Alameda County
Board of Supervisors
COVID-19 Update

December 21, 2021
Agenda

• Data
• Vaccine Update
• Mask Update
• Omicron Update
• Communications
Data
Epidemic Data Key Points

- Daily case rate is 7.6 per 100,000
- 145 cases reported per day and rising
- Test positivity is 1.4% overall and 1.6% in first HPI quartile
- Hospitalized COVID cases 68; ICU 16
- ~12,000 lab tests per day
Vaccine Updates
Booster Doses Data 12/20

- 502,046 boosters given
- 39% of all fully vaccinated
  - 49% of those 50-64
  - 67% of those 65-74
  - 67% of those 75+
COVID-19 boosters recommended now for people ages 16 and up

- CDC, CDPH now recommending a booster 6 months after vaccination for ages 16-17
  - Only Pfizer vaccine authorized for 16-17s

- Boosters **strongly recommended** for anyone 6 months from mRNA or 2 months from J&J
  - See your doctor or local pharmacy
Update: Pfizer, Moderna Vaccines Preferred over J&J

- CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices reviewed latest safety and efficacy data for Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine on 12/16
  - Thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS) rare but more cases reported
    - 54 total TTS cases and 9 deaths
    - Cases now noted among older women and men
  - Rare reports of Guillain-Barré Syndrome with J&J
  - J&J 69-76% effective versus severe disease - lower than mRNA
  - mRNA vaccines continue to be highly safe and effective
- CDC and Western States Scientific Safety Review Workgroup recommending mRNA as preferred COVID-19 vaccines
  - J&J can still be used for those unable or unwilling to take mRNA vaccine
- HCSA/PHD incorporating new recommendation into local guidance
Masking Update
Statewide Masking Requirement Announced 12/15

• California requiring face coverings for everyone in indoor public settings
  • Order only applies to jurisdictions with no local indoor mask requirement
• Alameda County mask policies do not change with this state action
  • Masks still required in all indoor public settings regardless of vaccination status
  • Exemptions for small, stable groups of vaccinated people, under certain conditions
  • Regional masking metrics will apply again when new state order is lifted
• State school masking policies unchanged
  • Alameda County aligned with state language on youth sports/music on 12/8
Omicron Update
CDC Omicron Variant Detection (Purple) as of 12/18

United States: 9/12/2021 – 12/18/2021

United States: 12/12/2021 – 12/18/2021 NOWCAST

10

9

8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Regional proportions from specimens collected the week ending 12/18/2021.
US Territories not shown are included in HHS regions:
PR, VI - Region 2
AS, FM, GU, MH, MP, PW - Region 9

Updated December 20, 2021

Alameda County
Health Care Services Agency
Alameda County Public Health Department
Celebrating Healthy People in Healthy Communities

CDC COVID Data Tracker accessed 12/20/21
Omicron Variant

- Expect high case rates locally
  - Expect cases in vaccinated people & previously infected people
- Expect high hospitalizations
  - Severity of Omicron may be similar to Delta
  - Some monoclonal antibody treatments will be less effective
  - Systems will be strained due to sheer numbers
- Vaccines should protect against severe disease, especially if boosted
  - Both Pfizer and Moderna boosters improve protection
Omicron Policy Considerations

• Limiting spread of Omicron will be difficult

• Key goals for winter wave
  • Protect those most at risk for severe disease
  • Protect our health care system

• Key public health actions
  • Get as many people vaccinated and boosted as possible
  • Support booster clinics for long term care residents
  • Support booster uptake by health care staff
  • Maintain high level of mask use in high-risk settings
  • Encourage safer choices this winter
Communications
Staying Safe this Winter

- Get vaccinated
- Get a booster as soon as you are due
- Wear masks indoors
- Stay home when sick
- Avoid crowded, poorly ventilated indoor settings
- Wash your hands
- Test before and after travel and gathering