

Norfolk County-8 Coalition

MDPH/LBOH Webinar 5/25/2021



Inter-agency Staff on the Webinar

- Jana Ferguson, Assistant Commissioner, DPH
- Ron O'Connor, Office of Local and Regional Health, DPH
- Dr. Catherine Brown, Glynnis LaRosa, Laurie Courtney, and Katie Reilly, Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences, DPH
- Donna Quinn, Office of Preparedness and Emergency Management, DPH
- Ben Wood and Lauren Cardoso, Division of Community Health Planning and Engagement, DPH
- Dr. John Welch, Community Tracing Collaborative
- Michael Flanagan and Adam Kinney, Department of Labor Standards
- Helene Bettencourt, Anne Gilligan, and Anne Marie Stronach, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
- Cheryl Sbarra, Massachusetts Association of Health Boards
- Chief Edward Dunne, Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association
- Jeff Farnsworth, Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
- Kristina Crandall, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency

Announcements:

CTC: Reached nearly 600k cases and contacts through 2.5 mill phone calls. Over 100k care resource coordination referrals (i.e. connecting people to food, medication.) We continue to be fully operational and will continue to work until September. Anticipating taking the final cases by mid-September so when the CTC shuts down, cases have been followed up with. If you have questions about the transition process, please let us know. We are also slowing down on staffing. Also, as there's been a shift in some of the work with CTC and contact tracing with DESE, we will assume that anything you send us from MAVEN has been defined as contacts and we will go ahead and trace them as such.

Q: Is CTC winding down for higher ed?

A: There is a DPH contact that works with CTC and will work with those institutions to make sure they have the necessary capacity. CTC's higher ed team will continue throughout the summer.

COVID-19 Community Impact Survey (CCIS): Releasing new results at the Public Health Council meetings and also on the webpage (<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-community-impact-survey>). You can also access the slides presented at the Public Health Council meetings on that webpage. In addition to the slideshow, you can also download an Excel workbook that contains county, municipal, and demographic data. There is an introductory sheet to help guide

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the viewer how to review the data and where the data was collected.

Additional sheets in the Excel workbook help to explain the background on certain topics. At upcoming Public Health Council meetings, the group will release additional results about sexual orientation and gender identity, youth, sexual and domestic violence, disability, rural, and housing instability. Also, many communities wanted data analysis performed on particular topics but we did not have the capacity to do it. We are teaming up with Regional Technical Assistance providers who can conduct region-specific analysis, share the results locally, and create region-specific data products. We will also be hosting webinars that will be recorded and taking deeper dives into priority populations. We will continue to provide local data through dashboards, reports, and infographics.

Vaccine Updates:

On Thursday and Friday 27th -28th, from 11 am – 3pm, Massachusetts is teaming up with Dunkin' and CIC health at the Hynes Convention Center for Dunkin' Days. Individuals receiving vaccine will get free iced coffee and 5 people each day at the site could receive free coffee for a year.

Pre-registration system winding down. This was designed for lots of individuals trying to sign up, but now that so many people have been vaccinated, a lower number of individuals are going to the pre-registration site. Most people are going to <https://vaxfinder.mass.gov/>. Over 900 locations where people can be vaccinated, including retail pharmacy locations.

Homebound populations: Due to the lessening demand on homebound infrastructure, the program is now open to anyone who needs help getting vaccinated at their home. They can be referred to the [website created for homebound people](#). This is not an expansion of the municipal homebound program, this is the state program. Mobile vaccination program also opened to employers to vaccinate employees. Reach out and we can work with you to make it happen. Ex. Agricultural farm workers, setting up employee clinic through the mobile program. This isn't only for agricultural sector, it's for anyone. Can also be called for school-based clinics.

DESE: Same graduation commencement notice that we sent out last week. Nothing new.

Other updates:

Pfizer vaccine—[on May 19th, there was an expansion of guidance](#), if it has not been punctured yet it can stay in a refrigerator for up to a month.

Also, starting June 1st, can get vaccine in smaller quantities.

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Questions from Q&A answered out loud:

Q: Face coverings, are they only required during the school day, or also during extracurricular activities? What about during outdoor events after the 29th? Social distancing within the school, renting out space to other members of the community?

A: DESE is currently going through different guidance documents and posting [updated FAQs](#) on the website. Don't have all the answers to these questions today. For an event happening outside of school, have to follow the State guidance, not the same as the ones for students and staff. However, if it is a business, there could be specific requirements put in place by LBOH and discussions about this being in the best interest of the school staff and students. When individuals are inside buildings, they must continue to wear masks and adhere to all health and safety standards through the end of the school year. Graduation guidance will be posted on May 29th.

Q: Businesses still required to collect contact information to provide to the LBOH?

A: Those are included in the sector specific standards, and since those sector specific standards are being rescinded, this would no longer need to be a requirement. If this changes we will let you know, but don't expect to see "updated guidance" for anything because everything will be lifted. Standards that keep on going are EEC licensed programs and DESE. Day camps/overnight camps have standards too, but they are different than what was announced in February. If there are questions from the camp operators, its best for them to contact the [Community Sanitation Program](#).

Q: EEA sports standards also to be rescinded?

A: Yes, will be rescinded on May 29th.

Q: Masking recommendations for vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals outside of a school setting?

A: We should still look at this from a public health standpoint, and people who are fully vaxed who engage with people who are also vaxed probably don't need masks. People who are immunosuppressed, not sure yet how robustly they react to the vaccine, should still be masked. And those unvaccinated are at the highest risk, and should wear masks.

Q: Governor Baker's Press Release on extending certain COVID-19 emergency measures. I.e. Zoning extension for outdoor dining, in-person participation requirement to meet quorum OML.

A: Legislation that he filed/proposed would extend the deadlines until September for OML and end of November for outdoor dining. More information here:

<https://www.mass.gov/news/governor-baker-files-legislation-to-extend-certain-covid-19-emergency-measures>

Questions from Q&A not answered out loud:

Rike Sterrett - 3:03 PM

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Q: Are pharmacies considered healthcare facilities that will still be required to have individuals wear face coverings come May 29? -

-Michael Flanagan - 3:07 PM

A: No, it is for places that provide healthcare. Per the Order, "In Health Care Facilities and Provider Offices, defined as healthcare facilities or providers licensed or operated by the Commonwealth including nursing homes, rest homes, emergency medical services, hospitals, doctor's office, urgent care settings, community health centers, vaccination sites, behavioral health clinics, and Bureau of Substance and Addiction Services (BSAS) facilities." -

-Adam Kinney - 3:07 PM

A: Here is the list of places where masks are still required. Vaccine sites are listed but pharmacies in general are not. <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-mask-requirements->

-Jamie Terry - 3:04 PM

Q: Are individuals who have had COVID in the past 90 days still advised to wear a mask out in public after May 29th? (Do they fit in the vaccinated guidance?)-

-Laurie Courtney - 3:07 PM

A: Guidelines for vaccinated individuals applies only to vaccinated folks. It does not apply to people who have had COVID disease in the last 90 days. -

-Barry Potvin - 3:08 PM

Q: Is there DPH guidance for mask wearing and physical distancing on and after 5/29 for access to town-owned buildings with public access?-

-Cheryl Sbarra - 3:09 PM

A: That will be a local decision.-

-AnneMarie Fleming - 3:03 PM

Q: Adam has helped our department quite frequently. Many thanks!!-

-Adam Kinney - 3:10 PM

A: You're welcome, thank you for all you have done-

-Michael Theroux - 3:09 PM

Q: When will the pool guidance be updated? Or will there be any new pool guidance? I have Six Flags pools opening Saturday and have no updated guidance.-

-Jana Ferguson - 3:10 PM

A: The pool guidance will be lifted-

-Karen Keane - 3:10 PM

Q: Thank you so much Adam!-

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-Adam Kinney - 3:11 PM

A: You're welcome, thank you for all you have done as well

-Michael Theroux - 3:10 PM

Q: So no guidance for pools at all operate as normal? -

-Mike Coughlin - 3:11 PM

A: yes, local permitting as always.-

-Michael Mendez - 2:48 PM

Q: Starting 5/29, will businesses still be required to report positive cases to the LBOH? If so, where can we find this in writing saying they still will have to?-

-Mike Coughlin - 3:13 PM

A: This issue is being looked at and resolution will be announced later. -

-Steve Maffetone - 3:11 PM

Q: Do you know when the cleaning requirements will be updated? Relaxed?-

-Michael Flanagan - 3:17 PM

A: The Business Rules and Sector Specific Standards are being rescinded on 05/29. -

-Melanie Dineen - 3:15 PM

Q: Is there guidance for the farmers markets or is it 2019?-

-Michael Flanagan - 3:17 PM

A: The Business Rules and Sector Specific Standards are being rescinded on 05/29. -

-taylor west - 3:17 PM

Q: can someone post the website for the mobile program?-

-Mike Coughlin - 3:19 PM

A: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-employer-vaccination-program#option-2>:
2:-mobile-on-site-employer-vaccination-clinic--

-Kerry Stockwell - 3:18 PM

Q: Hello. Will EEA guidelines still apply for sports after may 29th when everything reopens?

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-Mike Coughlin - 3:19 PM

A: No they won't.-

-7745262746 Farias - 3:19 PM

Q: can establishments remove the plexiglass-

-Michael Flanagan - 3:20 PM

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A: The Business Rules and Sector Specific Standards are being rescinded on 05/29. -

-Kelly Pawluczonek - 3:21 PM

Q: any guidance or best practices for senior centers that will reopen-

-Mike Coughlin - 3:22 PM

A: <https://mcoaonline.com/scaling-up-document-from-oea/>-

-Kara Curley - 3:20 PM

Q: Will there be a change regarding people not having to wait in 14 days between vaccinations -

-Laurie Courtney - 3:24 PM

A: That has already changed! COVID-19 vaccines and other vaccines may now be administered without regard to timing. This includes simultaneous administration of COVID-19 vaccines and other vaccines on the same day, as well as coadministration within 14 days See the Coadministration with Other Vaccines section of the Clinical Considerations, at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/clinical-considerations.html>-

-Sandra Malzone - 3:03 PM

Q: For OUTDOOR school events after May 29th such as moving up ceremonies, senior celebrations etc are masks required for students or spectators?-

-Helene Bettencourt - 3:24 PM

A: Hello Sandra, • When outdoors, students are not required to wear masks and should distance as feasible.

- Effective Saturday, May 29, and for outdoor graduations only, attendees and staff are not required to wear masks and are encouraged to distance from individuals not in their household as feasible. Attendees who are not vaccinated are encouraged to wear face coverings.

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-Lyndsay Famariss - 3:17 PM

Q: Will the mobile vaccination bus be coming back to Martha's Vineyard for follow up shots/to reach more people for their first shots?-

-Jana Ferguson - 3:24 PM

A: I believe that this is currently being scheduled. -

-Jessica Cliff - 3:21 PM

Q: Do kids at the schools still have to sit 6 feet apart when dining outside? -

-Anne Gilligan - 3:25 PM

A: Students should distance outside as feasible.-

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-Kathleen Peterson - 3:24 PM

Q: Recommended guideline for COA and senior reopenings centers?-

-Mike Coughlin - 3:25 PM

A: <https://mcoaonline.com/scaling-up-document-from-oeoa/>-

-Anne Snow - 3:37 PM

Q: is the phc able to break down demographic data by zip code?-

-Lauren Cardoso - 3:38 PM

A: Hi Anne - We did not collect zipcode, only city/town, so it isn't possible to break the data down in that way, unfortunately.-

-Heather Gallant - 3:27 PM

Q: If a school is renting out a space (auditorium, etc.) for a non-school and non-student function after May 29th, will the participants need to remain masked or follow any other DESE guidance while using the space? Thank you. -

-Anne Gilligan - 3:39 PM

A: <https://www.doe.mass.edu/covid19/on-desktop.html>-

-Frank Giacalone - 3:38 PM

Q: hate to be repetitive, businesses that provide facials, barbers estatitions etc, business as usual pre covid??? No resrtictions for staff, customers and weather vaccinated or non-vaccinated...-

-Adam Kinney - 3:40 PM

A: The Business Rules and Sector Specific Standards are being rescinded on 05/29. -

-James Philbrook - 3:42 PM

Q: Will restaurants employees be required to wear mask after May 29th?-

-Adam Kinney - 3:41 PM

A: Restaurants are not listed in the required places for continued mask use. -

-Michael Flanagan - 3:41 PM

A: No, face coverings will only be required in congregate housing, tansportation, K-12 schools, and healthcare-

-Kathleen Peterson - 3:42 PM

Q: When it says restrictions lifted after May 29th does that mean mask requirements lifted in public places, outdoor and indoor group activities.-

-Adam Kinney - 3:44 PM

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A: the mask order is also being removed. We will be following CDC guidance. There are some places where masks are still required however and they can be found here: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-mask-requirements->

-Kathleen Peterson - 3:43 PM

Q: The COA guidelines reopening are listed and are very limited will those recommendations still be required?-

-Mike Coughlin - 3:44 PM

A: No, those are recommendations-

-Daniel Roy - 3:27 PM

Q: Would a school be able to host a schoolwide event outdoors in June that grills and serves hotdogs and hamburgers?-

-Helene Bettencourt - 3:45 PM

A: Hello Daniel, yes.-

-Frank Giacalone - 3:45 PM

Q: Gathering limits inside and out will be recinded as well from what I understand???-

-Mike Coughlin - 3:46 PM

A: yes, on 5/29-

-Pamela Ciccone - 3:45 PM

Q: Assume we are done reporting addresses to First Responders? -

-Mike Coughlin - 3:47 PM

A: This question has not been finalized. We will announce it when it is. -

-Frank Giacalone - 3:48 PM

Q: Thanks Mike and DLS you have been a vital asset during this pandemic and thanks for your patience from these repetitive questions-

-Michael - 3:49 PM

A: It has been our honor to work with all of you. The partnership has been vital to Massachusetts' success. -

-Amy Donovan-Palmer - 3:08 PM

Q: Will the travel advisory continue to be in place after May 28th?-

-Jana Ferguson - 3:52 PM

A: We do not yet know the answer to this. -