

# New and updated COVID-19 public health information

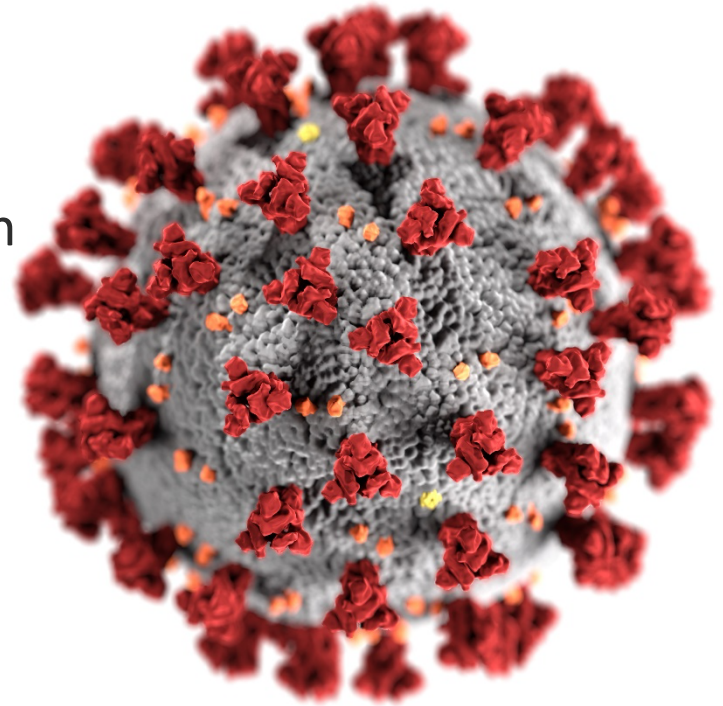
**Eileen Dunne, PhD**

**Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer**

assigned to Idaho Division of Public Health

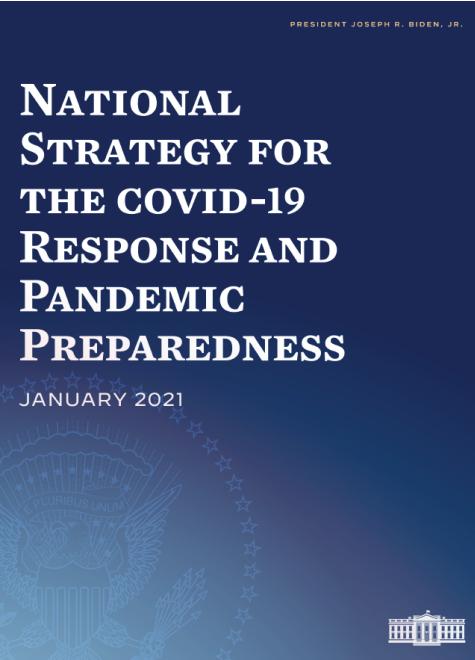
Indian Country COVID-19 teleECHO

January 25, 2021



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus)

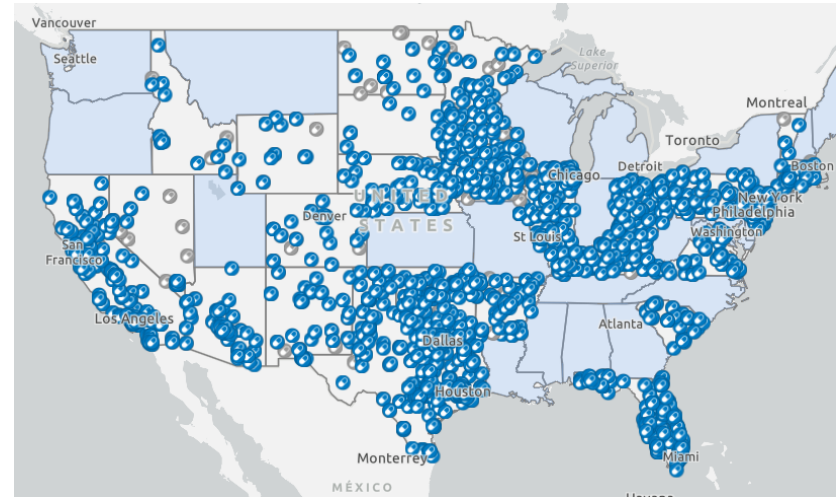
# National COVID-19 strategy announced



- **Vaccination: Partner with Tribal Nations and other key entities to support an effective and equitable vaccination program.**
  - Bolster support for Tribal Nations and Urban Indian Health Programs (UIHPs), IHS, Tribes, BIE schools and UIHPs to provide vaccines for Native communities
  - Strengthen vaccine distribution and ordering for tribes and UIHPs
  - Partner with Tribal Nations to address the logistics and supply chain needs in rural and remote locations and help remedy infrastructure barriers to public health in Indian country
  - President Biden has called on Congress to provide additional funds to the Indian Health Service to support expanded health services, address lost revenues, and support testing and vaccination efforts.

# Updates from HHS

- Use of monoclonal antibody treatments could help reduce need for hospitalization in high-risk patients
- New system helps doctors and patients find locations for COVID-19 outpatient treatment with monoclonal antibodies (issued 1/11/2021)
  - <https://protect-public.hhs.gov/pages/therapeutics-distribution#distribution-locations>
  - Shows shipment locations for bamlanivimab and casirivimab/imdevimab
  - Search by location
  - Data not available for all states
- HHS purchased additional doses of casirivimab/imdevimab (Regeneron) to treat patients with mild to moderate COVID-19 (issued 1/12/2021)



protect-public.hhs.gov

# Updates from FDA

- FDA issued alert regarding SARS-CoV-2 viral mutations to health care providers and laboratory staff (1/8/2021)
- FDA monitoring the potential impact of viral mutations, including the B.1.1.7 variant, on authorized SARS-CoV-2 molecular tests
- False-negative results could occur if a mutation occurs in the part of the virus's genome assessed by that test
  - Tests that detect multiple regions of the viral genome might be less impacted by genetic variation than tests that detect a single region
- FDA believes the risk that these mutations will impact overall testing accuracy is low
- The detection pattern that appears with the TaqPath and Linea diagnostic tests may help with early identification of certain new variants

# Updates from CDC

## Announcements:

- New testing requirement for international air passengers

## MMWR:

- Emergence of SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.7 lineage
- Allergic reactions after Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine
- Allergic reactions after Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine

# New negative COVID-19 test requirement for air passengers entering the U.S.

- Air passengers are required to get a SARS-CoV-2 viral test within 3 days before their flight to the U.S. departs
- Passengers must provide written documentation of their test result to the airline or provide documentation of having recovered from COVID-19
- If a passenger does not provide documentation of a negative test or recovery, the airline must deny boarding to the passenger
- Goes into effect on January 26, 2021



## Emergence of SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.7 Lineage — United States, December 29, 2020–January 12, 2021

*Early Release* / January 15, 2021 / 70

- **B.1.1.7 variant carries a mutation in the S protein**
  - First reported in the UK and quickly became the dominant circulating SARS-CoV-2 variant
- **B.1.1.7 is more efficiently transmitted than other SARS-CoV-2 variants**
  - No known difference in clinical outcomes
- **As of 1/13/2021, approximately 76 cases of B.1.1.7 have been detected in 12 U.S. states**
- **Modeling of B.1.1.7 in the U.S. indicates rapid spread with it becoming the predominant variant in March**
- **Enhanced genomic surveillance combined with increased compliance with mitigation strategies including vaccination will be essential to limiting the spread of SARS-CoV-2**

# Allergic Reactions Including Anaphylaxis After Receipt of the First Dose of Pfizer–BioNTech COVID–19 Vaccine — United States, December 14–23, 2020

*Weekly* / January 15, 2021 / 70(2);46–51

- Data on 1,893,360 first doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine from Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS)
  - 4,393 (0.2%) adverse events reported
  - 21 cases determined to be anaphylaxis
    - 11.1 cases per million doses; no deaths
    - 71% occurred within 15 minutes of vaccination
    - 81% had history of allergy or allergic reactions
- Locations administering COVID-19 vaccines should adhere to CDC guidance: screening for contraindications, supplies to manage anaphylaxis, recommended post-vaccination observation periods, and immediately treating suspected cases of anaphylaxis with epinephrine injection
- Health care providers play an important role in vaccine safety by recognizing and reporting adverse events to VAERS at <https://vaers.hhs.gov/reportevent.html>



# Allergic Reactions Including Anaphylaxis After Receipt of the First Dose of Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine — United States, December 21, 2020–January 10, 2021

*Early Release / January 22, 2021 / 70*

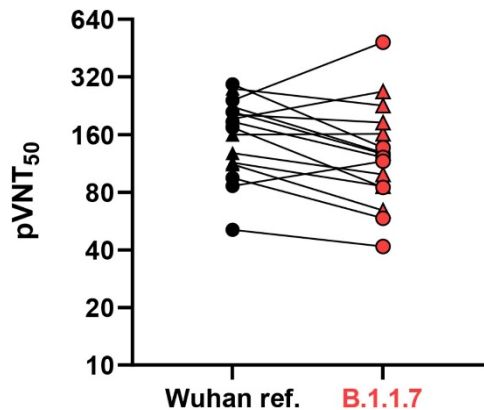
- Data on 4,041,396 first doses of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine from Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS)
  - 1,266 (0.03%) adverse events reported
  - 10 cases determined to be anaphylaxis
    - 2.5 cases per million doses; no deaths
    - 9 occurred within 15 minutes of vaccination
    - 9 had history of allergy or allergic reactions
- Locations administering COVID-19 vaccines should adhere to CDC guidance: screening for contraindications, supplies to manage anaphylaxis, recommended post-vaccination observation periods, and immediately treating suspected cases of anaphylaxis with epinephrine injection
- Health care providers play an important role in vaccine safety by recognizing and reporting adverse events to VAERS at <https://vaers.hhs.gov/reportevent.html>

# Questions about COVID-19 vaccines

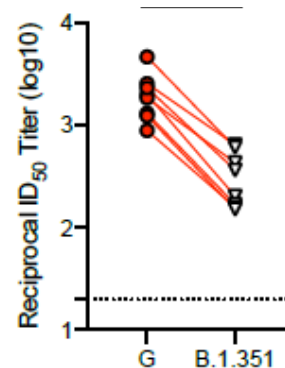
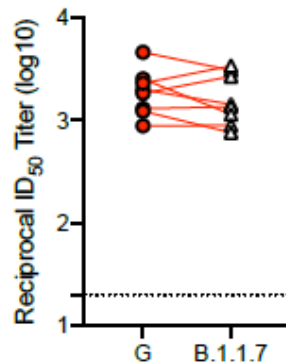
- **Do fully vaccinated people still need to quarantine if exposed to COVID-19?**
  - Limited data on the effects of COVID-19 vaccines on transmission and duration of protection
  - CDC recommends that vaccinated persons follow all current guidance including quarantine after exposure. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/clinical-considerations.html>
  - Some states have issued guidance that vaccinated people might not need to quarantine if standard precautions are maintained

# Will the two available vaccines in the US be effective against the new variants?

- Pfizer: tested sera from vaccinees against B.1.1.7 pseudoviruses
- No difference in neutralization activity against B.1.1.7 vs. reference strain



- Moderna: tested sera from vaccinees against B.1.1.7 and B.1.351 pseudoviruses
- No difference in neutralization activity against B.1.17
- Lower neutralization activity against B.1.135
- Titers still high and effectively neutralized pseudovirus



# References

## Updates

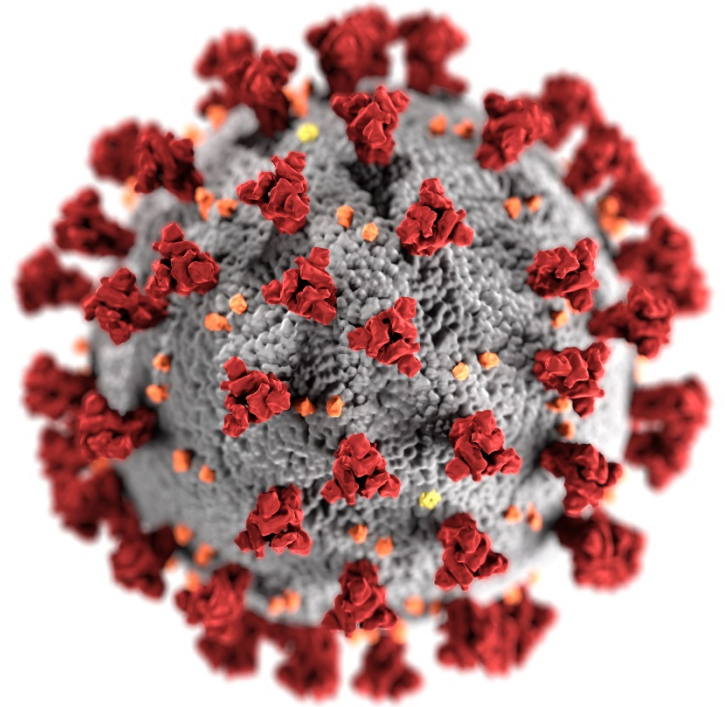
- <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/National-Strategy-for-the-COVID-19-Response-and-Pandemic-Preparedness.pdf> (White House National COVID-19 strategy)
- <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2021/01/11/hhs-launches-web-based-locator-for-covid-19-outpatient-treatment-sites-for-monoclonal-antibodies.html> (HHS announcement for web-based located for monoclonal antibody treatment)
- <https://protect-public.hhs.gov/pages/therapeutics-distribution#distribution-locations> (HHS treatment locator)
- <https://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/news/Pages/Regeneron-Purchase.aspx> (HHS press release on Regeneron antibody purchase)
- <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-issues-alert-regarding-sars-cov-2-viral-mutation-health-care-providers-and-clinical-laboratory> (FDA alert on SARS-CoV-2 variants)
- <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/s0112-negative-covid-19-air-passengers.html> (international travel requirements)

## MMWRs

- Galloway SE, et al. Emergence of SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.7 Lineage — United States, December 29, 2020–January 12, 2021. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep. ePub: 15 January 2021. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm7003e2>
- Allergic Reactions Including Anaphylaxis After Receipt of the First Dose of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine — United States, December 14–23, 2020. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2021;70:46–51. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm7002e1>
- Allergic Reactions Including Anaphylaxis After Receipt of the First Dose of Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine — United States, December 21, 2020–January 10, 2021. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep. ePub: 22 January 2021. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm7004e1>

## Pre-prints

- Wu et al. mRNA-1273 vaccine induces neutralizing antibodies against spike mutants from global SARS-CoV-2 variants. bioRxiv 2021.01.25.427948; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2021.01.25.427948>
- Muik et al. Neutralization of SARS-CoV-2 lineage B.1.1.7 pseudovirus by BNT162b2 vaccine-elicited human sera
- bioRxiv 2021.01.18.426984; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2021.01.18.426984>



For more information, contact CDC  
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)  
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

