Dear Colleagues:

Thank you for keeping up with our weekly COVID-19 advisory Roundups.

Let me start by inviting you to join me at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 2 for our All-Campus Virtual Seminar with Dr. Michael Saag, Dean of Global Health at the University of Alabama-Birmingham. Dr. Saag will engage in a conversation about the vaccines with two of our students. Visit the webinar registration link to participate in the discussion via Zoom.

President’s All-Campus Virtual Seminar Series

COVID-19 Forum: Vaccinations

Dr. Michael Saag
Dean of Global Health, University of Alabama-Birmingham

Sonya Christian
Nicky Damania

Ian Spark
BC Student, Pre-Med

Kassandra Sweeney
BC Student, Public Health Sciences

February 2, 2021, 3:30 p.m.

Renegade Nursing Students Help At Tehachapi Vaccine Clinic

BC nursing students were on the front lines this weekend helping health care workers at Adventist Health Tehachapi with the drive-through COVID-19 vaccination clinic. Third and fourth semester Renegade RN students vaccinated 400 seniors during their time at the drive-through clinic on Saturday. Check out Alisha Loken’s Facebook post below:
David Koeth sent me this photo of his sister-in-law Sharon Nold getting the vaccine from one of our BC students:
Kern County Residents Concerned About Availability of Second Vaccines

Individuals who have already received their COVID-19 vaccines are reporting difficulty with scheduling follow-up appointments for their booster shots due to a scarcity of the vaccine, according to Sam Morgen’s article in the Bakersfield Californian on Friday, January 29. Within four hours of opening up on Tuesday, January 26, the Kern County fairgrounds had filled 1,325 appointments for vaccinations, which were all of its available time slots. Additionally, the fairgrounds, Kern Medical and Phast Pharmacy are currently the only places in Kern County offering the Pfizer vaccine (the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines are not interchangeable, so if you took one, you’ll need a booster shot of the same vaccine to achieve immunity).

Kern County has one of the lowest vaccine administration numbers in the state, with only 4 vaccine doses administered per 100 residents, according to CDPH data analyzed by Stacey Shepard in the Bakersfield Californian.

BC’s Health Clinic has already received state approval to be a vaccination site. We are currently working out logistics with Kern County Public Health, the Governor’s Office, Priority Urgent Care and Centric Urgent Care to secure vaccines and start the implementation on the Panorama campus.

CTA Demanding Vaccinations Before Schools Can Reopen
In late December, Governor Newsom outlined a plan for California schools to re-open for in-person instruction starting with transitional kindergarten through elementary-aged children via the Safe Schools for All program. As the February 16 deadline rapidly approaches for schools to receive additional grant funding if they reopen for their youngest students, the California Teachers Association has written a letter to Governor Newsom saying that educators should have priority access to the vaccine before returning to in-person instruction.

Teachers are currently eligible to receive the vaccine under Phase B1 of the rollout, but when the state opened Phase B1 to all individuals 65 and older, county health departments across California prioritized seniors over educators due to the population’s greater health risk and the easier screening process for age. It may take until June for the vaccine rollout to expand beyond individuals 65 and older, according to the LA Times.

**CDC Issues Order Mandating Masks for Domestic Travel**
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has issued a sweeping mandate for Americans to wear masks on public and commercial transport. The order, which takes effect February 1, is broadly applied to trains, buses, planes, boats, subways and rideshare vehicles, as well as transport hubs like train stations, bus depots and airport terminals. The mandate will not apply to military vehicles, commercial trucks or children under the age of 2.

**Blueprint For a Safer Economy Dashboard**

The State of California’s Blueprint For a Safer Economy dashboard shows where each county in California ranks in the four-tiered color system for reopening. A table with the comparison of test positivity rates from several counties on the monitoring list is below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>January 24, 2021</th>
<th>Test positivity rate</th>
<th>January 31, 2021*</th>
<th>Test positivity rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>California</strong></td>
<td>105.4</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
<td>71.6</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kern County</strong></td>
<td>90.4</td>
<td>22.3</td>
<td>63.1**</td>
<td>18.7**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kings County</strong></td>
<td>108.5</td>
<td>17.5%</td>
<td>97.2</td>
<td>17.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fresno County</strong></td>
<td>90.8</td>
<td>18.3%</td>
<td>65.1</td>
<td>15.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>San Bernardino</strong></td>
<td>155.0</td>
<td>20.4%</td>
<td>94.1</td>
<td>16.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LA County</strong></td>
<td>150.7</td>
<td>17.1%</td>
<td>96.5</td>
<td>13.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Dashboard data updated on January 26  
**Kern County is in the purple or “widespread” tier

**Johns Hopkins Dashboard**

As of 3:30 p.m. on January 31, the Johns Hopkins University Dashboard shows more than 102 million confirmed cases of COVID-19 worldwide since the start of the pandemic. Here is the table that captures the difference in the numbers since January 17.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>World</strong></td>
<td>99,053,788</td>
<td>102,871,614</td>
<td>3,817,826</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>U.S.</strong></td>
<td>25,098,475</td>
<td>26,174,956</td>
<td>1,076,481</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>California</strong></td>
<td>3,109,151</td>
<td>3,243,348</td>
<td>134,197</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kern</strong></td>
<td>90,213</td>
<td>94,113</td>
<td>3,900</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Stay safe, stay healthy, wear a mask, keep the 6ft distance separation, and wash your hands to slow down the spread and reduce the strain on our healthcare systems and providers.

That's all for now.

Until next time.
With much Renegade Pride and Collegiality,
sonya

See all issues of Renegade Roundup online