

Norfolk County-8 Coalition

MDPH/LBOH Webinar 4/16/2021



Internet wasn't working for me so I was not able to take a screenshot of the panel.

Announcements:

Vaccine eligibility: On April 19th, all people over 16 years of age or older, who live, work or study in Massachusetts will be eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccination. Individuals who are 16 or 17 years old should present a consent form completed by a parent/guardian/legally authorized representative. A sample form can be found on www.mass.gov/lists/ma-consent-and-screening-forms-for-people-under-18-years-of-age. The legally authorized representative does not need to accompany the minor to the vaccination appointment in order to provide consent. Everyone is able to set their own consent requirements, but it is strongly encouraged to request written consent. Informed consent is a vital process prior to the administration of a vaccine. Vaccine providers should consult with their legal counsel regarding an appropriate informed consent process and what documentation may be recommended or required by their particular organization.

Vaccine allocations: Massachusetts received 353,660 first and second doses from the state's allocation this week. Out of the 353,660 12,400 J&J doses were included but have been put on pause in accordance with FDA and CDC guidance. These figures do not include doses provided directly from the federal government to the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program (FRPP), Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), or Community Vaccination Clinics (CVCs). In addition to the state allocation, federal government has distributed over 270,000 vaccines to CVS as part of the FRPP as well to certain Massachusetts FQHC. This week, 130,510 first and second doses were allocated to the FRPP, 23 FQHCs received 57,610 doses directly from the federal government. The Community Vaccination Clinic at the Hynes Convention Center was allocated 84,240 doses. Those quantities also include J&J doses put on pause.

Week of April 12, 2021	
PROVIDERS	First doses and second dose state allocations (total doses)
Health systems and health care providers (excluding community health centers)	129,300
Regional Collaboratives and Local Boards of Health	66,500
Mass vaccination locations	121,520
Community Health Centers state allocation only	21,640
Retail pharmacies (non-CVS) state allocation only	8,000
Mobile Clinics supporting long-term care facilities, congregate care, affordable/low-income senior housing and homebound individuals	6,400

Red Sox Week at the Hynes: April 19-25. Baker-Polito Administration, in partnership with the Boston Red Sox, The BASE, El Mundo, CIC Health, and FEMA has kicked off a week long initiative

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to boost vaccine access to populations disproportionately impacted by COVID-

19. DPH and the COVID-19 Command Center are working with these partners to boost vaccine access for communities most disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 through a positive vaccination experience that celebrates and honors the diverse cultures across the Commonwealth. 20,000 first dose appointments at the Hynes vaccination site for communities of color. Appointments are being scheduled through grassroots outreach efforts by community partners. Residents who have their second doses scheduled for the Hynes next week will have their appointments honored. Red Sox Week at the Hynes will include bilingual Spanish-speaking staff and added Spanish signage. Red Sox themes attractions include a selfie station, Red Sox trophies, socially-distanced visits with Wally the Green Monster, and a raffle to win tickets to a Red Sox game.

Interactive Chat Feature: A new vaccine helper is live on vaccine-related pages across mass.gov to help quickly answer questions about vaccine eligibility, appointments, safety, and more.

“Trusted Sources” PSA: DPH is asking a variety of spokespeople to self-record short videos promoting COVID vaccine trust. Partners are sharing via social media using the #trustthefacts hashtag. Latest tweet and 30 sec video comes from Dr. Eduardo Haddad, from Lawrence General Hospital.

Mosquito Control Task Force: Public listening session on May 3rd at 11:00 am. The purpose is to accept comments pertaining to mosquito control, for the use of the task force in developing recommendations, per Chapter 120 of the Acts of 2020. Written comments will be accepted through 5pm on May 5th, 2021 at www.mass.gov/forms/comments-for-the-mosquito-control-task-force Please register in advance for this webinar:

us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_PoakAc8-Szetu4lqs1HI-Q

Questions from Q&A answered out loud:

Q: How to find town-by-town community reports?

A: Interactive dashboard.

Q: Transmission of COVID-19 among vaccinated people?

A: Breakthrough cases, we do expect this to occur. Still trying to determine if cases are really breakthrough. Still an evolving situation. This question is best for Dr. Brown but she is not available today.

Q: The pause of J&J and impact to homebound vaccination? Is there a minimum order?

A: We knew on Tuesday based on the pause of J&J vaccine that there would be a meeting on Wednesday, the partners decided to continue to review case information, and declined to make a decision about the pause until the next time they meet. Jana read it would most likely be on next Thursday or Friday. DPH is offering to swap out the Moderna vaccine, but this is 2 doses so it might be more complicated. People are asking when they can expect delivery, but this depends on when the order goes in. We need to hear no later than Tuesday at noon. Only ask for homebound numbers, but we are not asking for a minimum. We can't give you less than 10 doses though.

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Q: Any update on field days? And when will guidance come out? Can graduates be 3ft apart at an outdoor graduation?

A: DESE defers to DLS on graduation guidance. Commencement guidance on DLS website. We do not know off the top of our head about the 3ft distance.

Q: Band at an outdoor park, all band members would be 10 ft apart, and the singer will be 25 ft from the audience. Does the singer have to be masked?

A: DLS believes there is an exception in this case that they do not need to be masked due to 25 ft.

Q: Investigating positive cases from those who are fully vaccinated, but tests positive?

A: When someone is fully vaccinated, 2 week post series completion, if they're exposed to COVID-19, in general do not have to follow any type of quarantine. But, if they are symptomatic, and if they test positive, they are now in a different category and they should be investigated and information should go to Epi/DPH.

Q: Will a Relay of Life walk be allowed?

A: Anything not permitted now, will most likely be approved next step in Phase 4, Step 2. Depends on the walk—if it's competitive and a large group of people are running, this is not allowed. But if the walk is socially distanced this is probably okay.

Please continue to send questions to Mike Coughlin at Michael.j.coughlin@mass.gov

Questions from Q&A not answered out loud:

-susan mosler - 8:58 AM

Q: are parades allowed for memorial day? marching bands?-

-Michael Flanagan - 8:59 AM

A: Parades are not allowed until Phase IV, Step 2. It is unknown at this time what Phase and Step MA will be in on Memorial Day.-

-Melissa Langille-Badger - 9:03 AM

Q: Good Morning, Last week Dr. Brown mentioned that we could access the weekly town raw data. Can we get directions on how to find that spread sheet. Thank you -

-Mike Coughlin - 9:08 AM

A: On the dashboard landing page scroll down and the links for both daily and weekly raw data reports can be found just a few lines below the dashboard.-

-Mary Goodwin - 9:01 AM

Q: Can you review how to find town by town weekly reports? Thanks-

-Mike Coughlin - 9:09 AM

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A: From the dashboard landing page "city and town data" is a menu option on the left hand column.-

-Mike Coughlin - 9:09 AM

A: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-response-reporting# covid-19-interactive-data-dashboard>--

-Andrew Petty - 9:06 AM

Q: The weekly Health Report is not showing town data anymore. Is this an error?-

-Mike Coughlin - 9:14 AM

A: Andrew, the city/town data is now integrated into the interactive data dashboard. From the dashboard landing page you will see city and town data as a menu option on the left column.-

-lauren kennedy - 9:12 AM

Q: We have a movie theater in town that has a food service area and a bar area. I of course told them bars must follow restaurant standards, need to order food with alcohol. If they just have pizza and hot dogs prepared on site, could they serve alcohol if the patrons order either of those two items? Also can they take the food and alcoholic beverages into the theater and consume in their theater seats?-

-Michael Flanagan - 9:19 AM

A: Yes, they would allow to sell alcohol as long as they sell food onsite and a food order is included with the initial drink order. I do not believe they should eat while in the theater since, "Audience members must wear face coverings while seated during the performance or movie unless unsafe due to disability or medical condition."-

-Dan McCormack - 9:06 AM

Q: I have a non COVID question. Sanofi is asking us to confirm our Flu Vaccine for next season. Does the State have any input on what they think next years vaccination specifically seasonal flu will look like? We were left with 200 doses this year as seasonal flu has not been a concern for most. -

-Laurie Courtney - 9:22 AM

A: Hard to predict...but with people becoming more mobile....we will likely see more flu activity. There will be messaging re the importance of getting flu vaccination-

-lauren kennedy - 9:26 AM

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Q: Oh the line under that in the guidance says Audience members may remove face coverings while seated and eating or drinking but must otherwise wear face coverings-

-Michael Flanagan - 9:27 AM

A: I stand corrected. They may have food and drink in the seats.-

-Mark Morin - 9:27 AM

Q: Any details about field days?-

-Susan B Avallone - 9:24 AM

Q: If a person has been 2 weeks post full vaccinations and tests positive, is the case still investigated? Wanted to be clear to share with some others.-

-Laurie Courtney - 9:28 AM

A: yes. The epis at MDPH would like info so that they can track possible breakthrough cases. And, once a fully vaccinated person is either symptomatic, or tests pos, they need to follow isolation guidelines-

-Elizabeth Russo - 9:24 AM

Q: Jana, do you understand if providers are *forbidden* from using JJ or just that we all encourage a "pause" -- is it a violation if we see continued JJ administrations.-

-Jana Ferguson - 9:29 AM

A: I believe that it is a pause and not a legal requirement. -

-Karen Kolimaga - 9:23 AM

Q: Any idea when we will see guidance on summer kids camps and programs?-

-Jana Ferguson - 9:29 AM

A: This was released a few weeks ago. -

-Allyson Larsen - 9:23 AM

Q: Can the graduates be 3 feet apart at an outdoor graduation masked? If attendees are 6ft apart from different family groups.-

-Michael Flanagan - 9:30 AM

A: No, the standard requires 6 feet.-

-Anne Gilligan - 9:30 AM

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A: From the graduation guidance Graduates are seated or standing at least 6 feet apart from each other.-

-lauren kennedy - 9:31 AM

Q: Oh the line under that in the guidance says Audience members may remove face coverings while seated and eating or drinking but must otherwise wear face coverings-

-Michael Flanagan - 9:32 AM

A: Yes, I was incorrect-

-Christopher Sicuranza - 9:26 AM

Q: Do we have any ETA on Phase IV, Step 2 changing for other outoodr guidance?-

-Michael Flanagan - 9:32 AM

A: Not at this time.-