



AMERICAN
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HEALTH
ASSOCIATION

ACHA COVID-19 Update: October 21, 2020

These updates have been provided by ACHA's COVID-19 Task Force. Please forward this message to others on campus who may benefit. Non-members can subscribe to receive these and other messages [here](#). We will continue to update the [COVID-19 webpage](#) with important alerts and resources.

ACHA Survey on the Effects of COVID-19 on Campus

Deadline Extended One More Week to October 26

Every day, we hear from you about the challenges you are facing—the many hours you are spending managing COVID-19 on your campuses, the dramatic increases in your responsibilities, your concerns about your students and staff, and the ever-changing unpredictability of your lives during this pandemic.

We know how busy you are and ask if you can spare about seven minutes of your time to complete this survey. Your response will help other colleges deal with this virus. We need more responses to make the results meaningful. We will get the final report to you quickly with hopes that it will help you and your colleagues.

The representative member (RMI) of ACHA Institutional Member schools or one designated representative from each school have been sent emails with unique links to begin the survey. If you're interested in participating but have not received a link, please contact Robyn Buchsbaum at rbuchsbaum@acha.org.

ACHA “Ask the Expert” Webinar Series

Registration Open: Contact Tracing, Isolation and Quarantine—Systems for Small, Medium and Large Colleges and Universities

Please join us as we hear from small, medium, and large colleges and universities about their experiences managing contact tracing, isolation, and quarantine during the fall term. Hear what's working, what's not, and how they adapted in real time to meet the need. The webinar will include a 30-minute presentation and a 30-minute Q&A session.

Date and time: Friday, October 23, 2020, at 2:00-3:00 PM ET

Cost: Free

[Register here.](#)

Registration Open: Creating Support Systems for Students in Isolation and Quarantine

Please join us as our experts discuss the significant mental health needs of students in isolation and quarantine and how to put systems in place to best support these students. The webinar will include a 20-minute presentation and a 40-minute Q&A session.

Date and time: Friday, November 6, 2020, at 2:00-3:00 PM ET

Cost: Free

[Register here.](#)

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ACHF and Hologic Webinar

Case Studies: Best Practices in Sexual Health Promotion and Clinical Care in the COVID-19 Era

Join health promotion practitioners and clinical providers as they discuss how they have implemented aspects of the ACHA Guidelines: [Best Practices in Sexual Health Promotion and Clinical Care](#) and how they have adapted their practices to COVID-19. There will be time for Q&A at the end.

Date and time: Friday, November 13, 2020, at 3:00 PM ET

Cost: Free

[Register here.](#)

This webinar is sponsored by the American College Health Foundation with support from Hologic.

CDC Updates

CDC Updates Vaccine Information for Providers and the Public

On October 14, CDC added vaccine-specific content to its webpage [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\): Vaccines](#). New resources include information on vaccination planning, how vaccine safety will be monitored, and frequently asked questions. These resources are intended to clarify how COVID-19 vaccine recommendations will be made and how the vaccines will be monitored for safety, in order to build trust and confidence in future COVID-19 vaccines.

Prevention and Treatment

Hospital Preparedness for a COVID-19 Surge

The Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) created this [assessment tool](#) which hospitals can use to evaluate their emergency preparedness and readiness for another surge and to identify gaps. The tool is translatable to other environments. Key components include: Structure for Planning, Decision Making, and Communication; Monitoring and Improvement; Infection Control Preparedness; Space and Supplies; Staffing; and Staff Mental Health and Well-Being.

Remdesivir Shown to Reduce Recovery Time but Not Reduce Risk of Death

A new [study](#) of Gilead Sciences' antiviral drug, remdesivir, which is being used as a treatment for COVID-19, shows that remdesivir treatment does not reduce the risk of death but that it does reduce the recovery time. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) began a [clinical trial](#) to test remdesivir plus a highly concentrated solution of antibodies. A drug manufactured by Eli Lilly called [Olumiant](#) has shown to help reduce recovery time when used in conjunction with remdesivir.

EUA Requests for Antibody Treatments

Regeneron [submitted](#) an EUA request to the FDA for its antibody therapy. Regeneron Pharmaceuticals will [provide](#) 300,000 doses of its COVID-19 antibody treatment through a \$450 million contract the company won from the federal government. President Trump received the Regeneron antibody treatment when he was hospitalized with COVID-19 and has promoted its effectiveness since his release from the hospital.

Eli Lilly [submitted](#) an EUA request to the FDA for its new antibody therapy for COVID-19. Eli Lilly had to [suspend](#) its antibody therapy trials due to issues the FDA found at its manufacturing plant. AstraZeneca [began](#) late stage trials of its own antibody treatment. The government is giving the company [\\$486 million](#) to fund these trials. The government is [working](#) to secure one million antibody treatment doses from various manufacturers.

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Ventilation and Air Filtration Play a Key Role in Preventing the Spread of COVID-19 Indoors

This [USA Today article](#) provides an illustrated primer on improving indoor air quality and includes definitions, calculations, and principles of air exchange, ventilation rate, increasing exchange with outside air, HEPA filtration, and minimum efficiency reporting value (MERV) ratings. Decreasing density in the room, opening windows, fans blowing from the inside out (toward open windows), and universal mask wearing are all additive in preventing transmission.

Gender Differences in COVID-19 Attitudes and Behavior

[This study](#) looked at data from two surveys of 21,649 individuals from eight Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) countries (the U.S. not a member). The data showed women are more likely to perceive COVID-19 as a very serious health problem, to agree with restraining public policy measures, and to comply with them. The researchers state, “This behavioral factor contributes to substantial gender differences in mortality and is consistent with women-led countries responding more effectively to the pandemic.”

Vaccines

NFID, ACHA, and NASN Webinar on Importance of Routine Vaccinations

The National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID), along with partner organizations American College Health Association (ACHA) and National Association of School Nurses (NASN) will present a webinar titled [Learning at School or at Home: Why Routine Vaccinations Are as Important as Ever](#) on October 27 from 12:00–1:00 pm (ET). The webinar will focus on the impact of COVID-19 on immunizations for all students—learning in-person or remotely—with suggestions for safely administering routine vaccines during this challenging time. NFID’s president Patricia N. Whitley-Williams, MD, will moderate the webinar and will also present along with ACHA representative Craig Roberts, PA-C, MS, and NASN’s president Laurie Combe, MN, RN, NCSN.

Vaccine Czar on Release of Vaccine Data and Approvals

Dr. Moncef Slaoui, who leads the White House Operation Warp Speed (OWS) vaccine development and distribution initiative [explained](#) how he expects three waves of vaccine data release and distribution information over the next six months.

Meanwhile, Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) Alex Azar [said](#) that he is optimistic that 100 million vaccine doses will be available by the end of the year. He says these doses should be enough to vaccinate the vulnerable people who will get priority under the government’s vaccine distribution strategy. NIAID Director Dr. Anthony Fauci [said](#) that a vaccine might not be widely available until the summer of 2021.

Answering Key Questions About COVID-19 Vaccines

The U.S. government is investing in rapid development of vaccines against COVID-19, and four vaccine candidates are in phase 3 studies with initial results expected soon. If studies succeed, one or more vaccines may become available within a few months. Clinicians are likely among the first to be offered COVID-19 vaccines and have a key role in helping patients make decisions about vaccination. Providing evidence-based information will be particularly important in an environment of polarization and mistrust. This JAMA Viewpoint focuses on [common questions patients are likely to ask about COVID-19 vaccines](#).

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Testing and Tracking/Tracing

Understanding How Overdispersion Works in Controlling COVID-19

In this [Guardian opinion piece](#), the authors explain two aspects of tracking/tracing: "overdispersion" and "backwards contact tracing." The article explains that overdispersion is unpredictable and is reported as the number of individuals who cause 80% of transmission. For SARS-CoV-2, the authors believe this value is 10% or lower. The article looks at patient 31, who exposed up to 1,100 people, resulting in more than 5,000 cases in South Korea. Backwards contact tracing, also known as "cluster investigations," is a "strategy [that] relies on the fact that we are more likely to first identify one of the many people infected in a superspreading event than the individual who triggered the event." This was a [key strategy for Japan](#). Similarly, Cornell University's Provost, Michael Kotlikoff, [speaks](#) about one key to keeping Cornell's case counts low was working backwards to break potential chains of transmission before they start.

Testing Commons

This site, created by Arizona State University, hosts a [one-stop source for information about COVID-19 tests](#). You can search the site using a variety of parameters including test type, technology, regulatory status, country of origin, sensitivity and specificity, and more.

College Campuses

- [Tracking Coronavirus Cases at U.S. Colleges and Universities](#) (New York Times)
- [Monitoring the Coronavirus Outbreak in Metro Areas Across the U.S.](#) (New York Times)
- [Campus Reopening Plans: List of Colleges' Reopening Models](#) (The Chronicle of Higher Education) and [College Crisis Initiative \(C2i\)](#) (Davidson College)

Risk Assessment and Testing Protocols for Reducing SARS CoV-2 Transmission in K-12

This [policy document](#) from Johns Hopkins and Duke is aimed at K-12 schools to help school administrators to assess the risk of SARS-CoV-2 in their schools and identify key considerations in developing a screening program to regularly test students and staff for the virus to support schools to open in-person more safely. The protocols included in the document could translate to IHEs, particularly the advice on testing approaches.

Growing List of Campuses Requiring Flu Vaccine

The Immunization Action Coalition (IAC) is tracking which colleges and universities across the nation are mandating flu vaccine for staff and students. IAC says the following schools require influenza vaccine this year: [Indiana University](#)—nine campuses, [University of California system](#)—ten campuses, [University of Tennessee system](#)—four campuses, [Albion College](#), [Butler University](#), [Cornell University](#), [Creighton University](#), [Dordt University](#), [Duke University](#), [Elon University](#), [Marist College](#), [Purdue University](#), [Rochester Institute of Technology](#), [Rosalind Franklin University](#), [Syracuse University](#), [University of Dayton](#), [University of Kentucky](#), [University of Miami](#), [University of North Carolina Charlotte](#), [University of Pennsylvania](#), [University of Southern California](#), [Wabash College](#), [Wake Forest University](#), and [Wayne State University](#).

Under a [new statewide regulation in Massachusetts](#), approximately 115 colleges and universities will be implementing requirements for influenza vaccination this year.

If you know of additional colleges or universities that require influenza vaccination, please send the name of the institution, as well as a link to the relevant policy (if available) to admin@immunize.org.

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Preparing Campuses to Prevent a COVID-Flu Twindemic

This University Business article advises campuses to [take steps now to decrease the risk of a combined COVID-19 and flu outbreak](#) on campus:

- Increase accessibility to flu vaccine
- Prepare to test for both flu and COVID-19
- Send reminders to students to stay in their room/residence if sick
- Communicate with faculty/staff to stay home if sick
- Remember to address mental health needs

The author also advocates planning for COVID-19 vaccine distribution for the campus community and working with local public health.

Mental Health

Helping Hands Need a Break Too: How to Lend Support Without Burning Out

This NPR article describes [compassion fatigue](#). According to the American Institute of Stress, “compassion fatigue, also called ‘vicarious traumatization’ or ‘secondary traumatization,’ is the emotional residue or strain of exposure to working with those suffering from the consequences of traumatic events. It differs from burn-out, but can co-exist.” The co-authors describe exercises they use to reset themselves. Their general advice is to:

- Shift your perspective
- Show up in small ways
- Practice self-compassion
- Enlist the help of others

See all updates here: https://www.acha.org/ACHA/Resources/Topics/COVID-19_Update.aspx

ACHA COVID-19 Page: <https://www.acha.org/COVID-19>



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