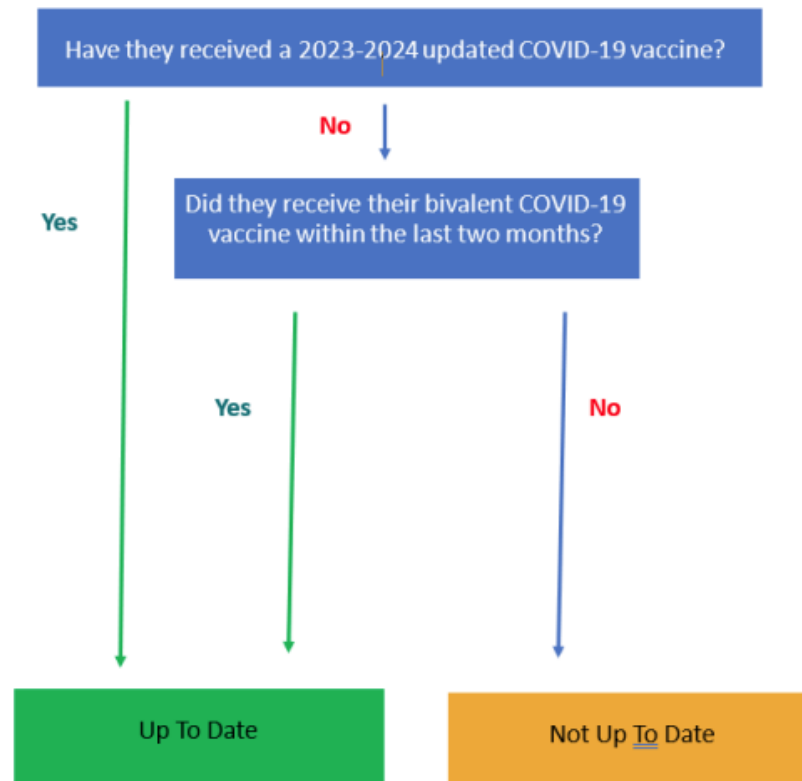
Monika Maxwell, RN, TeamSTEPPS[®] Master Trainer
Quality Improvement Specialist

NHSN–ServiceNow

- Use NHSN–ServiceNow to submit questions to the NHSN help desk
- Go to [nhsn_csp – NHSN Customer Service](#)

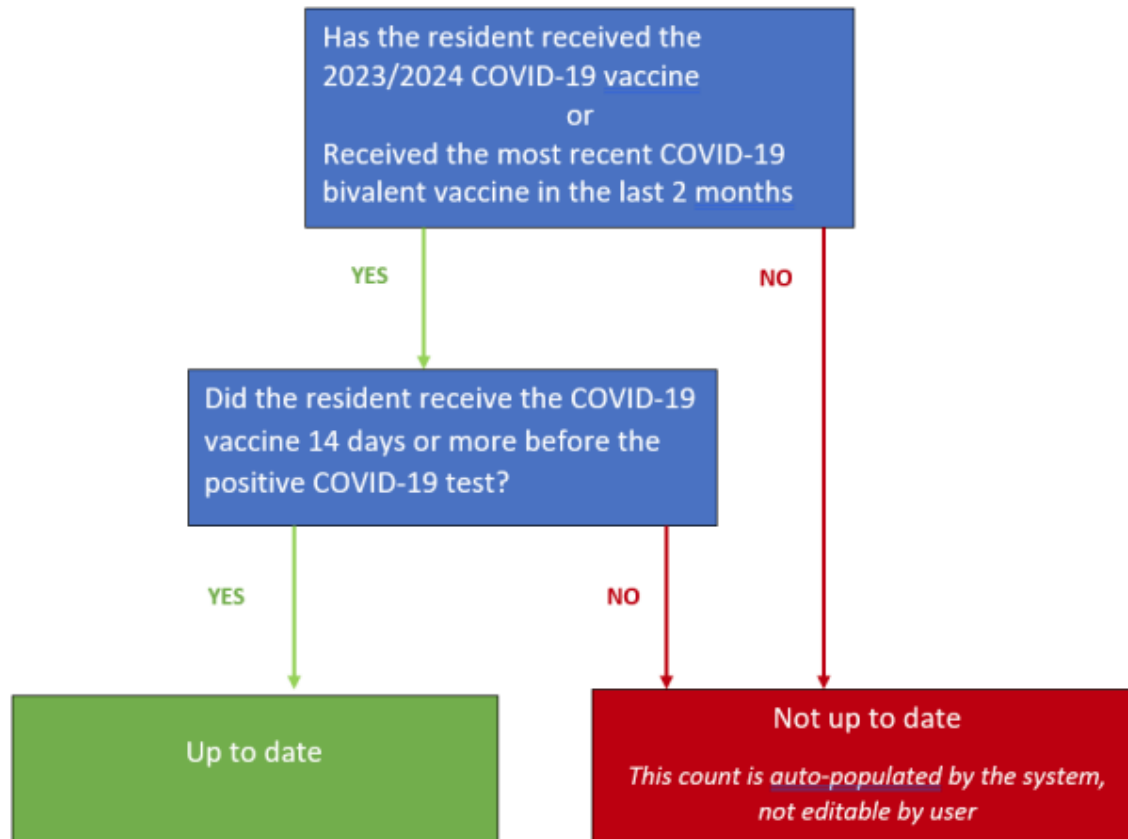
Up To Date Guidance

Up To Date Guidance for Quarter 4 of 2023



Up To Date – RIFC Pathway

Up To Date Guidance for Quarter 4 of 2023



CMS-Targeted COVID-19 Training

- For frontline nursing home staff and management learning
- Available through the [CMS Quality, Safety & Education Portal \(QSEP\)](#)
- Five frontline nursing home staff modules with three hours total training time
- Ten management staff modules with four hours total training time
- [QSEP Group Training Instructions – English](#) (PDF)
- [QSEP Group Training Instructions – Spanish](#) (PDF)

CMS-Targeted COVID-19 Training – New Tools

- [User Guide: CMS Targeted COVID-19 Training for Frontline Nursing Home Staff and Management](#)
- Kudos Kit
 - › [Press Release Template – customizable](#)
 - › [A Customizable Printable Poster](#)
 - › [A Standard, Non-customizable Printable Poster](#)
 - › [Printable Badges for Staff](#)
 - › [Printable Badges for Management](#)
 - › [Sample Social Media Post](#)



Visitors: Remember That Loving Hands Are Clean Hands

When you visit your family, friend or loved one, having clean hands is still one of the best ways to keep them from getting sick. Before entering a resident's room, review how to make sure you're washing your hands to keep everyone healthy. If soap and water are not readily available, you can use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Leave your loved one with hugs and love — not germs!

Follow 5 Steps to Wash Your Hands the Right Way

-  **1** Wet hands with your preferred water temperature. Both warm and cold water remove the same germs from your hands.
-  **2** Lather your hands by rubbing them together with soap. Lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers, and under your nails.
-  **20 seconds** **3** Scrub your hands for at least 20 seconds. Need a timer? Hum the "Happy Birthday" song from beginning to end twice. (If you turn the water off during this step, use a clean towel to do so.)
-  **4** Rinse your hands thoroughly under clean, running water.
-  **5** Dry your hands using a paper or clean towel and use elbow or towel to shut off the water. You may also air dry your hands.

How to Use Hand Sanitizer Effectively

-  **1** Apply the gel product to the palm of one hand (read the label to learn the correct amount).
-  **2** Rub your hands together.
-  **3** Rub the gel over all the surfaces of your hands and fingers until your hands are dry. This should take around 20 seconds. No need to wipe your hands after sanitizing.

Source: [Keeping Hands Clean](#), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Get Ready This Fall!



Want to know how? It's as simple as 1... 2... 3... 4

- 1. Get the annual flu vaccine.**
- 2. Make sure you are up to date with COVID-19 vaccination.**
- 3. Check to see if you are eligible for the pneumonia vaccine.**
- 4. Check to see if you are eligible for the RSV vaccine.**

Getting all vaccines will help protect you from severe symptoms so you can enjoy more time with important people in your life. The best part is: Most people can get all the vaccines at the same time. Please discuss with your health care provider for more information.

Ask a nurse for your vaccines today.



WWW.TMFNETWORKS.ORG

Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS)

Implementing CLAS to Improve Health Equity **Session 3: Develop a Plan to Lead and Support** **Implementing CLAS Standards**

Tuesday, Oct. 10
1:30 – 2:30 p.m. CT

[Register](#)

Prior sessions and other Health Equity resources
can be found here: [Health Equity](#)

Upcoming TMF QIN-QIO Training

LTC Connect

Taking a New Approach
to Dementia Care and Reducing
Inappropriate Antipsychotics

Thursday, Oct. 19, 2023
1:30 – 2 p.m. CT

Recorded Event

Sept. 21 LTC Connect:
Improving Immunization Rates
for Influenza and
Pneumonia Vaccinations

Nursing Home Office Hours

Optimizing Staff Health
Tuesday, Oct. 24, 2023
1:30 – 2:30 p.m. CT

Register once for multiple TMF QIN-QIO events

TMF QIN-QIO Resources

Website: tmfnetworks.org

- [How to Create an Account on the TMF Networks.org](#)
- [Calendar of Events](#)
- [Nursing Home Resources](#)
- [Quality Measures Video Series and Resources](#)
- [Quality Assurance Performance Improvement Video Series](#)
- [Nursing Home Recorded Events](#)

Need Assistance?

Connect With Us!



Email

nhnetwork@tmf.org

Submit requests for help with NHSN and/or quality improvement assistance.



Follow Us on Facebook

[TMF QIN Nursing Home Quality Improvement Facebook](#)

Nebraska Statistics



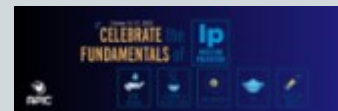
International Infection Prevention Week

"Celebrating the Fundamentals of Infection Prevention"

October 15 – 21, 2023

Celebrate in your facility using the APIC Promotional Toolkit

- Education
- Games
- Activities
- Social media posts to share
- And more



What Do IPs Do?

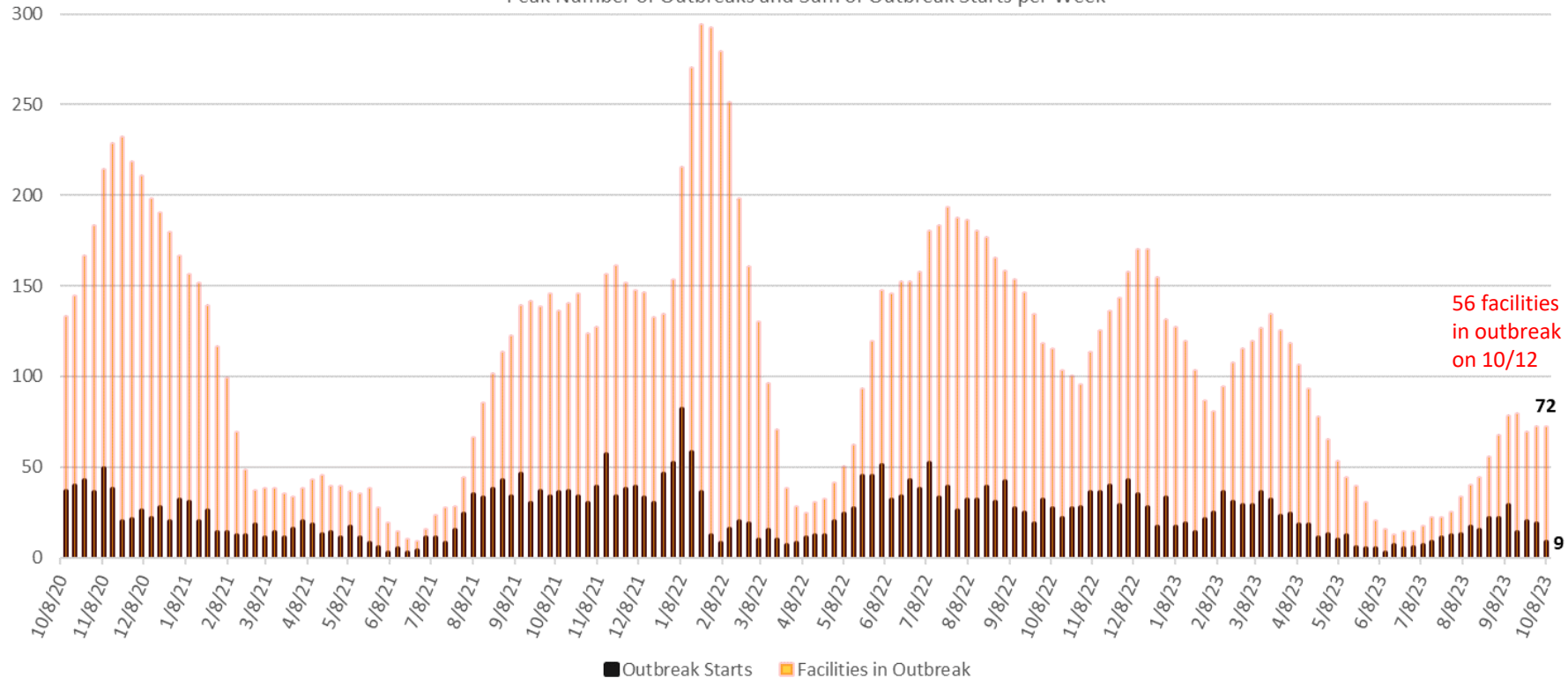
IPs promote a culture of safety and impact the health of patients, workers, staff, and community members. Their advocacy and work extend throughout the organization and the community.



Nebraska LTC Facility COVID-19 Outbreaks

Nebraska LTC Facilities in COVID Outbreak by Week

Peak Number of Outbreaks and Sum of Outbreak Starts per Week



**Updated: 10/09/2023

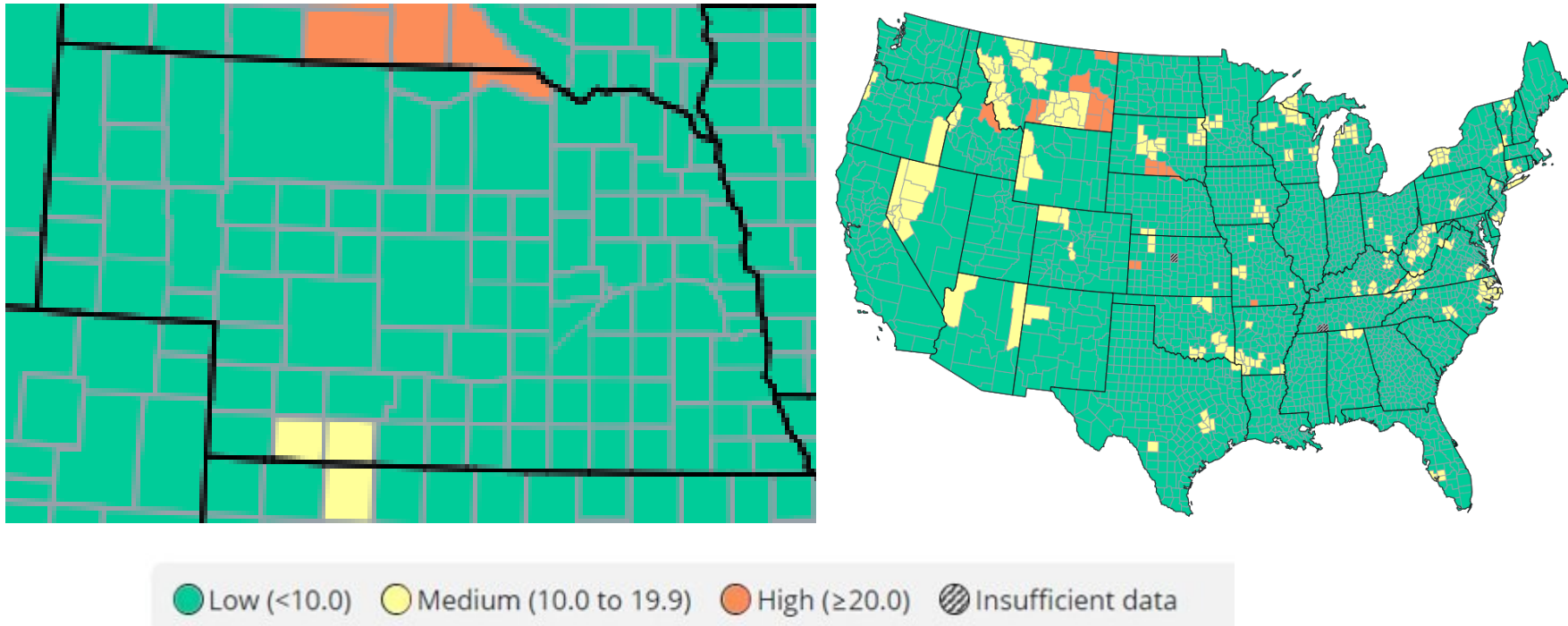
Source: Unofficial Counts Compiled by Nebraska ICAP based on data reported by facilities and DHHS; Actual numbers may vary slightly. Numbers reflect the peak during the week.



CDC COVID-19 Data Tracker

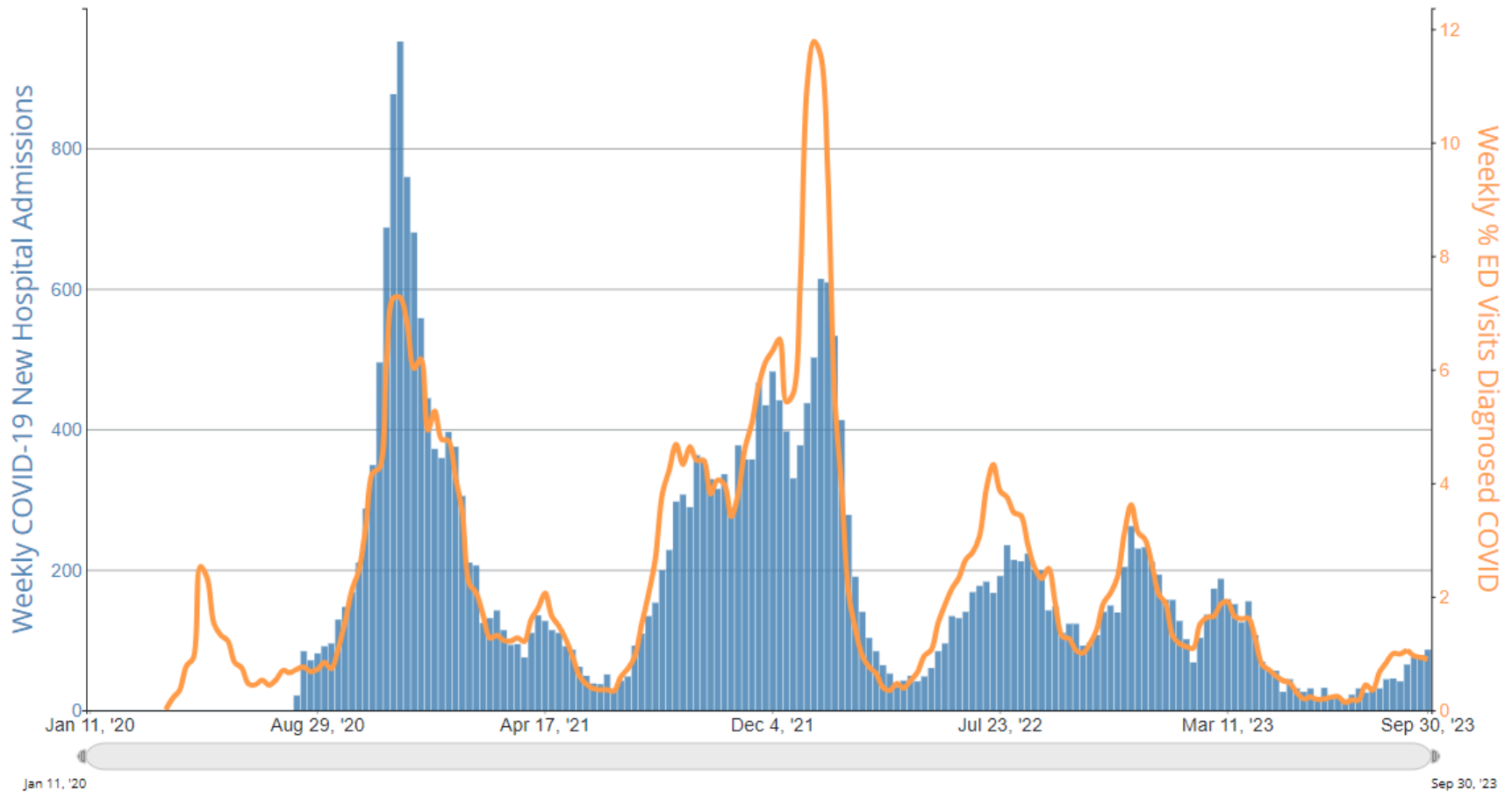
US Reported COVID-19 New Hospital Admissions Rate per 100,000 in the Past Week, by County

Time Period: New COVID-19 hospital admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total) are calculated using data from the MMWR week (Sun-Sat) ending September 30, 2023.



CDC COVID-19 Data Tracker

COVID-19 New Hospital Admissions and Percentage of Emergency Department (ED) Visits Diagnosed as COVID-19, by Week, in Nebraska. Reported to CDC





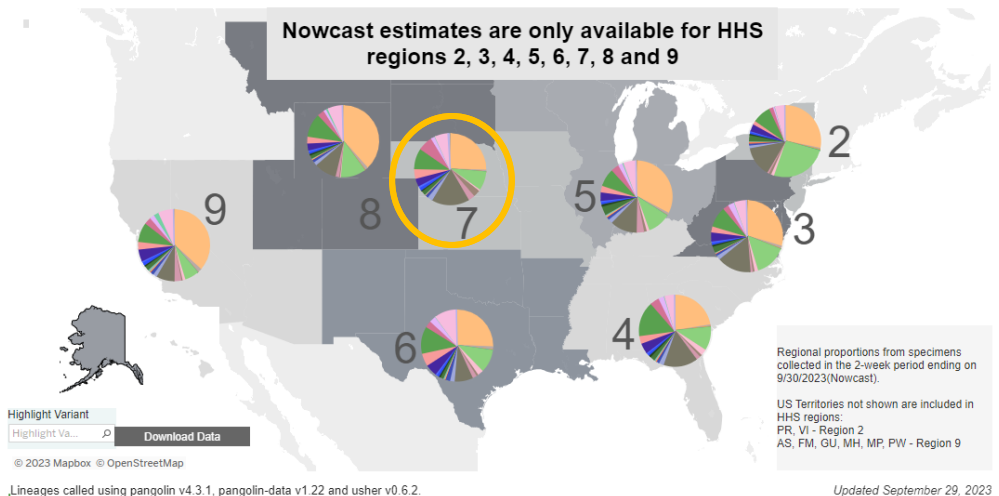
What's happening with variants?

Region 7 - Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska

WHO label	Lineage #	%Total	95%PI
Omicron	EG.5	25.2%	21.5-29.2%
	HV.1	17.0%	12.9-22.1%
	XBB.1.16.6	9.3%	7.1-12.1%
	FL.1.5.1	8.6%	5.4-13.2%
	XBB.1.16.11	6.7%	5.1-8.8%
	XBB.2.3	5.8%	2.2-13.6%
	XBB.1.16.1	4.3%	3.0-6.1%
	XBB.1.16	3.6%	2.8-4.4%
	GK.2	3.2%	1.6-5.9%
	HF.1	2.9%	1.6-5.4%
	XBB	2.3%	1.6-3.4%
	XBB.1.5.70	1.9%	1.4-2.7%
	XBB.1.16.15	1.7%	0.4-5.6%
	XBB.1.9.1	1.3%	1.1-1.7%
	XBB.1.5	1.2%	0.9-1.4%
	XBB.2.3.8	1.0%	0.4-2.1%
	XBB.1.9.2	0.9%	0.5-1.6%
	EG.6.1	0.7%	0.2-1.7%
	GE.1	0.6%	0.3-1.4%
	XBB.1.5.72	0.5%	0.3-0.8%
	XBB.1.5.68	0.3%	0.2-0.5%
	CH.1.1	0.3%	0.1-0.5%
	XBB.1.42.2	0.2%	0.1-0.4%
	XBB.1.5.10	0.2%	0.1-0.5%
	XBB.1.5.59	0.1%	0.0-0.2%
	FE.1.1	0.1%	0.0-0.1%

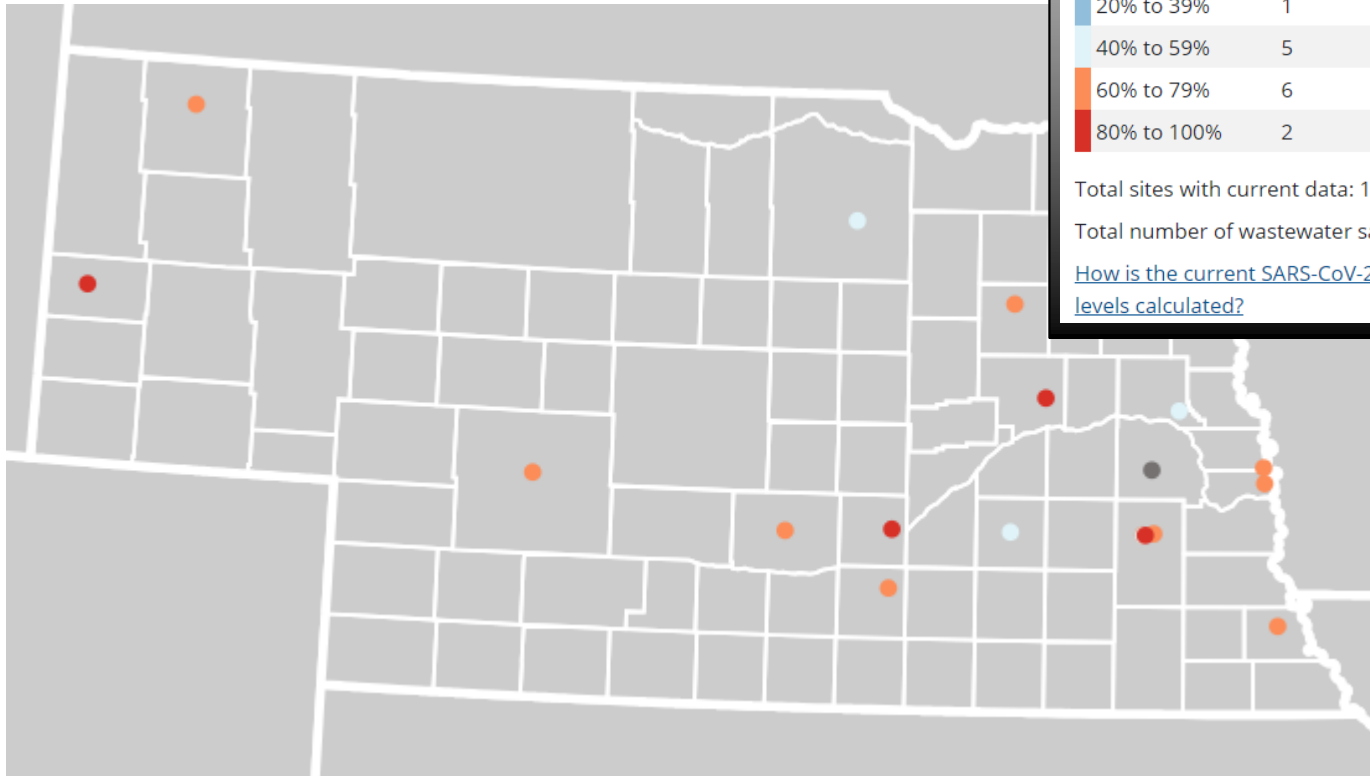
Weighted and Nowcast Estimates for two-week period 9/17/23 – 9/30/23

Nowcast Estimates for 9/17/2023 – 9/30/2023 by HHS Region



Wastewater Surveillance

Time Period: Sep 18, 2023 - Oct 02, 2023



Current SARS-CoV-2 virus levels by site, Nebraska

Current virus levels category	Num. sites	% sites	Category change in last 7 days
New Site	1	7	0%
0% to 19%	0	0	N/A**
20% to 39%	1	7	0%
40% to 59%	5	33	0%
60% to 79%	6	40	- 14%
80% to 100%	2	13	100%

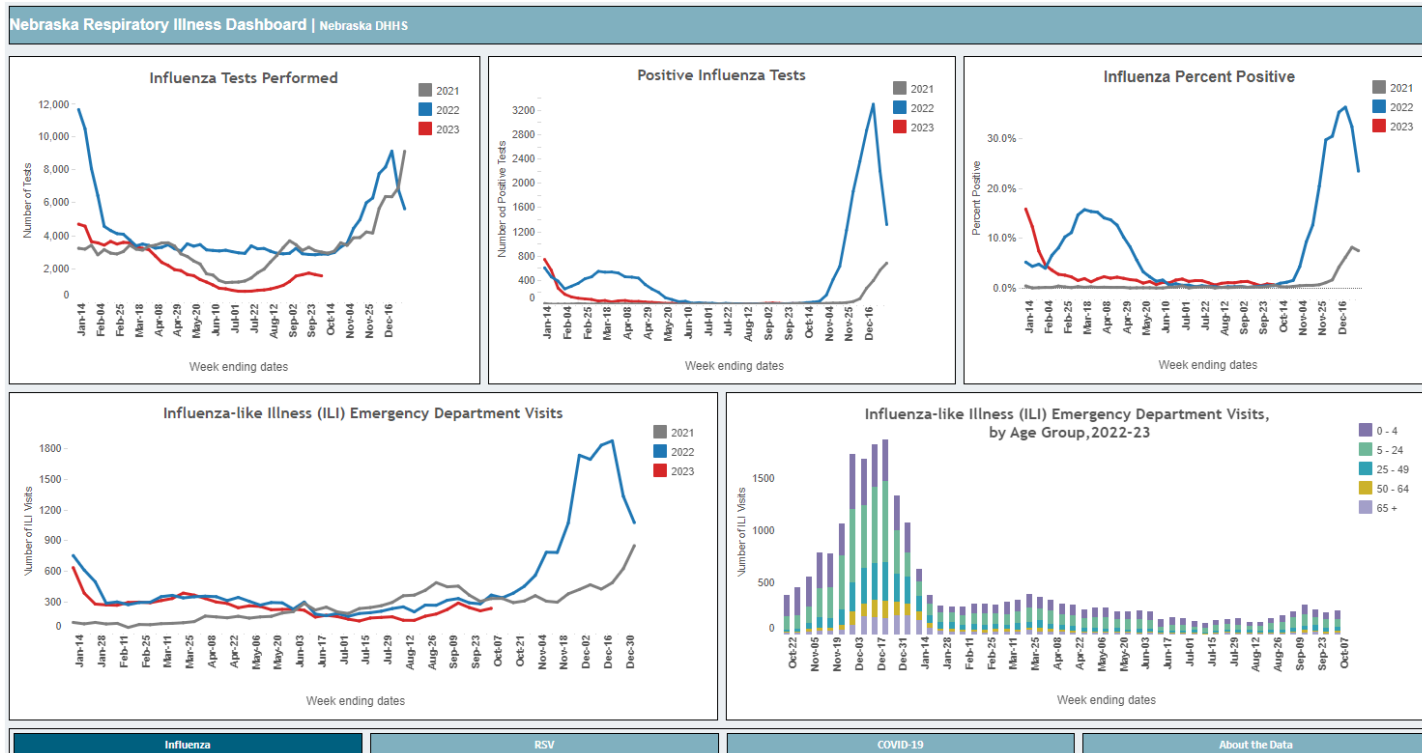
Total sites with current data: 15

Total number of wastewater sampling sites: 18

[How is the current SARS-CoV-2 level compared to past levels calculated?](#)

Nebraska Flu Activity and Data

- The first report for 2023-24 surveillance season will be published the week of 10/16/23.



[Flu Activity And Data \(ne.gov\)](https://www.ne.gov)

[Respiratory Illness Dashboard - Atlas Public Health Visualizations](#)



COVID-19 Test Expiration Resources

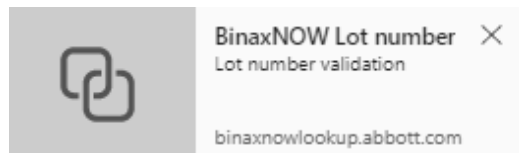


Links to look for COVID-19 Test Extended Expiration Dates

- [At-Home OTC COVID-19 Diagnostic Tests | FDA](#)



- [BinaxNOW Lot number \(abbott.com\)](#)



COVID-19 Vaccine Update



Recorded COCA Call

Emergency Preparedness and Response

Resources for Emergency Health Professionals > Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA) > COCA Calls/Webinars > 2023 Calls/Webinars

🏠 Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA)

About COCA +

COCA Calls/Webinars -

2023 Calls/Webinars -

Algorithms for Diagnosing the Endemic Mycoses Blastomycosis, Coccidioidomycosis, and Histoplasmosis

Preparing for the Upcoming Respiratory Virus Season: Recommendations for Influenza, COVID-19, and RSV Vaccines for Older Adults

2023-2024 Recommendations for Influenza Prevention and Treatment in Children: An Update for Pediatric Providers

We Must Maintain Measles Elimination in the United States: Measles Clinical Presentation, Diagnosis, and Prevention

Clinical Vaccination Guidance for Pregnant People

Preparing for the Upcoming Respiratory Virus Season: Recommendations for Influenza, COVID-19, and RSV Vaccines for Older Adults

[Print](#)

To receive continuing education for this webinar, please visit [ICEO](#) and follow these [9 Simple Steps](#) by Monday, October 23, 2023. The course code is WC4520-091923, and the access code is COCA091923.



Preparing for the Upcoming Respiratory Virus Season: Recommendations for Influenza, COVID-19, and RSV Vaccines for Older Adults



Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA) Call

Tuesday, September 19, 2023

[Webinar Tuesday, September 19, 2023 - Preparing for the Upcoming Respiratory Virus Season: Recommendations for Influenza, COVID-19, and RSV Vaccines for Older Adults \(cdc.gov\)](#)



CDC Recommends Updated COVID-19 Vaccine, 9/12/23

- CDC recommends everyone 6 months and older get an updated (2023-2024) COVID-19 vaccine to protect against the potentially serious outcomes of COVID-19 illness this fall and winter.
- The updated boosters were formulated to target variants that are currently circulating which are similar to XBB, an offshoot of the omicron variant.
- Receiving an updated COVID-19 vaccine can restore protection and provide enhanced protection against the variants currently responsible for most infections and hospitalizations in the United States.

[FDA Takes Action on Updated mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines to Better Protect Against Currently Circulating Variants | FDA](#)

[CDC Recommends Updated COVID-19 Vaccine for Fall/Winter Season](#)



Vaccine Availability

Updated 2023-2024 is the first COVID-19 vaccine to be available directly from the manufacturers as part of the commercial market, rather than through the United States Government.

Single dose vials and smaller minimum quantity orders will be available.

- Moderna 12+ years: single dose vial (10-pack) and manufacturer-prefilled syringes (10-pack)
 - No dilution
- Pfizer 12+ years: single dose vial (10-pack), limited quantity of manufacturer-prefilled syringes (10-pack)
 - Only pediatric formulation requires dilution

Vaccine Availability

Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine (2023-2024 Formula) is authorized for use in people age 12 years and older:

- One dose of Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine (2023-2024) may be administered at least 2 months after receiving the last previous dose of an original or bivalent COVID-19 vaccine.
- Unvaccinated people should receive two doses of Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine (2023-2024), should be administered 3 weeks apart.
- Immunocompromised individuals: Additional doses of Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine (2023-2024) may be administered at the discretion of the healthcare provider, taking into consideration the individual's clinical circumstances. The timing of the additional doses may be based on the individual's clinical circumstances.

Recommendations for Adult Without Immunocompromise

Doses Recommended:

- 1 dose of 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine, regardless of prior vaccination history.
-
- 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine dose is recommended at least 2 months after receiving the last COVID-19 vaccine dose

Recommendations for Adults Who Are Moderately or Severely Immunocompromised

Doses Recommended:

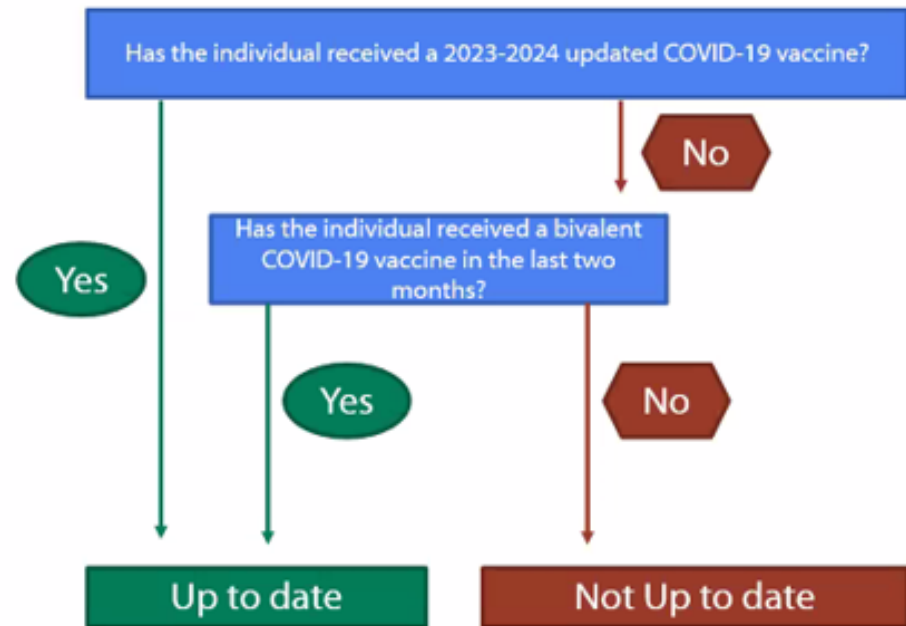
- Initial COVID-19 vaccine series
- At least 1 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine dose*
- May receive 1 or more additional 2023-2024 mRNA COVID-19 doses**

*Series of 3 homologous mRNA COVID-19 vaccine doses at time of initial vaccination. This could also include a history of receipt of 1 or more doses of Novavax or Janssen, including in combination with mRNA vaccine dose(s)

**Further additional dose(s) may be administered, informed by the clinical judgement of a healthcare provider and personal preferences and circumstances. Further additional doses should be administered at least 2 months after the last 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine dose.

NHSN UP To Date Definition Change

- Under the new recommendations, most individuals will not be up to date with COVID-19 vaccines until they receive the 2023-2024 updated COVID-19 vaccine.
- The new definition of up to date with COVID-19 vaccines applied to NHSN surveillance beginning the week of **September 25, 2023 – October 1, 2023** (the first week of reporting Quarter 4 2023).
- The new definition applies to both the **NHSN Weekly HCP and Resident Vaccination Forms and the NHSN COVID-19 Surveillance Pathways.**



Flu and RSV Vaccine Update



Flu Vaccine for Older Adults

Three specific influenza vaccines are preferentially recommended for people 65 years and older over other influenza vaccines.

People 65 and older should get a higher dose or adjuvanted influenza vaccine, including:

- Quadrivalent high-dose inactivated influenza vaccine (HD-IIV4),
- Quadrivalent recombinant influenza vaccine (RIV4), or
- Quadrivalent adjuvanted inactivated influenza vaccine (aIIV4).

Co-administration of vaccines is an acceptable practice.

- If vaccines are not administered the same day, there is no required interval between vaccines.

[CDC - MMWR - Seasonal Influenza - 2023-2024](#)

[9.19.23 CDC COCA Slides](#)



Flu Vaccine Update

- Routine annual influenza vaccination of all persons aged ≥ 6 months who do not have contraindications continues to be recommended.
- All people aged ≥ 6 months with egg allergy should receive any influenza vaccine (egg based or non-egg based) that is otherwise appropriate for the recipient's age and health status can be used.
 - Egg allergy alone necessitates no additional safety measures for influenza vaccination beyond those recommended for any recipient of any vaccine, regardless of severity of previous reaction to egg.
 - All vaccines should be administered in settings in which personnel and equipment needed for rapid recognition and treatment of acute hypersensitivity reactions are available.

RSV Vaccine – Key Information

In June 2023, CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended the first two RSV vaccines for older adults.

- RSVPreF₃ (Arexvy, GSK) is a 1-dose adjuvanted (ASo_{1E}) recombinant prefusion F protein (preF) vaccine.
- RSVpreF (Abrysvo, Pfizer) is a 1-dose recombinant preF vaccine.

RSV Vaccination Recommendations

- ACIP and CDC recommend that adults ages 60 years and older may receive a **single dose** of RSV vaccine using shared clinical decision making.

AREXVY Package Insert

A single dose after reconstitution is 0.5 mL.
Given as an intramuscular injection.

ABRYSVO Package Insert

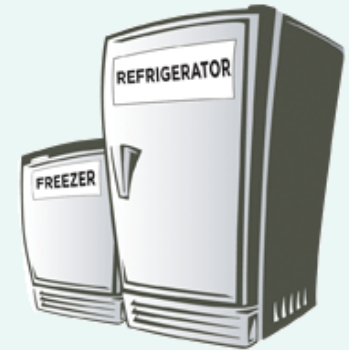
A single dose after reconstitution is 0.5 mL.
Given as an intramuscular injection.

Vaccine Storage and Administration Resources



Vaccine Storage and Handling

Proper vaccine storage and handling practices play a very important role in protecting individuals and communities from vaccine-preventable diseases. Vaccine quality is the shared responsibility of everyone, from the time vaccine is manufactured until it is administered.



- Moderna: Frozen until expiration
 - Refrigerator storage up to 30 days
- Pfizer: Ultra-cold storage until expiration
 - Refrigerator storage up to 10 weeks
- Novavax
 - Refrigerator storage up to 9 mos

Always store vaccines (and temperature monitoring devices) in the body of the refrigerator – not in the vegetable bins, on the floor, next to the walls, in the door, or near the cold air outlet from the freezer.

[Vaccine Storage and Handling \(immunize.org\)](https://www.immunize.org)

[Vaccine Storage and Handling Resources | CDC](#)



COVID-19 Vaccine Storage, Prep, and Administration References

Updated (2023-2024 Formula) Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine At-A-Glance



Guidance below summarizes basic storage, preparation, scheduling, administration, and dosage for all 2023–24 Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine products.

Distributed in:

<p>Ages: 6 months through 4 years Multiple-dose vial: yellow cap and yellow label</p>	<p>Ages: 5 through 11 years Single dose vial: blue cap and blue label</p>	<p>Ages: 12 years and older Single-dose vial: gray cap and gray label Manufacturer-filled syringe</p>
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Storage and Handling

Find additional guidance on storing vaccine properly at:

- [CDC Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit](#)
- [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine | FDA](#)
- [Comimaty | FDA](#)
- [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine | cvdvaccine.com](#)

Ages	6 months through 4 years	5 through 11 years	12 years and older	12 years and older
Supplied in:	3-dose multiple-dose vial (MDV)	Single-dose vial (SDV)	Single-dose vial (SDV)	Manufacturer-filled syringe (MFS)
Cap and/or label color:	Yellow cap and yellow label	Blue cap and blue label	Gray cap and gray label	N/A
Storage temperature before puncture	<p>Between:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ -90°C and -60°C (-130°F and -76°F) until the expiration date ▪ 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) for up to 10 weeks ▪ 8°C and 25°C (46°F and 77°F) for up to 12 hours prior to the first puncture or use. <p>Do not store between -25°C and -15°C (-13°F and 5°F).</p> <p>NOTE: The beyond-use date (10 weeks) replaces the manufacturer's expiration date but NEVER extends it. Always use the earliest date. Do NOT use vaccine after the expiration date or beyond-use date.</p>			
Thawing frozen vaccine	<p>Between:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) for up to 2 hours <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Up to 25°C (77°F) for 30 minutes <p>Between:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) for 2 hours (preferred method) <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Up to 25°C (77°F) for 60 minutes <p>Note: Individual syringes thawed at room temperature that are not used immediately must be used within 4 hours or discarded.</p>			

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Updated (2023-24 Formula) Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine At-A-Glance



Guidance below summarizes basic storage, preparation, scheduling, administration, and dosage for all 2023–24 Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine products.

Distributed in:

<p>Ages: 6 months through 11 years Single-dose vial: Dark blue cap and green label</p>	<p>Ages: 12 years and older Single-dose vial: Dark blue cap and blue label Manufacturer-filled syringe</p>
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Storage and Handling

Find additional guidance on storing vaccine properly at:

- [CDC Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit](#)
- [Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine | FDA](#)
- [Spikavax | FDA](#)
- [Moderna COVID-19 Vaccines | Modernatx.com](#)

Ages	6 months through 11 years	12 years and older	
Supplied in:	Single-dose vial (SDV)	Single-dose vial (SDV)	Manufacturer-filled syringe (MFS)
Cap and/or label color:	Dark blue cap and green label	Dark blue cap and blue label	N/A
Storage temperature before puncture	<p>Between:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ -50°C and -15°C (-58°F and 5°F) until the expiration date ▪ 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) for up to 30 days ▪ 8°C and 25°C (46°F and 77°F) for a total of 24 hours. Discard vial or syringe and unused vaccine after 24 hours. <p>NOTE: The beyond-use date (30 days) replaces the manufacturer's expiration date but NEVER extends it. Always use the earliest date. Do NOT use vaccine after the expiration date or beyond-use date.</p>		
Thawing frozen vaccine	<p>Between:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) for 45 minutes. Let stand at room temperature (between 15°C and 25°C [59°F and 77°F]) for 15 minutes. <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 15°C and 25°C (59°F and 77°F) for 15 minutes 	<p>Between:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) for 45 minutes. Let stand at room temperature (between 15°C and 25°C [59°F and 77°F]) for 15 minutes. <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 15°C and 25°C (59°F and 77°F) for 15 minutes 	<p>Between:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 15°C and 25°C (59°F and 77°F) for 45 minutes.

10/05/2023 CS321671P

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[Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine At A Glance: Updated 2023-2024 Formula](#)
[Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine At A Glance: Updated 2023-2024 Formula](#)

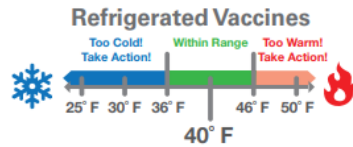


Vaccine Storage and Handling

Temperature Monitoring Best Practices for **Refrigerated Vaccines—Fahrenheit (F)**

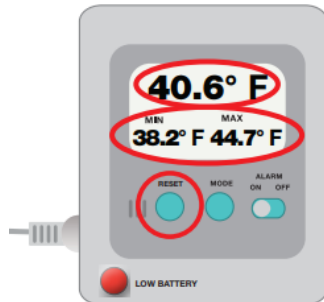
1 Store vaccines at ideal temperature: 40° F

 **Never freeze refrigerated vaccines!**
Exception: MMR can be stored in refrigerator or freezer



Report out-of-range temperatures immediately!

2 Record daily temperatures



3 steps, daily: Check and record min/max temperatures at the start of the workday.

- 1 Min/Max:** The coldest and warmest temperatures in the refrigerator since you last reset the thermometer
Note: If your device does not display min/max temperatures, then check and record current temperature a minimum of 2 times (at start and end of workday)
- 2 Reset:** The button you push after you have recorded the min/max temperatures
- 3 Current temperature:** Check current temperature each time you access vaccines in the refrigerator

Best Practices

3 Take action if out of range!

- Contact your state or local health department immediately. Or for private vaccines, call the manufacturer directly.
- Tell them the total amount of time the refrigerator temperature was out of range.
- **Take your time.** Check and record temperatures accurately.
- **Make your mark!** Initial the log when recording temperatures.
- **Leave it blank.** If min/max temperatures were not recorded, leave the space blank!

Use temperature monitoring devices for continuous temperature monitoring and recordings.

- Set the thermometer to measure and record temperatures no less than every 30 minutes.
- Record the min/max temp daily.



Distributed by

Visit www.cdc.gov/vaccines/SandH or contact your state health department for more information.

CS243541-A, Revision February 2018

Vaccine Storage and Handling

COVID-19 Vaccine

Temperature Log for Refrigerator Vaccine Storage (Fahrenheit) Days 1-15



Store COVID-19 vaccines between 36°F and 46°F. Using a digital data logger (DDL), check and record the temperature daily using one of the options below. Save this record for 3 years, unless your state/local jurisdiction requires a longer time period. See CDC's *Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit, COVID-19 Addendum*, for additional information.

Option 1: Minimum/Maximum (Min/Max) Temperatures (preferred)

- Most DDLs display minimum and maximum temperatures. Check and record the min/max temperatures at the start of each workday.
- Document these temperatures in the min/max temperature row under the appropriate date.

Option 2: Current Temperature

- If the DDL does not display min/max temperatures, check and record the current temperature at the start and end of the workday.
- Document these temperatures by writing an "X" in the row that corresponds to the refrigerator temperature under the appropriate day of the month.
- Review the continuous DDL temperature data daily.

! If the temperature is out of range, **TAKE ACTION!**

- Do **NOT** discard the vaccine.
- Label the vaccine **"Do Not Use."**
- Complete the Vaccine Troubleshooting Record.
- Contact the manufacturer to determine under what conditions (refrigerated) to store the vaccine as quickly as possible.

Month _____ PIN Number _____
 Facility Name _____

O P T I O N 1	Day of the month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15															
	Time																														
	Staff initials																														
	Min/max temperatures																														
	Temperatures lower than 36°F and higher than 46°F are out of range. Complete a Vaccine Troubleshooting Record. Contact the manufacturer and your immunization program.																														
O P T I O N 2	Time	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM		
	Staff initials																														
	36°F																														
	37°F																														
	38°F																														
	39°F																														
	40°F																														
	41°F																														
	42°F																														
	43°F																														
	44°F																														
	45°F																														
46°F																															


For additional information, see the vaccine manufacturer's product information.

Adapted with appreciation from the Immunization Action Coalition (IAC) temperature log



Vaccine Administration & Injection Safety Resources

- [CDC's Injection Safety Checklist](#) can be used to assess safe injection practices.
- [Immunize.org Clinic Tools](#) provide a wealth of information to ensure that healthcare personnel including those who are assisting are adequately trained to safely administer injections such as vaccines.

INJECTION SAFETY  CHECKLIST		
<p>The following Injection Safety checklist items are a subset of items that can be found in the CDC Infection Prevention Checklist for Outpatient Settings: <i>Minimum Expectations for Safe Care</i>.</p> <p>The checklist, which is appropriate for both inpatient and outpatient settings, should be used to systematically assess adherence of healthcare providers to safe injection practices. Assessment of adherence should be conducted by direct observation of healthcare personnel during the performance of their duties.</p>		
Injection Safety	Practice Performed?	If answer is No, document plan for remediation
Proper hand hygiene, using alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water, is performed prior to preparing and administering medications.	Yes No	
Injections are prepared using aseptic technique in a clean area free from contamination or contact with blood, body fluids, or contaminated equipment.	Yes No	
Needles and syringes are used for only one patient (this includes manufactured prefilled syringes and cartridge devices such as insulin pens).	Yes No	
The rubber septum on a medication vial is disinfected with alcohol prior to piercing.	Yes No	
Medication vials are entered with a new needle and a new syringe, even when obtaining additional doses for the same patient.	Yes No	
Single-dose or single-use medication vials, ampules, and bags or bottles of intravenous solution are used for only one patient.	Yes No	
Medication administration tubing and connectors are used for only one patient.	Yes No	
Multi-dose vials are dated by healthcare when they are first opened and discarded within 28 days unless the manufacturer specifies a different (shorter or longer) date for that opened vial. <small>Note: This is different from the expiration date printed on the vial.</small>	Yes No	
Multi-dose vials are dedicated to individual patients whenever possible.	Yes No	
Multi-dose vials to be used for more than one patient are kept in a centralized medication area and do not enter the immediate patient treatment area (e.g., operating room, patient room/cubicle). <small>Note: If multi-dose vials enter the immediate patient treatment area, they should be dedicated for single-patient use and discarded immediately after use.</small>	Yes No	

Skills Checklist for Vaccine Administration

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the CDC recommends additional infection control measures for vaccination (see www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pandemic-guidance/index.html).

The Skills Checklist is a self-assessment tool for healthcare staff who administer immunizations. To complete it, review the competency areas below and the clinical skills, techniques and procedures outlined for each area. Score yourself in the Self-Assessment column. If you check **Needs to Improve**, you indicate further study, practice, or change is needed. When you check **Meets or Exceeds**, you indicate you believe you are performing at the expected level of competence, or higher.

Supervisors: Use the Skills Checklist to clarify responsibilities and expectations for staff who administer vaccines. When you use it to assist with performance reviews, give staff the opportunity to score themselves in advance. Next, observe their performance as they

administer vaccines to several patients, and score in the Supervisor Review columns. If improvement is needed, meet with them to develop a Plan of Action (see bottom of page 3) to help them achieve the level of competence you expect; circle desired actions or write in others.

The video "Immunization Techniques: Best Practices with Infants, Children, and Adults" helps ensure that staff administer vaccines correctly. (View at www.youtube.com/watch?v=WsZ6NEijflf or order online at www.immunize.org/dvd.) Another helpful resource is CDC's Vaccine Administration eLearn course, available at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/admin/resource-library.html.

COMPETENCY	CLINICAL SKILLS, TECHNIQUES, AND PROCEDURES	Self-Assessment		Supervisor Review		
		NEEDS TO IMPROVE	MEETS OR EXCEEDS	NEEDS TO IMPROVE	MEETS OR EXCEEDS	PLAN OF ACTION

[Skills Checklist for Vaccine Administration](#)

[CDC - Temporary, and Off-Site Vaccination Clinic Checklist](#)

[NESIIS - Nebraska State Immunization Information System](#)



Intramuscular (IM) Vaccine Administration Resource – Adults 18+ - Step 1



Vaccine Administration: Intramuscular (IM) Injection Adults 19 years of age and older

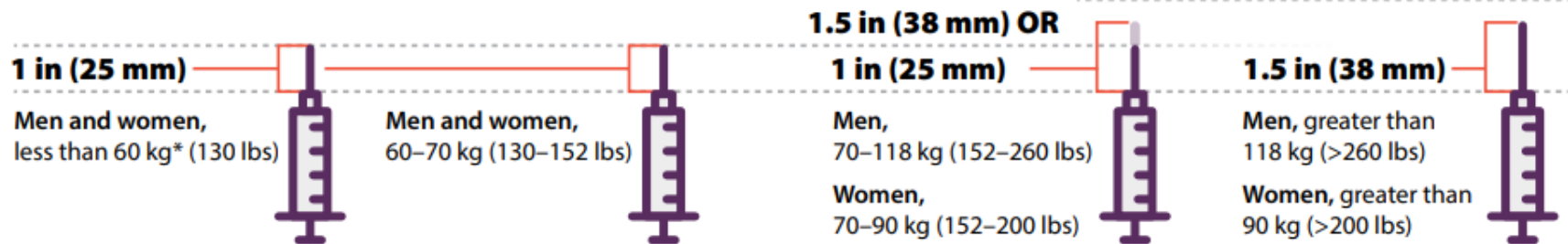
To ensure vaccines are safe and effective, it's important to prepare and administer them correctly:

- Follow aseptic technique.
- Use a new needle and syringe for each injection.
- Perform hand hygiene before vaccine preparation, between patients, when changing gloves (if worn), and any time hands become soiled.‡

‡Gloves are not required unless the person administering the vaccine is likely to come in contact with potentially infectious body fluids or has open lesions on the hands. If worn, perform hand hygiene and change gloves between patients.

1. Use the correct syringe and needle.

- Administer vaccine using either a 1-mL or 3-mL syringe.
- Use a 22- to 25-gauge needle.
- Use the correct needle length based on the patient's gender and weight. For adults, use a 1- to 1.5-inch needle.



*Some experts recommend a 5/8-inch needle for men and women who weigh less than 60 kg (130 lbs). If used, the skin must be stretched fully and the subcutaneous tissues must not be bunched.

Intramuscular (IM) Vaccine Administration Resource – Adults 18+ - Steps 2 & 3

YOU CALL THE SHOTS

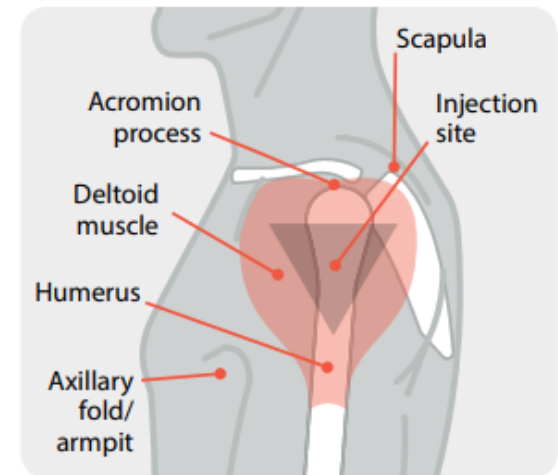
Vaccine Administration:
Intramuscular (IM) Injection
Adults 19 years of age and older

2. Identify the injection site.

- Recommended site: Deltoid muscle in the upper arm
- Use anatomical landmarks to determine the injection site. The deltoid muscle is a large, rounded, triangular shape. Find the acromion process, which is the bony point at the end of the shoulder. The injection site will be approximately 2 inches below the bone and above the axillary fold/armpit.

3. Administer the vaccine correctly.

- Inject the vaccine into the middle and thickest part of the muscle. Insert the needle at a 90-degree angle and inject all of the vaccine in the muscle tissue.
- If administering more than one vaccine in the same arm, separate the injection sites by 1 inch if possible.



For additional information, go to CDC's vaccine administration resource library at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/admin/resource-library.html.



New EBP Resources



New CDC Resources - EBP

Enhanced Barrier Precautions How We Keep Our Residents Safe



What's New

We are using Enhanced Barrier Precautions to help protect our residents from infection. You may notice:

- New signs throughout the facility
- Staff wearing gowns and gloves for high-contact care activities

Why We're Making These Changes

We are taking action to protect our residents from dangerous germs. These germs can cause infections that are hard to treat.

Enhanced Barrier Precautions allow us to provide safe, high quality care and help stop the spread of germs within our facility.



More than **50%** of nursing home residents carry a multidrug-resistant organism.

Multidrug-resistant organisms (MDROs) are a threat to our residents.

Enhanced Barrier Precautions (EBP) Steps



Perform Hand Hygiene



Wear Gown



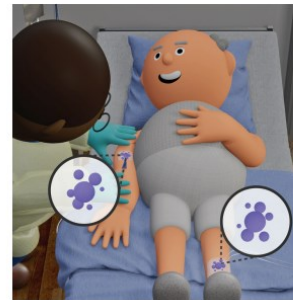
Wear Gloves



Dispose of Gown & Gloves in Room

Use EBP during high-contact care activities for residents with:

- 1 Indwelling Medical Devices (e.g., central line, urinary catheter, feeding tube, tracheostomy/ventilator)
- 2 Wounds
- 3 Colonization or Infection with a MDRO



Protect residents and stop the spread of germs.

Scan to watch an EBP video.



How to Help When You Visit

You can help stop the spread of germs by cleaning your hands with alcohol-based hand sanitizer or soap and water.

Learn more about Enhanced Barrier Precautions:
bit.ly/PPE-NursingHomes



bit.ly/PPE-NursingHomes

Enhanced Barrier Precautions In Nursing Homes



Enhanced Barrier Precautions in Nursing Homes - YouTube

Implementation of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Use in Nursing Homes to Prevent Spread of Multidrug-resistant Organisms (MDROs) | HAI | CDC



Education Opportunities



Infection Control Champion Training

Champions only need to register for one session (1-hour)



Registration in advance is required for the webinar:

https://unmc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_i5lqv4GhRYSB_AyZwZ5dbA
[\[unmc.zoom.us\]](https://unmc.zoom.us)

- Friday, October 20th, 2023, 2:00 - 3:00 PM CST, **OR**
- Friday, November 3rd, 2023, 2:00 – 3:00 PM CST

Long Term Care Facility Strike Team Reimbursement Guidelines:

<https://dhhs.ne.gov/HAI%20Documents/Long%20Term%20Care%20Facility%20Strike%20Team%20Reimbursement%20Guidelines.pdf>

Infection Control Champions must attend a 1-hour educational session organized by DHHS HAI/AR Program outlining their responsibilities as champions. Additionally, champions must complete training consisting of a minimum of 3-hours, including topics of hand hygiene, standard precautions, transmission-based precautions and environmental cleaning and disinfection. Training must be either regionally or nationally recognized.



Join us in Kearney this year for the 2023 NICN Fall Course – Wed, 10/18 & Thurs, 10/19!



Infection Control Assessment
and Promotion Program



Nebraska Infection
Control Network



Primary Infection Prevention - Two Tracks!
**Track 1: Prevention for All Health Care Settings, Acute Care Hospital,
Ambulatory Care & Surgical Centers**
**Track 2: Prevention for All Health Care Settings and Long-Term Care
and Assisted Living Facilities**

We are on the road this time in Kearney, Nebraska!
Join our "Road Show!"

Program Details:

The Nebraska Infection Control Network (NICN) Primary Infection Prevention course offers a combination of lectures, discussions, and educational activities on the prevention and control of infections in various healthcare settings. We welcome nurses and any other healthcare providers interested in learning more about the core components of infection prevention and control in healthcare settings. The first day will focus on infection and prevention for all healthcare settings, and all attendees will be together for this day. Day two will focus on Acute Care Hospital, Ambulatory Care & Surgical Centers, or Long-Term Care and Assisted Living Facilities.

Registration Options:

These options will be available to purchase along with your registration (some options are included for scholarship recipients, and event planners/presenters. Please see each registration page for details):

- Printed copy of the presenter slides
- "Road Show" unisex t-shirt
- Admission to a Networking Open House Event at the end of the first day. This networking event is a great opportunity to mingle with the NICN faculty, board members, the NICN/ICAP teams, and other conference attendees. You'll have the chance to ask questions, make new connections, and even learn about some additional resources that could be helpful. The location is yet to be determined and will be emailed directly to registrants.

When you register, the handouts, t-shirt, and networking open house options will be available to purchase.

Location: All events are at the Younes Conference Center South, 416 W Talmadge Rd, Kearney, NE 68845.

[Click HERE to Register](#)



ICAP Updates and Information



Webinar CE Process

1 Nursing Contact Hour and 1 NAB Contact Hour is offered for attending this LIVE webinar.

Individual surveys must be completed for each attendee.

Questions? Contact Marissa at:

Machaney@nebraskamed.com 402-552-2881

Nursing Contact Hours:

- Completion of survey is required.
 - The survey must be specific to the individual obtaining credit. (i.e.: 2 people cannot be listed on the same survey)
- One certificate is issued quarterly for all webinars attended
- Certificate comes directly from ICAP via email
- Certificate is electronically mailed the next month

NAB:

- Completion of survey is required.
 - The survey must be specific to the individual obtaining credit. (i.e.: 2 people cannot be listed on the same survey)
- **You must have a NAB membership**
- Credit is retrieved by you
- Any issues or questions regarding your credit must be directed to NAB customer service.
 - ICAP can verify survey completion and check the roster list
- Due to NAB changes, attendance will be submitted quarterly. ICAP will send an email stating when credits are ready for retrieval.



Infection Prevention and Control Hotline Number:

Call 402-552-2881

Office Hours are Monday – Friday
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Central Time

On-call hours are available for emergencies only

Weekends and Holidays from 8:00 AM- 4:00 PM

****Please call the main hotline number only during on-call hours****



Where can you find us?



Follow us on Facebook at @NebraskaICAP or <https://www.facebook.com/NebraskaICAP/>



Follow us on Twitter at @dirty_drinks and @Mouthy_IP



Listen to Dirty Drinks and The Mouthy IP wherever you listen to podcasts!



Find resources for all facility types at our website: <https://icap.nebraskamed.com/>

Instagram

Follow **NebraskaICAP** for the latest news and IPC tips!



Questions and Answer Session

Use the QA box in the webinar platform to type a question. Questions will be read aloud by the moderator.

Panelists:

- Dr. Salman Ashraf, MBBS
- Kate Tyner, RN, BSN, CIC
- Josette McConville, RN, BSN, CIC
- Lacey Pavlovsky, RN, MSN, CIC
- Rebecca Martinez, BA, BSN, RN, CIC
- Jody Scebold, EdD, MSN, RN
- Sarah Stream, MPH, CDA, FADAA
- Daniel Taylor, DHHS
- Deanna Novak, DHHS
- Becky Wisell, DHHS
- Cindy Kadavy, NHCA
- Kierstin Reed, LeadingAge
- Melody Malone, PT, CPHQ, MHA
- Debi Majo, BSN, RN
- Carla Smith, RN, CDP, IP-BC, AS-BC
- Monika Maxwell, RN

Moderated by Marissa Chaney
Supported by Margaret Deacy

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Long Term Care Facility Webinars



Long Term Care Webinars
07.28.22 LTCF – CMS Survey Updates and FAQs

[Slide deck](#)



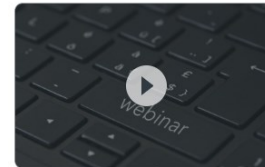
Long Term Care Webinars
07.14.22 LTCF – CMS Survey Updates, Enhanced Barrier Precautions and Antibiotic Timeout

[Slide deck](#)



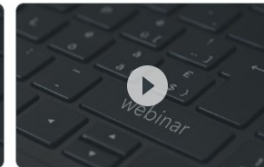
Long Term Care Webinars
07.07.22 LTCF – Prevention of Urinary Tract Infection

[Slide deck](#)



Long Term Care Webinars
06.30.22 LTCF – COVID Resources and Updates

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Long Term Care Webinars
06.23.22 LTCF – Antibiotic Stewardship

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Long Term Care Webinars
06.16.22 LTCF – Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection

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