



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors Receive COVID-19 Updates and Take Actions
*As Omicron variant is spreading throughout County, testing sites and hours of operation are ramping up***

STOCKTON – San Joaquin County Public Health Officer Dr. Maggie Park told the Board of Supervisors today that COVID-19 case rates and hospitalizations continue to show significant increases throughout the County. Dr. Park told the Supervisors that case rates have increased from 9.8 cases to 87.8 cases per 100,000 since December 7, 2021. She also said the current case rate surge has surpassed both the peaks of Winter 2020 and Summer 2021.

San Joaquin County COVID-19 latest statistics as of January 10, 2022:

- 118,422 total COVID-19 cases; 1,926 deaths; 195 people hospitalized; 44 COVID-19 positive people in ICU
- To date, 1,071,331 vaccines have been administered to county residents.
- 62.7% (432,585 residents) are fully vaccinated and another 10.2% (70,610 residents) have received partial vaccinations through the County, as well as other multi-county entities, hospital systems, and pharmacies
- 72.9% of San Joaquin County's total population has received at least one dose
- County hospital ICU's are at 108% of licensed capacity, but only 42% of hospital ICU beds are filled by COVID-19 patients

To view weekly updates of the County's COVID-19 statistics, visit:

<http://www.sjcphs.org/Disease/Epidemiology.aspx>

Dr. Park told the Board that due to the Omicron variant, nearly 80 percent of new COVID-19 cases in the state are due to Omicron. Because of the rampant spread of the new variant, testing sites throughout the County are overwhelmed. Dr. Park explained that increased sites and operating hours have been set up at the following locations:

San Joaquin Agricultural Center – 2101 E. Earhart Ave.
Mon.-Fri.: 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Former School Building – 19 S. Central Ave.
Hours to increase starting January 16 to
Mon.-Fri.: 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Sat-Sun: 8:00 AM-5:00PM

San Joaquin General Hospital – 500 W. Hospital Road

Hours to increase starting January 16 to 7:00 AM- 7:00 PM daily

Additional sites will soon be established at the Lodi Grape Festival location and Delta College.

Dr. Park discussed the new FDA-approved Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) therapies for COVID-19. Three different types of treatments are being used to treat non-hospitalized patients including:

- Monoclonal antibodies (Bamlanivimab + etesevimab; Casirivimab + imdevimab; and Sotrovimab)

- Oral antivirals (Molnupiravir – 33% effective; Paxlovid – 88% effective)
- Pre-exposure prophylaxis (EVUSHELD muscular injection)

Dr. Park said FDA-approved Remdesivir infusions are available in the hospital/clinical setting for people with mild to moderate symptoms and for those who are hospitalized. The treatment results in an 87 percent lower risk of hospitalization or death than the placebo. It was reported that while most of the COVID-19 therapies are in limited supply throughout the County (with the exception of Remdesivir), that they are all being prescribed and distributed to patients at specified pharmacies. Residents are encouraged to discuss treatment options with a health care provider.

“Although we do not test every COVID-related death for variants, we can say that we do not have any known cases of Omicron resulting in any deaths in San Joaquin County. There is no perfect treatment for COVID-19 as far as efficacy rates, supply and who is eligible to receive any given treatment. It’s better to not get COVID-19 than to rely on existing treatments,” said San Joaquin County Public Health Officer, Dr. Maggie Park.

Dr. Park said one of the biggest concerns at the moment is the ability to staff additional testing and vaccination sites. She noted that in addition to increased testing sites, that the County has ordered 15,000 at-home rapid testing kits and will work to order additional at home collection kits for laboratory analysis while we wait for an expected 67,000 test kits from the State. Dr. Park will be working with the Board of Supervisors to increase testing capacity including state and federal resources for additional staff, testing sites and testing supplies. Residents are encouraged to check www.SJReady.org or MyTurn.ca.gov to find testing and vaccine locations. When preregistration is an option residents are encouraged to register before arriving at the testing/vaccine sites this may assist with lessening the wait times.

Supervisor Chuck Winn, Chair of the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors, responded to Dr. Park’s presentation stating, “It is clear we need to do more to increase testing capacity throughout the County in order to reduce long lines at testing sites, slow the spread of the virus and decrease case rates, hospitalizations and deaths. The Board has an opportunity to weigh in with state and federal policymakers to address staffing waivers in order to provide the critically needed personnel for care and prevent further transmission of the virus.”

Consent Items

- Approval for use of Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act Grant funds for the install of power outlets to Terminal Seating Project in the amount of \$14,574, and related budget adjustments.
- Approval for use of Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act Grant funds for the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board Site Cleanup Program in the amount of \$15,600 and retroactive authorization for the airport director to sign the cost reimbursement form, and related budget adjustments.
- Approval for use of Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act Grant funds for the Conference Room Teleconferencing Capability Project in the amount of \$9,844, and related budget adjustments.
- Recertification of AB 361 teleconferencing requirements.
- Approval of a one-time lump sum payment to County employees who worked during the COVID-19 Pandemic from March 30, 2020 through September 26, 2021.

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