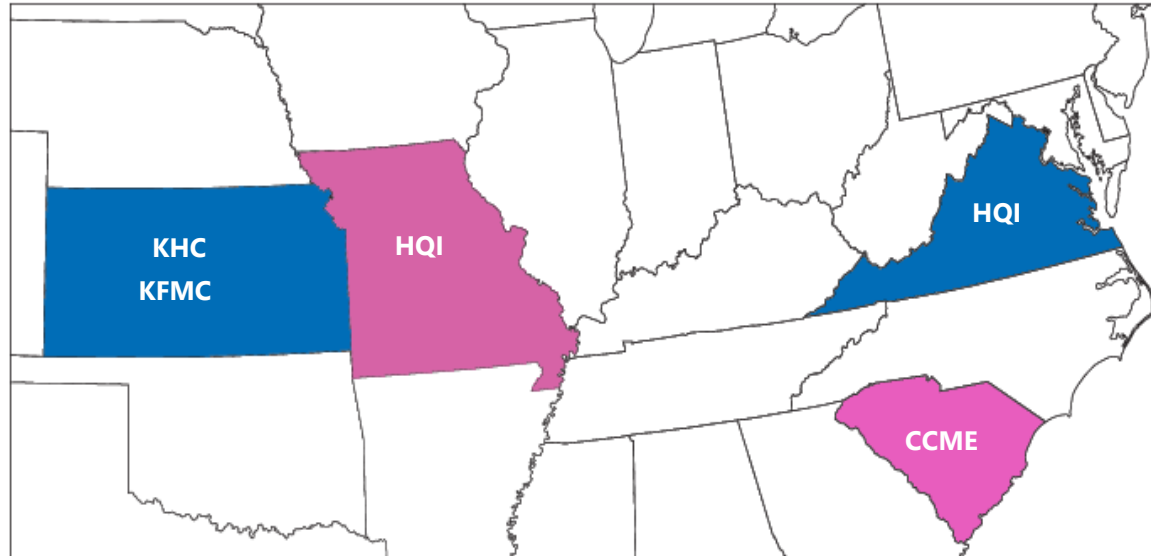


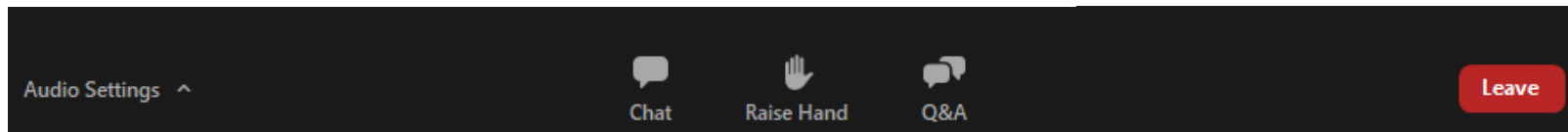
Back to the Future: Living Safely in the Time of COVID-19

May 4, 2022

Health Quality Innovation Network



Logistics – Zoom Webinar



To ask a question, click on the **Q&A** icon.

Raise your hand if you want to verbally ask a question.

Resources from today's session will be posted in **Chat**.

You may adjust your audio by clicking **Audio Settings**.

You have been automatically muted with video turned off.

Your Team



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Quality Improvement Advisor



Laura Finch, MS, GNP, RN
HQIN Consultant



April Faulkner
Communications Specialist

Goals for Weekly Vaccine and Booster Education:

- Improving booster uptake
- Current knowledge updates
- A forum for vaccine and booster questions
- Interactive, peer-to-peer collaboration
- A “safe space” to talk
- Best practices and innovative idea sharing
- Tips for improving resident and staff safety



The content presented in this webinar is based on COVID-19 information and guidance as of the date of this session.

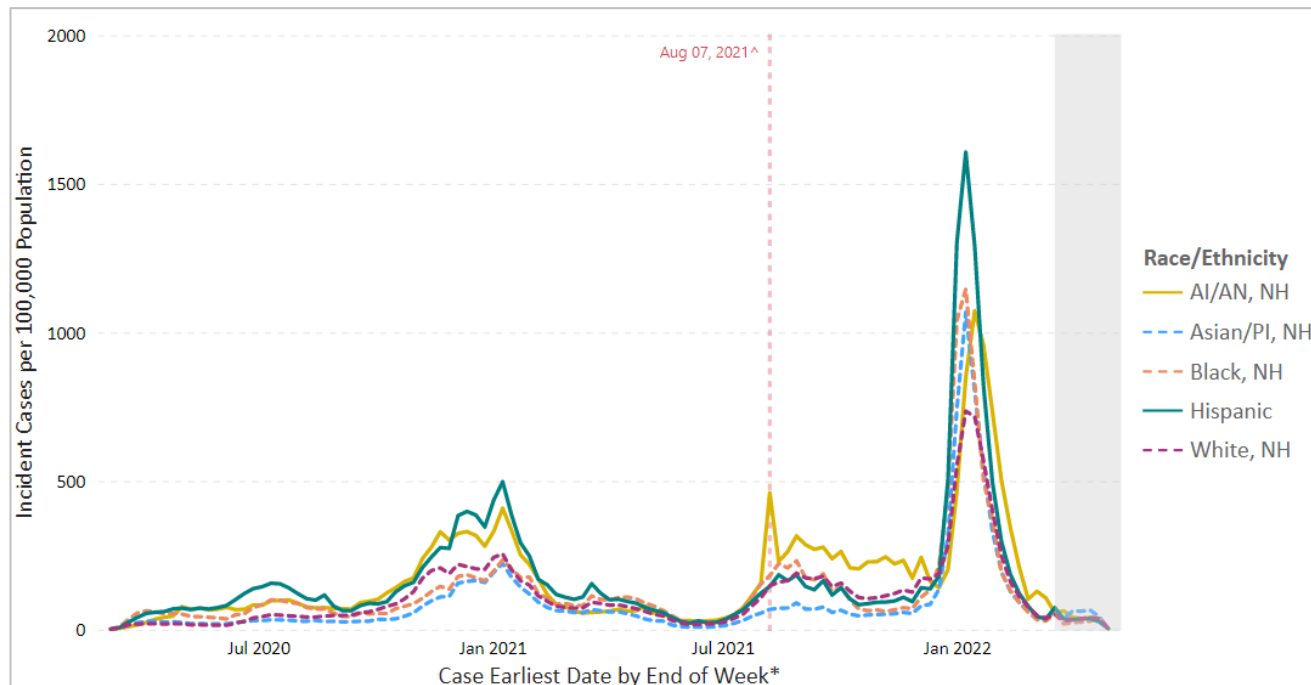
Learning Objectives

- Discuss how lives have been saved by caring staff providing infection prevention, appropriate PPE, vaccination clinics and patient and family education.
- Review tools that can take us into the future prepared for this pandemic.
- Share resources that can help minimize infections and avoid serious illness.



Special Request: Health Equity Data

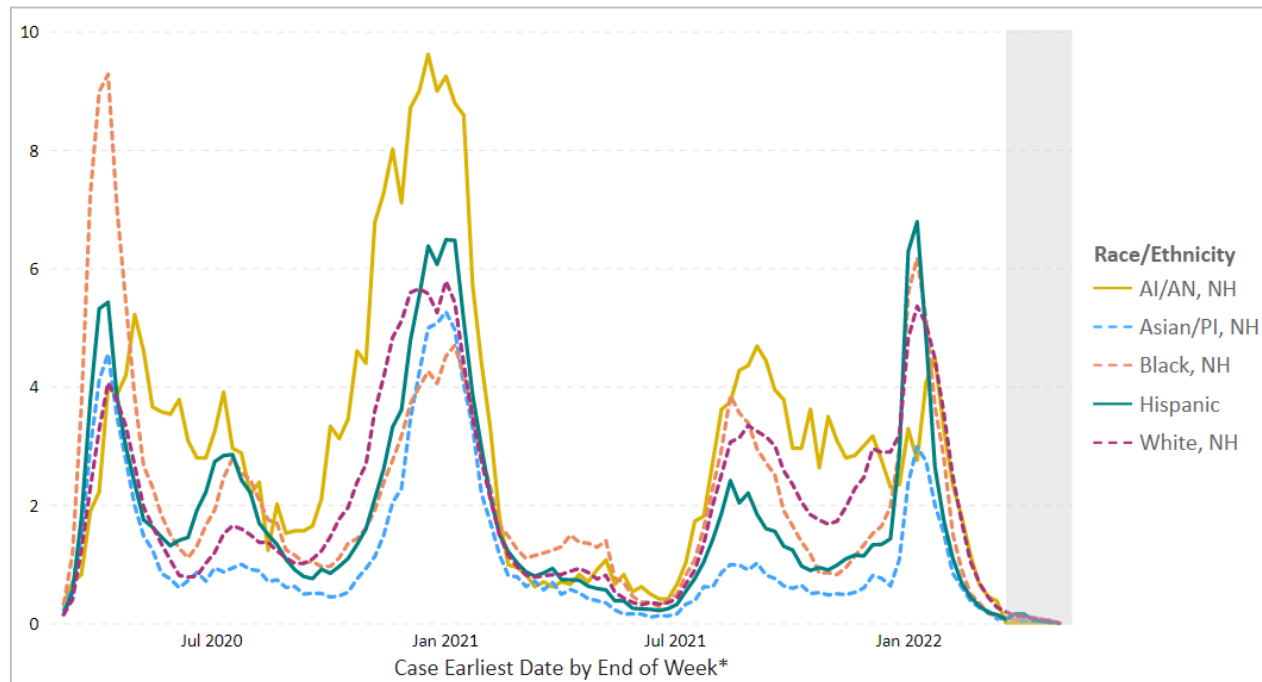
COVID-19 Weekly Case Rates Per 100,000 Population by Race/Ethnicity (U.S.)



Hispanic populations consistently have the highest case rates, followed by AI/AN groups

Source: [CDC COVID Data Tracker: Trends in Cases and Deaths by Race/Ethnicity, Age, and Sex](#)

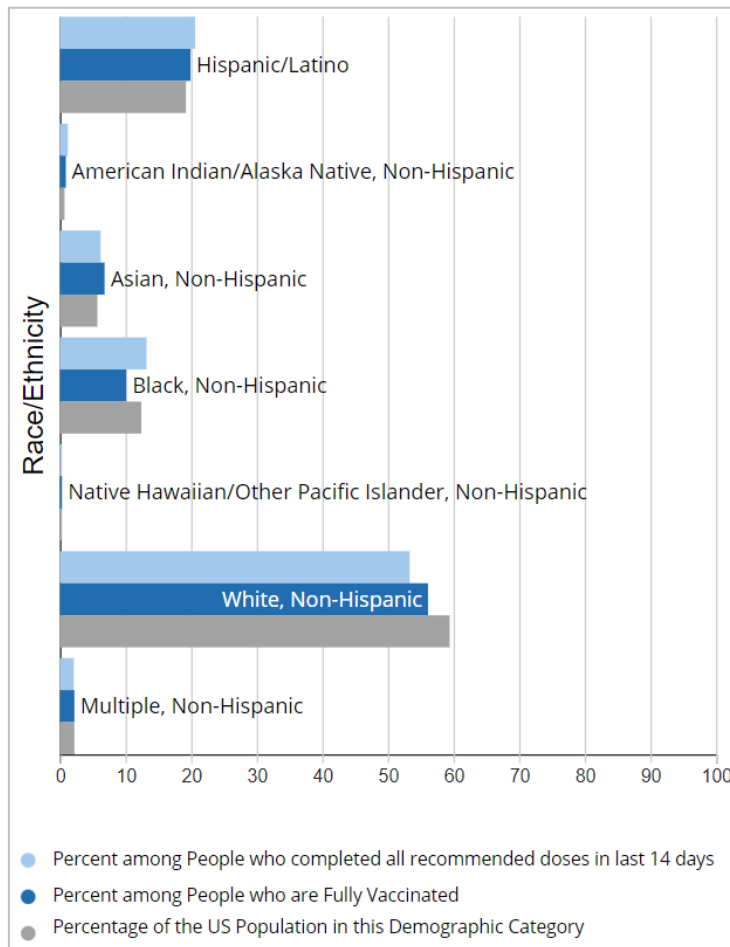
COVID-19 Weekly Death Rates Per 100,000 Population by Race/Ethnicity (U.S.)



- Differences vary by variant and peak
- Black populations had the highest rates at the start of the pandemic
- AI/AN populations were hit hardest by winter 2020-21
- Hispanic populations had highest death rates winter 2021-22

Source: [CDC COVID Data Tracker: Trends in Cases and Deaths by Race/Ethnicity, Age, and Sex](#)

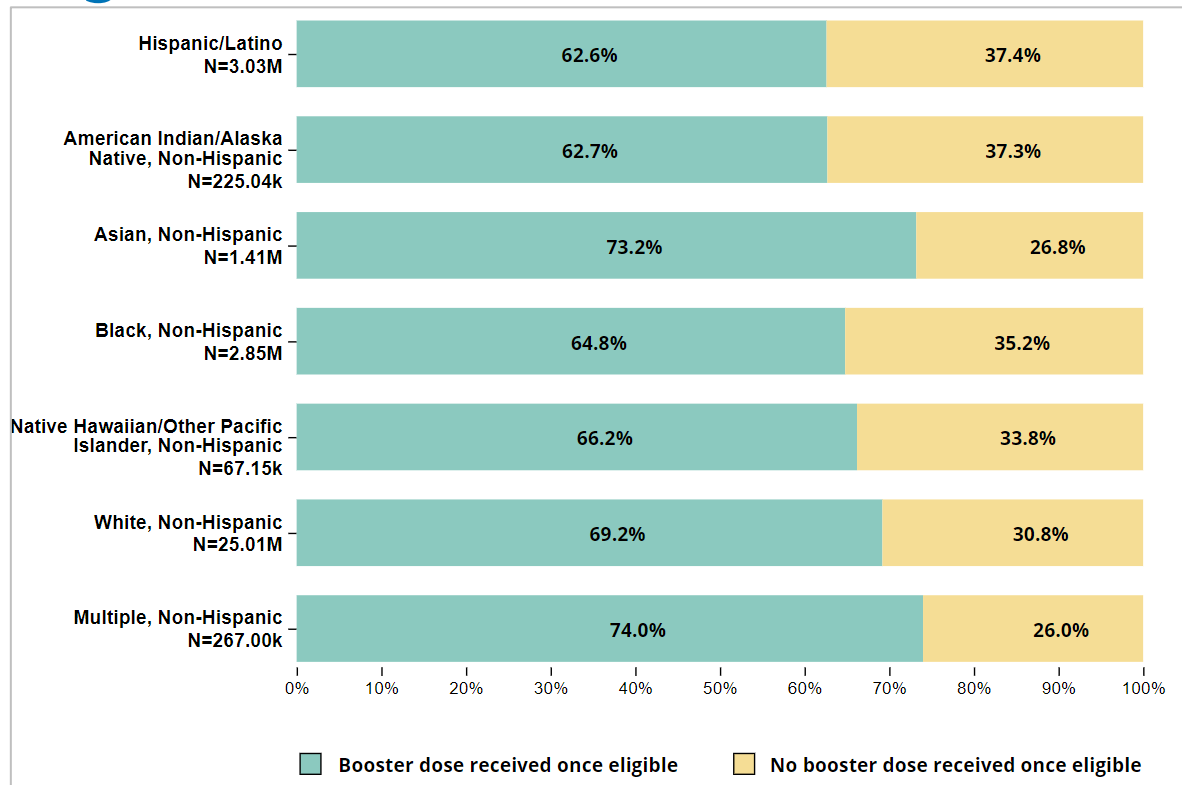
Proportion of Population by Race/Ethnicity



- Hispanic/Latino and Asian persons account for a higher proportion among persons fully vaccinated than of the total population
- Greatest opportunity for improving vaccination rates is among White and Black populations

Source: [CDC COVID Data Tracker: Vaccination Demographics](#),
(data as of 4/27/22)

Booster Rates Among Eligible Persons Aged 65+ in the U.S.

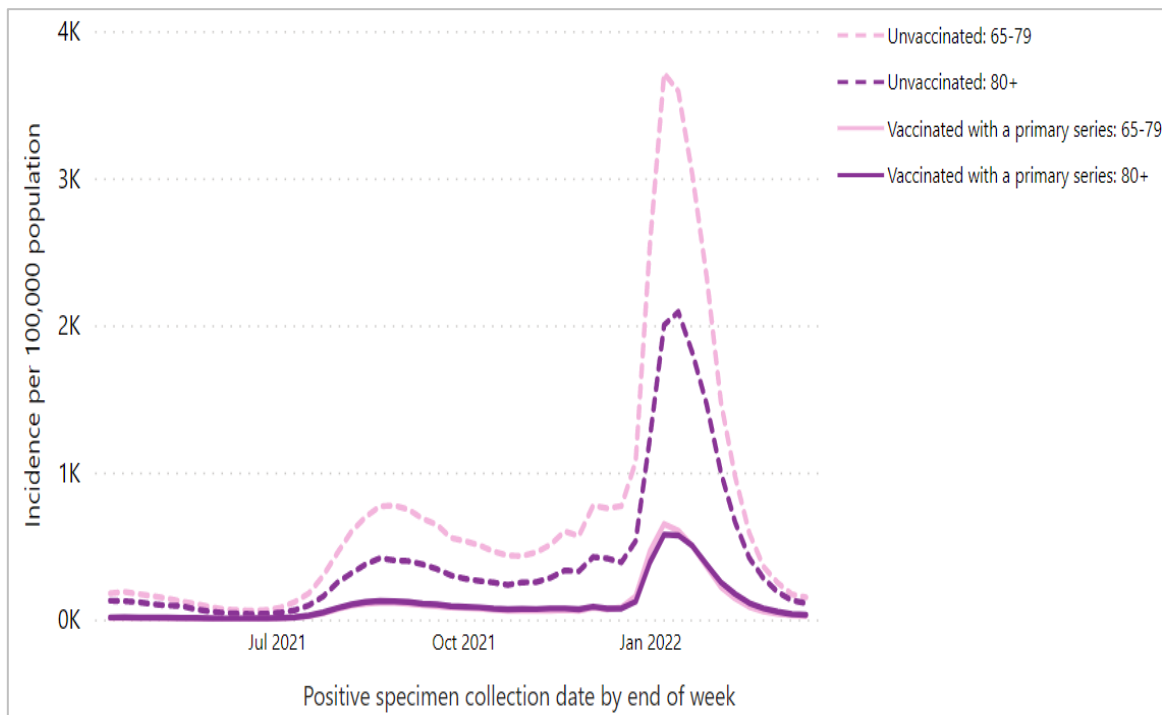


Among those eligible for the booster, the greatest opportunity exists for the following groups:

- Hispanic/Latino (37.4% not boosted)
- American Indian/Alaska Native (37.3% not boosted)
- Black, Non-Hispanic (35.2% not boosted)

Source: [CDC COVID Data Tracker: Vaccination Demographics](#)
(as of 4/27/22)

Rate of Death 65+ by Vaccine Status



Saturday, March 19, 2022

Vaccination status and Age Rate

Unvaccinated: 65-79	151.01
Unvaccinated: 80+	110.99
Fully Vaccinated: 65-79	25.36
Fully Vaccinated: 80+	31.78

What Happened December 15, 2020? Your Vaccination Work Began...

December 11, 2020: FDA issues
Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for
Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine.

December 18, 2020: FDA issues
Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for
Moderna COVID-19 vaccine.

February 27, 2021: FDA issues Emergency
Use Authorization (EUA) for Janssen
(Johnson & Johnson) COVID-19 vaccine.

August/September 2021: Third
dose/boosters approved.



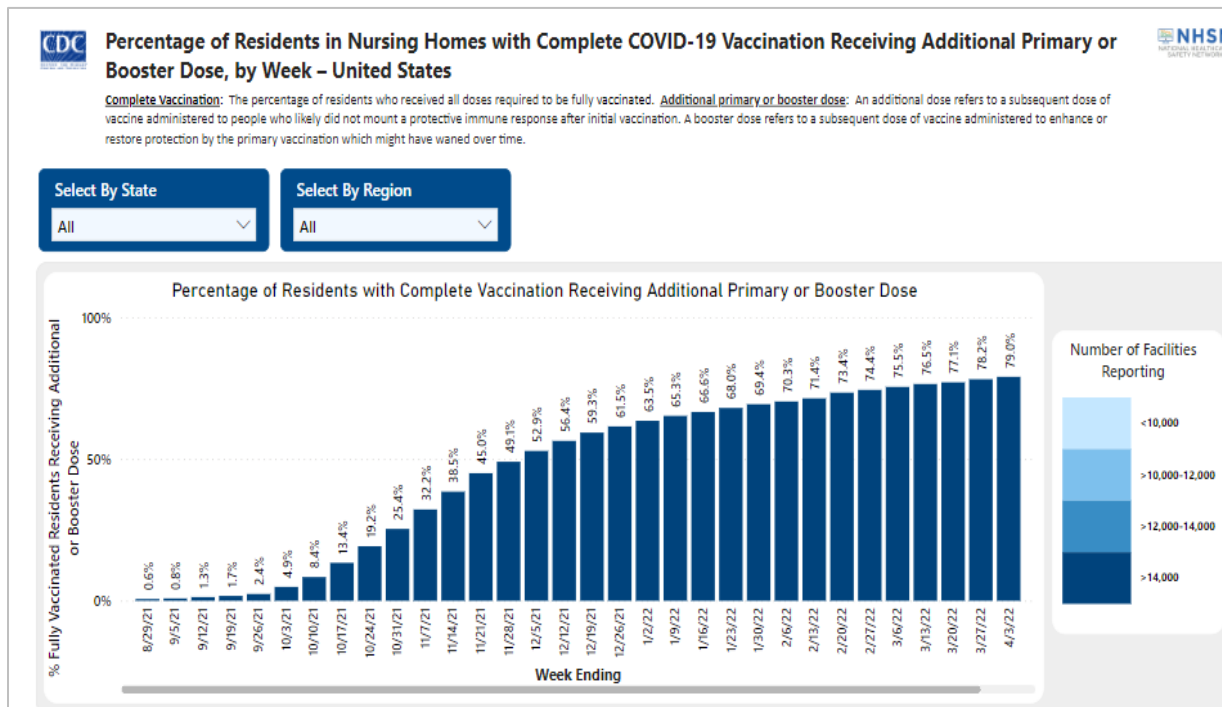
The first COVID-19
vaccination given in the
U.S. was prioritized to 21
million health care
workers and 3 million
mostly elderly people
living in long-term care
facilities

Treatment Plans for COVID-19 Improved and Developed

- Vaccinations
- Monoclonal antibodies, depending on the variant, these are not the same as convalescent plasma used early on, but are made in a lab and used for cancer treatments, COVID-19 treatments, some autoimmune diseases
- Remdesivir – an oral antiviral
- Medical treatments such as ventilator support, oxygen, etc.
- Oral antivirals under EUA: [Pfizer's Paxlovid](#) and [Merck's molnupiravir](#)



NH Reporting: Average 79% Residents



Where We Are Now in the U.S.

- Over 1.3 million people live in 15,600 nursing homes, a somewhat fluid population due to transfers, discharges and deaths
- Given the in-and-out nature, over 3 million COVID-19 vaccinations have been given to residents (not including staff)
- Deaths of residents of American nursing homes due to COVID-19 are at their lowest



**Support
frontline staff by
celebrating this
work!**

Where We Have Been: Past Webinars

Turnkey Solutions for Vaccinations

Boosting Confidence

Hit the Easy Button: Co-Administration of Vaccines

Hitting the Mark: Correct I.M. Administration

Frontline Staff: Supporting Vital Caregivers

COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic Best Practices Planning for Success: Lesson Learned from the Frontline

Aligning Resident COVID-19 Vaccine and Boosters with QAPI

We Can Boost the Boosters: What You Need to Know About COVID-19 Vaccines and Boosters

Rebuilding Trust, Partnering for Improved Outcomes

Highlighting Best Practice: St. Louis Roundtable Platform Optimizes Coordination Across Care Settings

COVID-19 Booster Vaccines: Using Data and Science to Guide Messaging

Including COVID-19 Vaccination Boosters in Your Discharge Planning Process

Pandemic Prepared: Partnering With Pharmacists

Back to the Future: Living Safely in the Time of COVID-19

Visit the [HQIN Resource Center](#) and filter by **Topics** (select COVID-19 and Webinar) and **Settings** (select Nursing Homes) to access previous Weekly Dose Office Hours slides and recordings

Where We Are Going: Simple Strategies Stand-Up

Make the most of 30 minutes! HQIN's Simple Strategies Stand-Up brings you best practices and proven processes to tackle timely issues in your nursing home.

This live monthly webinar series will feature a 20-minute briefing on the session's topic before launching into an open forum for presenters and attendees to share what's working, along with questions and comments.

Watch for more information and registration links in the *Weekly Dose* newsletter.

Polling Question 1

What is top of mind for you today?

- A. Safety around COVID-19
- B. Regulatory issues
- C. Staff retention
- D. Staff hiring
- E. Vaccination compliance
- F. What's for dinner?




Mini Review



Let's touch on some ideas we talked about over the past three months.

Many Great Resources for You



AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY **AHRQ**

Intramuscular Injections

Best Practices for Safe Vaccine Administration in Nursing Homes

When vaccinating nursing home residents, proper intramuscular (IM) administration is important to make sure the vaccine does its job and to avoid shoulder injury related to vaccine administration (SIRVA). Even experienced vaccinators can benefit from a periodic review of best practices for giving IM injections. This ensures that shots are prepared, given, and disposed of properly. Those who vaccinate nursing home residents must also acknowledge special considerations for older adults, such as muscle wasting, involuntary movement, and confusion. The following best practices align with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) vaccine administration guidance.

Always follow the "[Rights of Medication Administration](#)," which include the:

- Right resident
- Right vaccine and diluent (when applicable)
- Right time
- Right dosage
- Right route
- Right site
- Right documentation

Special Considerations for Vaccinating Residents with Cognitive and Emotional Challenges¹:

- Plan to spend more time with residents either before, during, or after vaccination to offer emotional support and the most positive experience.
- Choose a familiar and trusted person to explain the vaccine.
- Consider the time of day for talking about and giving vaccines to residents with dementia. They may experience sundowning in the late afternoon or early evening, which can cause confusion, emotional difficulties, and anxiety.
- Use a comforting and familiar space for vaccinations and testing.
- Understand that tone of voice, body posture, quick movements, noise, change in routines, and unfamiliar surroundings can cause challenging behaviors in residents with cognitive and emotional difficulties.

At work, it's evident there is still a fear of needles. That is the only reaction at our vaccine clinics that I saw – someone getting faint, jittery right after.

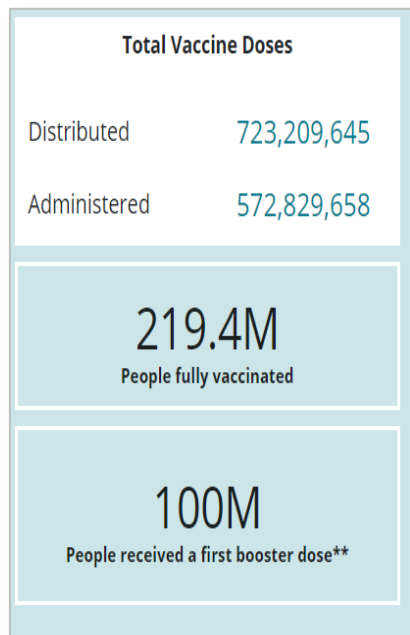
So we learned, don't let someone just get up and quickly walk away. Talk to them, delay them for a few seconds to make sure they are fine.

- Weekly Dose Office Hours attendee

[Intramuscular Injections – Best Practices for Safe Vaccine Administration in Nursing Homes \(ahrq.gov\)](#)

Then and Now

Since the Weekly Dose Office Hours featuring booster myths (held 2/2/22) until now, 8.9 million people have been vaccinated and 15.7 million received a booster.



Everyone likely knows someone who chose the vaccine

Performance Improvement Opportunities & COVID-19

- **COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Uptake**
- Vaccine Clinic Structure and Implementation
- Education for Staff/Residents Related to COVID-19 Vaccines and Boosters
- Surveillance and Documentation of COVID-19

Many tools and examples were discussed to capture your work

"Our survey only took two days because we had everything ready for her so quickly."

Overcoming Vaccine Access Challenges

Planning for Success: Partnering With the Community

- ✓ Identify vaccine activities scheduled in the community
 - Day programs, senior centers, faith-based programs
 - Dialysis centers
 - Local health department
 - Local pharmacies
 - Mental health and counseling programs
 - Rural hospital and/or physician offices

***This works for current
residents and those
you are discharging!***

Vaccinations, Not Just COVID Vaccines, Reduce Illness and Readmissions

Vaccines recommended for residents of nursing facilities include:


- Influenza
- Pneumococcal
- Tetanus: every 10 years with Tdap
- Shingles

World Immunization Week 2022

Dates: April 24-30, 2022
Theme: Long Life for All, #Vaccines4Life

CDC joins partners in honoring our public and community health workers for their tireless efforts to advance the goal of a *Long Life for All*, this year's World Immunization Week (WIW) theme.

25+ Vaccine-Preventable Diseases
CDC engages globally to support the development and implementation of vaccination strategies and programs that can prevent more than 25 vaccine-preventable diseases (VPD), as well as build capacity to detect, mitigate, and respond to pandemic threats.



The graphic for World Immunization Week 2022 features a central red circle with the text "#Vaccines4Life Long Life for All" and "2022". Surrounding this central circle are six hexagonal images, each representing a different group: Children, Teenagers, Adults, Special Populations, Mothers & Infants, and a group of people.

Resident and Family Engagement

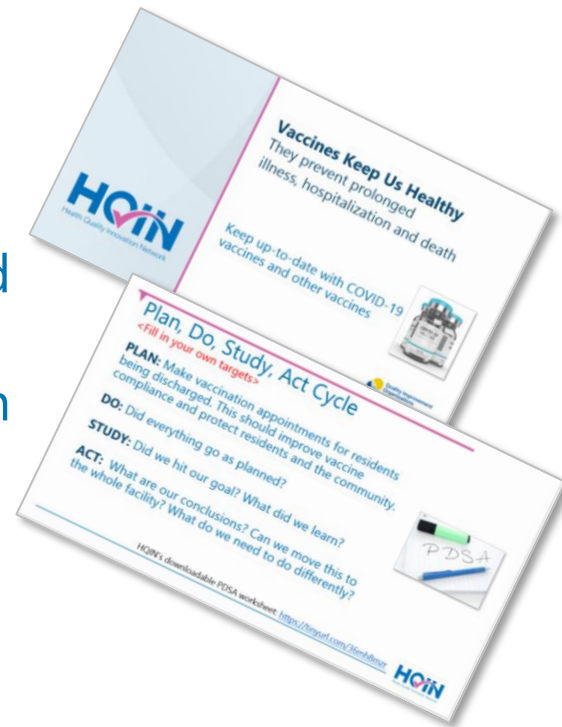
- Is an important component of person-centered care
- Creates an environment in which every team member, including the resident and their family, can work as partners to improve health care quality and safety
- Recognizes residents and family as valuable members of the health care team



**Thank you and your staff for rebuilding
trust after prolonged closures**

Resources Coming Soon

- Discharge Planning Bulletin Board Bundle
- Safe Visitation Handout for Visitors
- Pandemic Safety Handout for Visitors
- How to Support a Family Council Bulletin Board Bundle
- Supporting and Building our Best Team Bulletin Board Bundle



New Resources:

- COVID-19 Booster Shots Flyer
- Using Data and Science Bulletin Board Bundle

Polling Question 2

Have you, especially new staff, administrators, DONs and IPs:

- A. Given yourself a high five lately?
- B. Given your work buddy a pat on the back?



Checklist of Best Practices to Keep COVID-19 Out of Nursing Homes

This checklist supplements healthcare agency (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, etc.) guidelines to keep residents, staff and visitors safe in nursing homes.

Follow CDC/CMS Guidelines for Visitation

- ☐ Create and follow a written visitation plan based on CMS visitation guidance.
- ☐ Display culturally appropriate visitation signage at the facility's entrance explaining the guidance for visitation, including source control, based on CMS guidelines for COVID-19.
- ☐ Date all posted signage.
- ☐ Laminate signage for easier cleaning.
- ☐ Put hand hygiene products in convenient places throughout the facility, including entrances.
- ☐ Consistently screen staff and visitors at entrances.
- ☐ Give unmasked visitors a surgical or cloth mask.

Follow CDC/CMS Guidelines for Resident Placement & Transfers

- ☐ Maintain a written cohorting plan for new admissions and for residents who have tested positive for COVID-19, who are suspected to have COVID-19, or who have been in close contact with someone that has COVID-19.
- ☐ Maintain a written staffing plan for the COVID-19 care unit and update the plan as needed. As a best practice, nursing home staff assigned to the COVID-19 care unit should not work on any other units during the same shift.
- ☐ Document and communicate residents suspected and confirmed COVID-19 and vaccination status when transferring or discharging from the nursing home to another healthcare provider.

Follow CDC/CMS Guidelines for COVID-19 Screening & Testing

- ☐ Test residents according to CMS guidelines.
- ☐ Test staff according to CMS guidelines.
- ☐ Document testing completion and the results of each resident and staff test.
- ☐ Keep screening records.
- ☐ Schedule and perform testing and screening quality assurance checks routinely.

Communicate Infections & Outbreaks

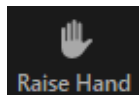
- ☐ Communicate information about infections and outbreaks according to CMS guidelines.
- ☐ Share information about infections and outbreaks to residents and their family members or caregivers through routine phone calls, routine emails, and information posted on the facility website where applicable.
- ☐ Display culturally appropriate signage about outbreak status at the facility's entrance.



Checklist of Best Practices to
Keep COVID-19 Out of Nursing
Homes | HQIN



Questions? Comments? Share What is Working or What is Difficult for Your Team!



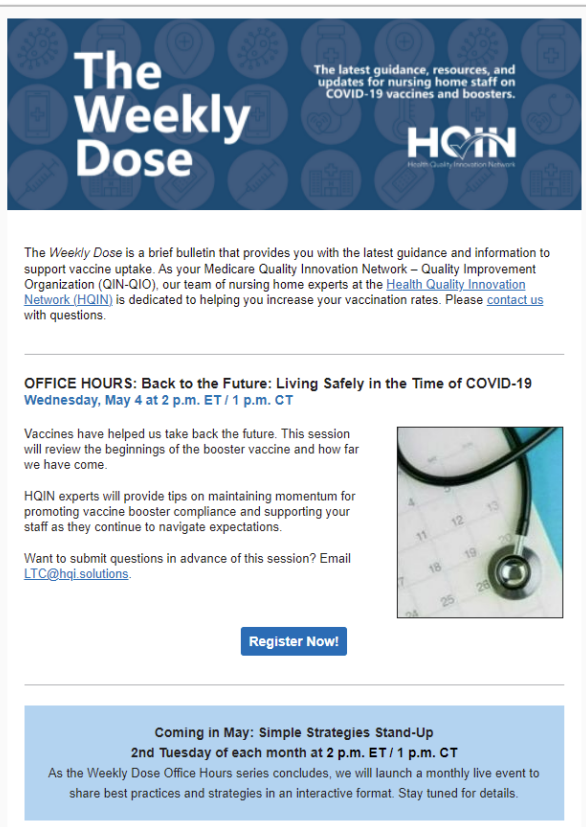
Raise your hand to verbally ask a question



Type a question by clicking the **Q&A** icon

*Don't hesitate to ask a question after the webinar is over.
Email **LTC@hqi.solutions** or your HQIN Quality Improvement Advisor.*

Did YOU Get Your Weekly Dose?



The Weekly Dose

The latest guidance, resources, and updates for nursing home staff on COVID-19 vaccines and boosters.

HQIN
Health Quality Innovation Network

The *Weekly Dose* is a brief bulletin that provides you with the latest guidance and information to support vaccine uptake. As your Medicare Quality Innovation Network – Quality Improvement Organization (QIN-QIO), our team of nursing home experts at the [Health Quality Innovation Network \(HQIN\)](#) is dedicated to helping you increase your vaccination rates. Please [contact us](#) with questions.

OFFICE HOURS: Back to the Future: Living Safely in the Time of COVID-19
Wednesday, May 4 at 2 p.m. ET / 1 p.m. CT

Vaccines have helped us take back the future. This session will review the beginnings of the booster vaccine and how far we have come.

HQIN experts will provide tips on maintaining momentum for promoting vaccine booster compliance and supporting your staff as they continue to navigate expectations.

Want to submit questions in advance of this session? Email LTC@hqin.solutions.

Register Now!

Coming in May: Simple Strategies Stand-Up
2nd Tuesday of each month at 2 p.m. ET / 1 p.m. CT

As the *Weekly Dose* Office Hours series concludes, we will launch a monthly live event to share best practices and strategies in an interactive format. Stay tuned for details.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has provided options for long-term care administrators and managers to consider when [coordinating access to COVID-19 vaccines](#) for residents and staff.

Learn about the state and local immunization programs available in your area that can assist you with vaccine administration in the community or on-site.

[Visit CDC's COVID-19 Access in LTC Setting Webpage](#)

Weekly Dose Office Hours: Communication Bites for Staff

Weekly text or email messaging:

We have made a lot of progress with vaccinating our residents!

Building On Your Resources

HQIN Resources

- [Nursing Home COVID-19 Vaccination Booster Action Plan and Resources](#)
- [Vaccine Administration Process Guide](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccination & Booster Tracking Tool](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Educational Resources for Long Term Care Facilities](#)
- [Simple Strategies for Encouraging Staff to Receive the Influenza Vaccine](#)
- [COVID-19: Best Practices for Patient Communication](#)
- [Staff Mental Health Wellbeing Action Plan Template](#)
- [Simple Strategies – Staff Mental Health](#)
- [Staff Mental Health and Wellbeing Resources](#)
- [Pause for Prevention Module 8: Caring for Yourself During an Infectious Disease Outbreak or Pandemic](#)
- [Infection Prevention Measures and Community Transmission Rates](#)



Additional Resources

- [V-safe Poster](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Shots](#)
- [Booster Clinics Pharmacy Partnerships](#)
- [ACIP Vaccine Recommendations and Guidelines](#)
- [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Approved or Authorized in the United States](#)
- [Summary Document for Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Authorized or Approved in the United States](#)
- [Vaccinations and Older Adults | National Institute on Aging \(nih.gov\)](#)
- [Well-Being Concepts | HRQOL | CDC](#)



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call 877.731.4746 or visit www.hqin.org

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From HQIN:

To all essential care giving teams
supporting residents and families,

Thank you for attending