

What We Know Now

June 21, 2022

A compilation of the latest news surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic from the Community Care Network of Kansas. Published on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Visit our <u>COVID-19 Resources</u> page for complete, updated information.

Community Care Spotlight

Today's Spotlight is on Representative Tracey Mann, who visited PrairieStar Health Center to be honored as a National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) 2022 Distinguished Advocate. This award is given to members of Congress for their ongoing support of health centers and their role in expanding access to high-qualify cost-effective health care. During his visit, Representative Mann highlighted the work that Kansas community health centers are doing to care for their communities and was "blown away" by the range of care that PrairieStar, along with other health centers in the Big 1st District, are able to provide to their patients.



From KDHE/Governor's Office/Statehouse

As of 6/15/22:

<u>Latest statistics</u>: 797,782 positive cases, 8,943 deaths, and 49 MIS-C cases (Multi-system Inflammatory Syndrome in Children associated with COVID-19). There were 3,949 new cases and -3 new deaths reported since 6/8/22. Note: the net negative change in deaths this week is due to cleaning of death data in records that were unable to be verified by KDHE through Vital Statistics review

According to the Kansas WebIZ vaccination tracker, 4,476,358 doses have been administered in Kansas out of the 5,967,310 doses distributed. 1,982,263 people have had their first dose; 1,617,005 have had their second doses; and 877,091 have had their third dose of the vaccine series.



The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended COVID-19 Vaccines be administered to children 6 months and older, which was later endorsed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Director. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment is fully endorsing this recommendation and immediately working to get vaccine to providers across the state who have pre-ordered it. Vaccine will be in these provider offices by the end of the week. KDHE encourages all Kansans to be fully vaccinated and up to date based on current CDC recommendations. Providers are encouraged to continue to educate patients on the value and importance of receiving these vaccines according to schedule. Providers who have questions may contact the Kansas Immunization program at vaccine@ks.gov.

From HRSA

HRSA has created an Action Checklist for COVID-19 Vaccinations for Children 6 Months – 4 Years to help health centers prepare for vaccination of this age group.

For health centers in the Health Center COVID-19 Vaccine Program that pre-ordered the pediatric Pfizer-BioNTech and/or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine:

- If your pre-order was submitted by Monday, June 6: Deliveries are estimated to begin arriving today, Monday, June 20 through Friday, June 24.
- If your pre-order was submitted by Wednesday, June 8: Deliveries are estimated to begin arriving Thursday, June 23 through Wednesday, June 29.

Going forward, ordering will follow the vaccine program's weekly cadence. Health centers may place their next vaccine orders for any age group in the Health Partner Order Portal (HPoP) until Wednesday, June 22 at 11:59 p.m. local time.

HRSA reminds health centers that Health Center COVID-19 Vaccine Program participants are required to complete the bi-weekly Health Center COVID-19 Survey and addendum questions. Participating health centers are also required to enter vaccine stock on hand (SOH) into the vaccine module within HPoP weekly. If your health center's ordering permissions have been disabled for not entering vaccine SOH or not completing the bi-weekly survey, please complete these tasks as soon as possible so that you are able to order vaccines each week.

From the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Read the CDC <u>recommendations for Moderna</u> COVID-19 vaccines for those 6 months to 5 years and recommendations for Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines for those 6 months to 4 years.

The CDC released additional updates, including:

- <u>Underlying Medical Conditions Associated with Higher Risk for Severe COVID-19:</u>
 <u>Information for Healthcare Professionals</u>
- Cases in the U.S.
- Overall U.S. COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution and Administration
- COVID-19 Vaccines While Pregnant or Breastfeeding

From Media/Scientific Reports



COVID-19 infections and deaths used to be intricately linked, but experts say that it appears the number of people whose immune systems are unprepared for the virus has dwindled. Read more at the New York Times here.

A new study found that experiencing long COVID is less likely after infection with Omicron than with Delta. Read the student published in The Lancet here.

