Philadelphia Weekly PHP Outreach Newsletter

Philadelphia Department of Public Health

The Latest News

- **COVID-19 vaccine for children under 5**
    - The CDC and the FDA are currently reviewing research on a Moderna and Pfizer vaccine for children under 5. This research is scheduled to be released on June 15th
        - Healthcare providers will review this research, on the level of protection each vaccine offers, to decide if they will order one or both Pfizer and Moderna vaccines.
    - It is expected vaccines for children under 5 will be available as early as June 20th.
        - It is expected there will be some delays in the supply of vaccine to pediatric providers, but this should be resolved and available within a few weeks.
    - President Biden's plan to vaccinate children under 5: https://bit.ly/06092022Brief
    - More information available at: https://bit.ly/0613VaxUnder5
- **PDPH extreme heat guide is Live**
    - Extreme heat can be dangerous for people and pets. It can also cause utility disruptions and is occurring more often due to climate change.
    - Visit phila.gov/heat for information about the health risks of extreme heat, tools and tips to help you stay cool, links to get help paying for utilities, and other resources.
- **Monkeypox to be renamed**
    - The World Health Organization (WHO) will rename Monkeypox due to concerns around stigma and racism. The WHO has guidelines that recommend the names of regions and animals not be used to name new infectious diseases.
    - More information is available at: https://bit.ly/WHOnewNames at https://bit.ly/VirologyNewName and in the FAQ below.

Latest Events

- **Disability Health Forum, June 16, 2022 11:00am – 1:00pm**
    - **Long Covid, Variants, and Surges: Ongoing Impacts to People with Disabilities**
        - Join us for this multi-part conversation includes perspectives from: The Disability community, Medical Doctors, as well as Allegheny and Philadelphia county health departments.
        - This event is sponsored by the Institute on Disabilities at Temple University, the LEND Center of Pittsburgh Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Mayor's Commission for People with Disabilities in the Office of the Mayor, and the Department of Public Health City of Philadelphia, as well as the Allegheny County Health Department.
    - Register at: https://temple.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_EF8D_kZnTSWFDVr5fiwuOA
    - ASL and CART available
- **Have an upcoming public health event happening in your community?**
    - Send us an email at COVIDVax@phila.gov with a file of your event flyer at least two weeks in advance and we will advertise your event on our social media!

COVID-19: Resources and Services

- **Latest COVID-19 numbers in Philadelphia as of June 6, 2022.**

- **Vaccine**
    - 76.9% of people ages 12 and up and 30.2% of children 5-11 years old are *fully vaccinated.*
    - 94.4% of people ages 12 and up and 37.2% of children 5 – 11 years old have received at least *one dose of the Pfizer vaccine.*
    - 33.4% of people ages 12 and up have received booster doses.
- **COVID-19 Cases**
    - In the last 2 weeks, Philadelphia is averaging 277 new cases of COVID-19 per day and 10.4% of COVID-19 tests have come back positive.
- Find the newest information on the PDPH COVID-19 webpage at phila.gov/COVID, PDPH Facebook and Twitter
- **Where to find a COVID-19 vaccine:**
    - Call 3-1-1 or visit phila.gov/vaccine or vaccines.gov to find a vaccine clinic near you.
        - For interpretation, call 3-1-1, press #5 and say your language.
        - Visit https://bit.ly/KnowB4Ugo for updates on transportation, access and functional needs resources, and up-to-date access descriptions of City-run clinics.
    - Options for COVID-19 vaccines for uninsured residents include:
    - More information available at: www.phila.gov/vaccine and bit.ly/COVIDvaxFAQ-PDPH
- **What to do if you lost your vaccination card?**
    - Ask your healthcare provider first, if they cannot help, call 215-685-5488 or email covid@phila.gov to request a copy of your vaccine record.
    - The CDC does not provide copies of COVID-19 vaccination card.
- **Stock up on FREE N95 masks**
    - Visit https://bit.ly/FreeN95s for free masks from the Strategic National Stockpile
- **Stock up on home tests**
    - How to get FREE home tests even if you do not have insurance:
        - Each household can place **3 orders** of 4 free tests, for 8 tests total.
        - Order at: https://www.covidtests.gov/
    - How to get home tests paid for if you do have insurance:
        - Health insurance companies are required to reimburse 8 at-home tests per month for each person enrolled in the plan and will reimburse up to $12 per individual test.
        - Submit receipts for tests that you've purchased to your health plan, along with any other necessary documentation required by the health plan.
        - Detailed information here: https://go.cms.gov/3Lqo0Yk
- **Funding the Community Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic**
    - Philly Counts Community Health Worker Program
        - Philly Counts is looking for Community Health Workers to promote positive health outcomes through care referrals and information sharing, while also organizing their local community around the COVID-19 vaccine to improve access to the vaccine and increase vaccine uptake.
        - Compensation is $20.51/hour.
        - For information and to apply visit: https://bit.ly/PhillyCountsCHW
    - The COVID Prevention and Response Fund
        - Currently accepting donations to aid nonprofits and individuals that are supporting their community through the pandemic: https://bit.ly/ActionFund2022

- <u>Funding for Community Based Organizations working on COVID-19</u>
  - The City of Philadelphia Department of Public Health's Disease Control division (the Department) is seeking proposals from qualified Applicants in the City of Philadelphia to plan and implement COVID-19 vaccination outreach and awareness campaigns for populations at higher risk, and/or help identify and address other public health preparedness vulnerabilities and priorities at the community level, over a one-year period.
  - The populations of focus for this Request for Proposals (RFP) include:
    - Black/African American communities
    - Hispanic/Latino/Latinx communities
    - Older adults/aging population/especially those who need COVID-19 vaccine boosters
    - Immigrant communities
    - Refugee communities
    - People with disabilities and/or underlying medical conditions
    - Pregnant persons
    - People who are houseless
    - People living with substance use disorders
    - Other populations as identified
  - The RFP can be found at: https://philawx.phila.gov//ECONTRACT/default.aspx
    - Please follow the link above and review this funding opportunity
      - Opportunity: 21220513111601
      - [New Contract Opportunities] Search under HEALTH
  - Please direct any questions you may have to COVIDVax@phila.gov.

FAQ on MONKEYPOX—Updated Information
- **What is Monkeypox?**
  - Monkeypox is a rare disease that is caused by infection with monkeypox virus.
  - Monkeypox is much less contagious than COVID-19.
  - The virus is not a sexually transmitted infection.
- **What are the symptoms of Monkeypox?**
  - Symptoms may be flu-like, however recent reports have shown that the typical symptoms like fever, swollen lymph nodes, or feeling unwell may not happen to each person.
  - Over a period of 2-3 weeks, lesions (a rash) may develop in the mouth, on the genitals, the area around your anus, and on the body, but may be limited in number and location.
    - If you have these lesions, you can spread them to other people as long as you have them.
    - It's not safe until after the lesions scab over and heal.
  - That means that the scabs would need to fall off and new skin grows in before you aren't able to spread it.
- **How do you become infected with Monkeypox?**
  - Monkeypox is spread by direct contact with monkeypox rash, sores, or scabs from a person with monkeypox.
  - Contact with contaminated objects, fabrics (clothing, bedding, or towels), and surfaces that have been used by someone with monkeypox.
  - Contact with respiratory secretions, through kissing and other face-to-face contact. These types of contact can include when you are having sex.

- **What are the treatment options?**
  - Currently, there is no proven, safe treatment for monkeypox virus infection.
  - For purposes of controlling a monkeypox outbreak in the United States, smallpox vaccine, antivirals, and vaccinia immune globulin (VIG) can be used.
- **What should I do if I think I have symptoms of Monkeypox?**
  - Monkeypox is usually a mild illness.
  - If you think you have been exposed or are showing symptoms, immediately contact a healthcare provider to discuss your illness.
  - You should isolate from others until you speak with a provider.
  - If you do not have a healthcare provider, call 215-685-2933 to connect with a public health clinic.
- **More information available at**: bit.ly/MonkeypoxHealth and www.cdc.gov/monkeypox

More Information
- **PDPH Call Center**
  - Call 215-685-5488, Press 3 for interpretation in your language. Dial 711 for TRS/TTY assistance.
- **Philadelphia Coronavirus Helpline**
  - Call 800-722-7112, press #9 for interpretation. **Open 24/7**!
  - Talk to a medical professional about COVID-19 symptoms, exposure, vaccine, tests, Etc.
- **Frequently asked questions on all 3 vaccines:**
  - From PDPH: https://bit.ly/COVIDvaxFAQ-PDPH (English)
  - From the CDC: https://bit.ly/COVIDvaxFAQ-CDC (English, Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, and more)

How to Stay Connected
- **Health and Emergency Updates**
  - Text ReadyPhila to 888-777 and get updates on your phone
  - Find the latest information at phila.gov/COVID, facebook.com/phillyhealth and twitter@PHLPublicHealth
- **Join the Community Response Partner Network**
  - This newsletter is sent to the Community Response Partner Network , part of the PDPH Public Health Preparedness Program.
  - Sign up at https://bit.ly/phlcommunityresponse to get essential public health information, then pass it on to your family, friends, and community.
- **Questions or suggestions?**
  - Email us at COVIDVax@phila.gov
  - Leave a message with the Public Health Preparedness Program Outreach Team at 215-429-3016.

Be safe!