



# **Covid-19 Flash Update**

**Maryland Department of Health  
Maryland Primary Care Program  
Program Management Office**

18 January 2021

- So even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream.

It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream. I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.

## Martin Luther King Jr. Day



# COVID-19 Daily Report - Maryland Department of Health

Data reported as of 1/18/2021 for data through 1/17/2021

**328,214**

confirmed cases

**+25,735**

tests reported

**6,480,786**

cumulative tests

**29,842**

confirmed cases hospitalized\*\*\*

**6,423**

confirmed deaths

**+1,769**

cases reported\*

**8.78%**

daily positivity

**8.22%**

7-day avg. positivity\*\*

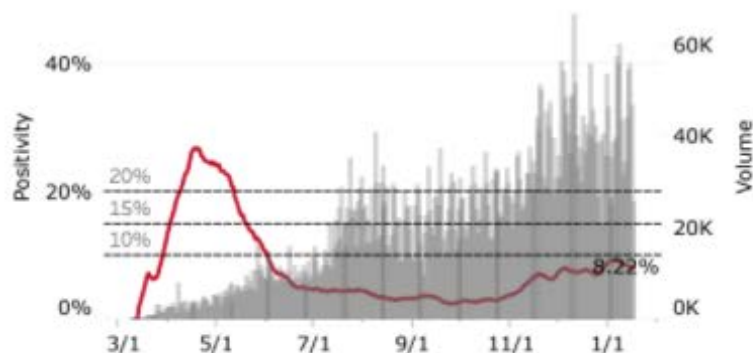
**211**

newly identified hospitalizations

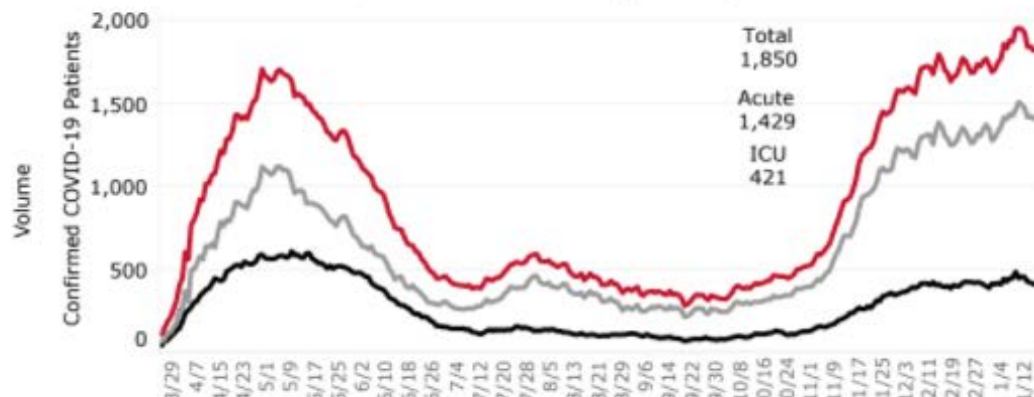
**+29**

deaths reported

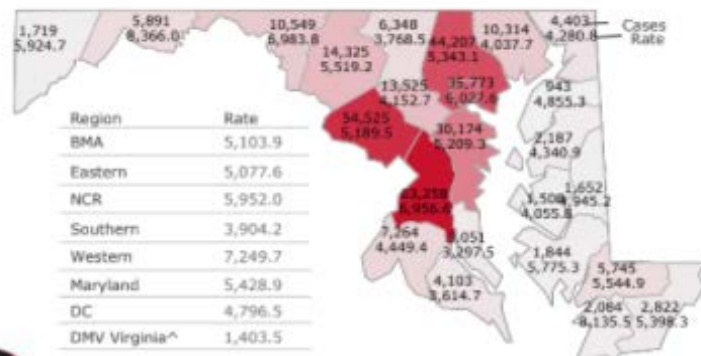
7-Day Avg. Percent Positive Testing\*\* and Total Testing Volume



Statewide Acute/ICU Beds Occupied by COVID Patients



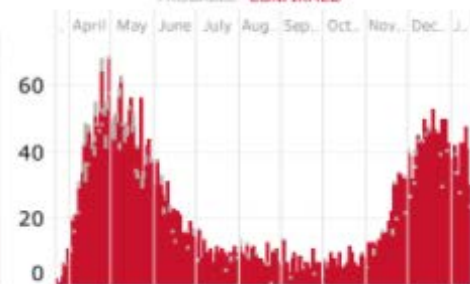
Cases and Rates by County of Residence



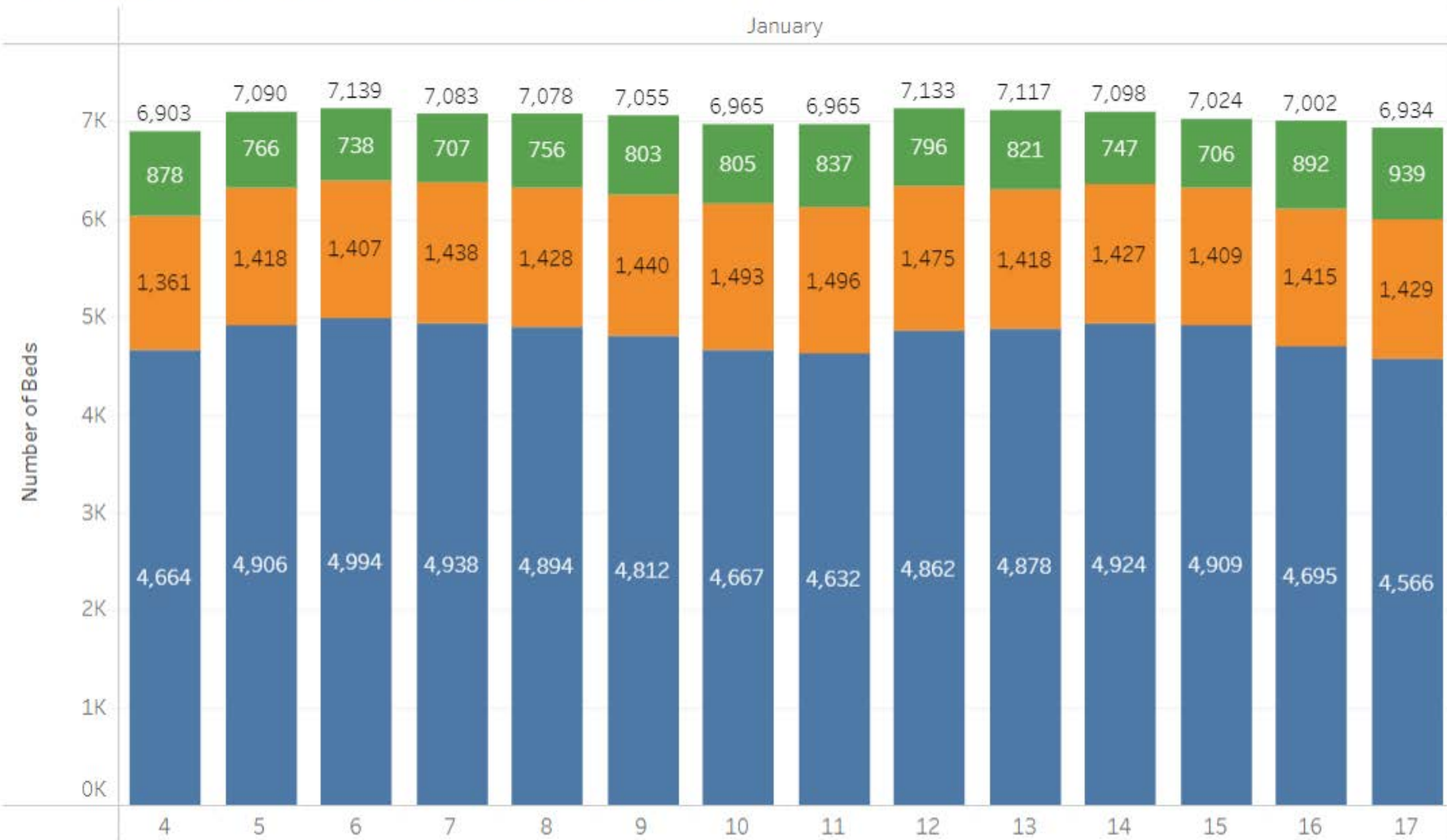
Daily Cases by Specimen Collection Date



Daily Deaths



# Occupied Staffed - Adult Acute Care



- Available Beds
- Hospitalized Confirmed COVID Patients
- Beds Occupied Non-COVID

# Important Items This Week

---

- ❖ Anticipate more cases, hospitalization and deaths in weeks to come
- ❖ Hospitals near capacity
- ❖ Vaccines in Phase 1a and 1b; 1c next week but supply is short
- ❖ Opportunity to reduce hospitalization using monoclonal antibodies
- ❖ Important to continue testing to identify candidates for mAbs
- ❖ Contact tracing is being overwhelmed- inform positive patients to quarantine
- ❖ Continue using COVID-19-specific workflows to mitigate virus spread
- ❖ Health equity
- ❖ Vaccine and mAb hesitancy
- ❖ Volunteer for [Maryland Medical Reserve](#)

# Vaccines- Current

---

- ❖ Pfizer

- mRNA

- ❖ Moderna

- mRNA

- ❖ Johnson and Johnson to follow (February)

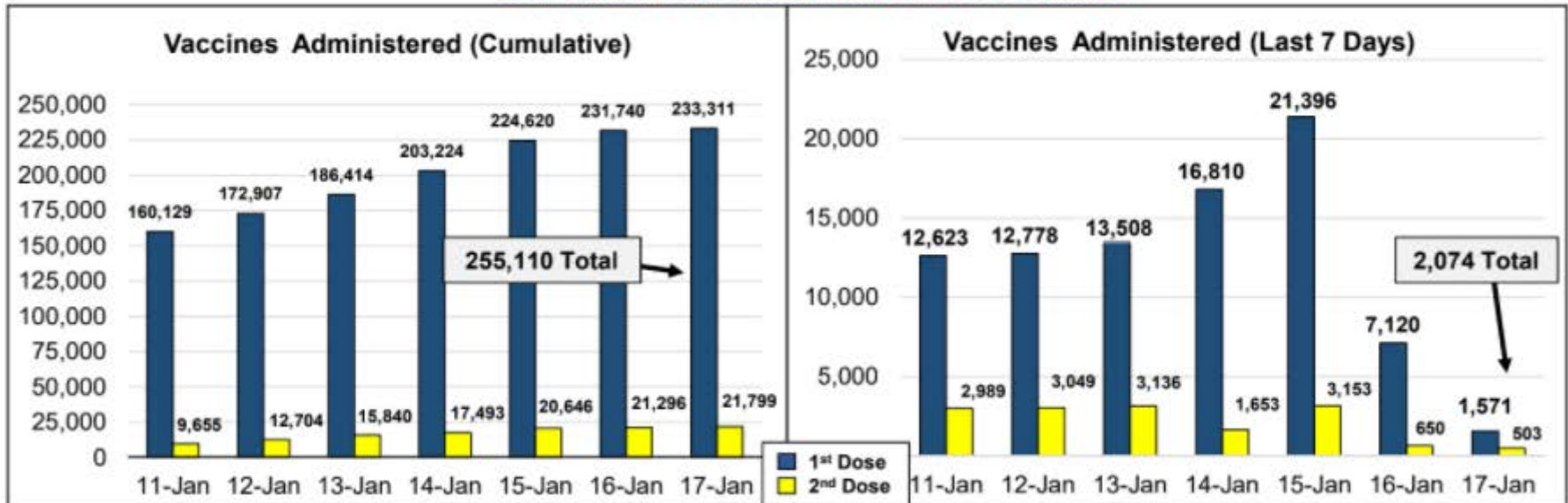
- Viral vector



# COVID Vaccine Summary

NUMBERS ARE PRELIMINARY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

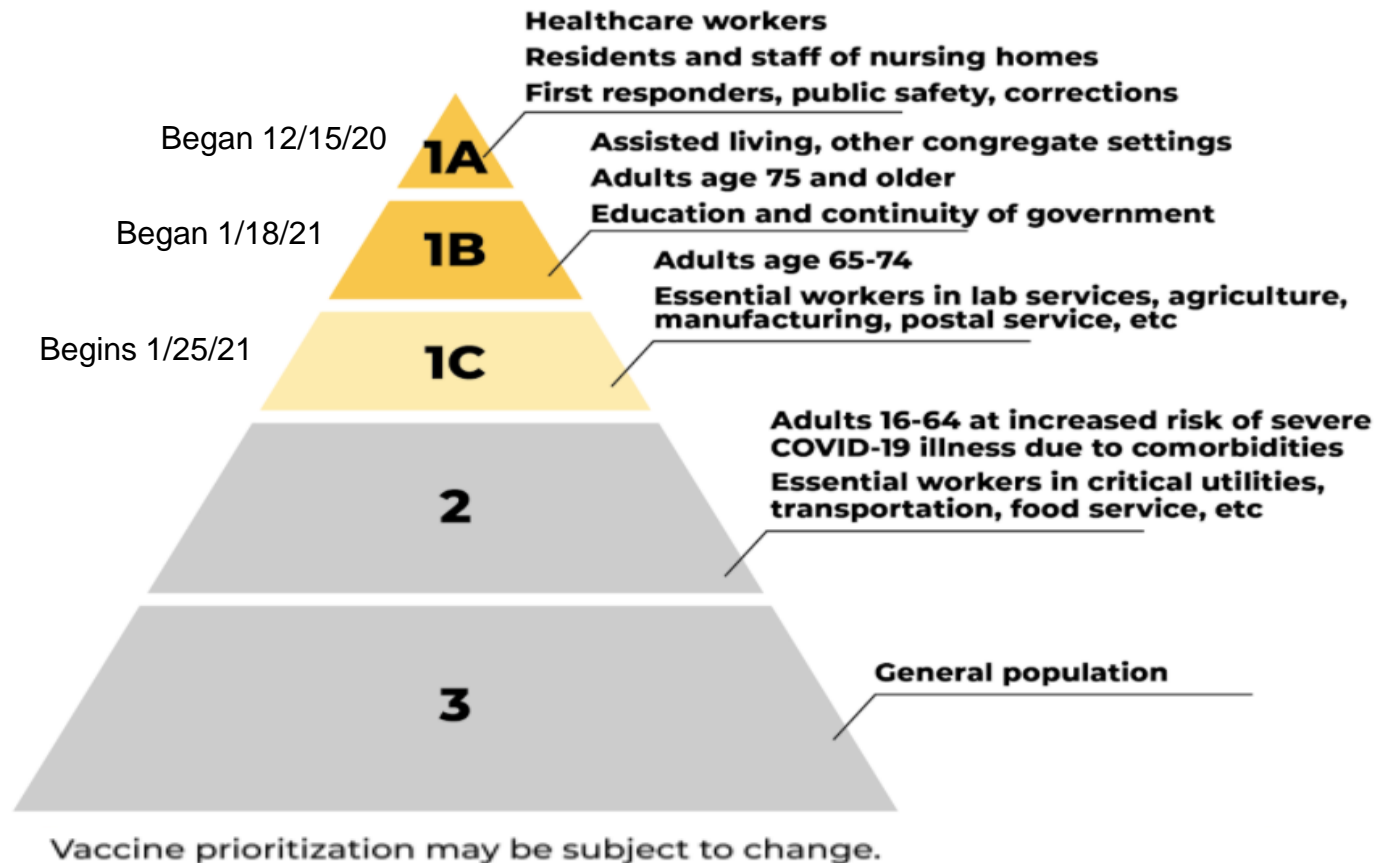
Current as of: 01/18/2021



## Administrations as Percentage of Units Delivered

Provider	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose					2 <sup>nd</sup> Dose				Combined 1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup> Doses			
	Num.	Alloc.	Deliv.	Admin	Admin/Deliv. %	Alloc.	Deliv.	Admin	Admin/Deliv. %	Alloc.	Deliv.	Admin	Admin/Deliv. %
Hospitals	56	186,675	186,675	108,792	58.3%	133,525	133,525	19,554	14.6%	320,200	320,200	128,346	40.1%
Local Health Deps.	24	135,025	135,025	84,044	62.2%	2,400	2,400	29	1.2%	137,425	137,425	84,073	61.2%
Fed/CVS/Walgreens	88	73,125	73,125	26,056	35.6%	0	0	2,182	0.0%	73,125	73,125	28,238	38.6%
Other	103	20,650	18,650	14,417	69.8%	2,300	2,300	36	1.6%	22,950	20,950	14,453	69.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>415,475</b>	<b>413,475</b>	<b>233,309</b>	<b>56.2%</b>	<b>138,225</b>	<b>138,225</b>	<b>21,801</b>	<b>15.8%</b>	<b>553,700</b>	<b>551,700</b>	<b>255,110</b>	<b>46.2%</b>

# Priority Groups





Vaccination Phase

1B

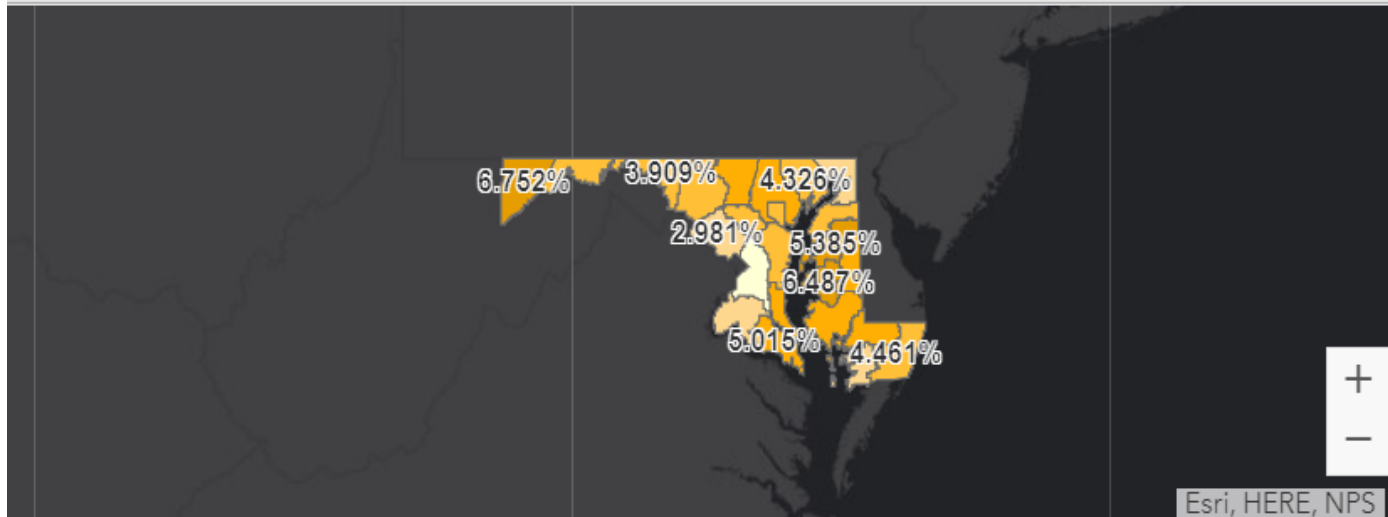
Vaccination Phase  
Description

Doses Distributed  
551,700

Doses Administered  
255,110

All Doses Administered

Vaccinations by Dose



#### Allegany

Count of Vaccinated Dose  
(First/Second) : 2,979 / 10  
Proportion of Population  
Vaccinated (First/Second):  
4.23% / 0.01%

#### Anne Arundel

Count of Vaccinated Dose  
(First/Second) : 19,347 / 1,508  
Proportion of Population  
Vaccinated (First/Second):  
3.34% / 0.26%

#### Baltimore

Count of Vaccinated Dose  
(First/Second) : 38,852 / 4,270  
Last update: a minute ago

# mRNA Vaccines - FDA Data and ACIP comments

---

- ❖ Safety
- ❖ Efficacy
- ❖ **Allergic reactions**
- ❖ Pregnancy and lactation
- ❖ Active Infections
- ❖ Post Vaccine signs and symptoms and isolation
- ❖ Use in immunocompromised
- ❖ Delayed doses
- ❖ Vaccines cannot be mixed

# About Monoclonal Antibodies

---

- ❖ Monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) directly neutralize the COVID-19 virus and are intended to prevent the progression of disease
- ❖ mAbs likely to be most beneficial if given to patients early in symptom progression
- ❖ Product delivered via single IV infusion administration
- ❖ Early evidence suggest promise of mAb products in **OUTPATIENT** settings to **REDUCE HOSPITALIZATION**

# Point-of-Care Rapid Antigen Tests to Identify Monoclonal Antibody Eligible Patients

---

- ❖ Tests provided to practices willing to test and refer symptomatic patients eligible for mAb therapy
- ❖ Interested practices should fill out this [Google Form](#) as soon as possible
  - After filling out the form, Maryland Department of Health staff will contact you with next steps
- ❖ More information is available [here](#)

# Monoclonal Antibodies Clinician Letter (Updated 12/16/20)

- ❖ Bamlanivimab and Regeneron monoclonal antibody EUAs
- ❖ Limited supplies- ~ 1500 doses/week
- ❖ **For ambulatory Covid positive at risk of hospitalization within 10 days on onset of symptoms**
- ❖ 7 infusion centers + SNFs open - more to follow
  - Baltimore Convention Center Field Hospital
  - Peninsula Regional- Tidal Health
  - Meritus Health
  - Adventist – Takoma Park
  - UPMC
  - Atlantic General
  - MedStar Southern Maryland –
  - SNFs

***Referrals are currently low. Refer your patients using [this referral form \(updated 12/16/20\)](#)***

# Patient Information and Workflows

---

- ❖ Reinforce scheduled visits
- ❖ Separate sick and well to the extent possible
- ❖ Avoid waiting room crowds
- ❖ Outdoors screening and testing as possible
- ❖ Tailor staff and resources to need
- ❖ Telehealth, including testing, when applicable
- ❖ Quarantine period for positive tests shortened to 10 days for asymptomatic and 7 days based on negative test (after 5 days)



# Five things you can do to serve you patients

---

**1. Identify all your high risk patients** —use the Covid Vulnerability Index (CVI) in CRISP, your EHR, and your intuition and do outreach and communication

➤ Advise patients to continue to use social distancing and wear masks

**2. Provide vulnerable patients with expanded care** through telemedicine and special accommodations if they need face-to-face care

**3. Offer testing for all patients, every visit – POC for those eligible for mAb therapy**

**4. Stay current, stay safe**—stay current by keeping up-to-date with CDC guidelines and case rates in your area. For up-to-date information, visit CDC, MDH, and MDPCP sites. Stay safe by taking all necessary infection control precautions when seeing patients

**5. Prepare for a vaccine** - address vaccine hesitancy with patients, enroll in ImmuNet and plan for administration

# Vaccine Provider Recruitment and Enrollment

---

Maryland healthcare providers interested in receiving Covid-19 vaccine will have to take two steps:

**1. Onboard with ImmuNet** to report vaccination data  
(enrollment form available [here](#))

- **EHR connected to ImmuNet** to report all vaccine doses administered (done through EHR vendor)
- *Reach out to your MDPCP practice coach if you do not know your current ImmuNet onboarding status*

**2. Register with ImmuNet as a vaccine provider** in order to receive and administer vaccine.

***Registration is open now. ImmuNet team to walk through the process following these slides***

# ImmuNet Registration Process

---

Cherry Angeles, Maryland Department of Health, Center for Immunization - ImmuNet

# ImmuNet registration for Covid Vaccine now open

---

- ❖ More information is available at [Quick Reference Guide: COVID-19 Vaccine Registration & Ordering](#)  
(steps beginning page 2 for Non-VFC; page 5 for VFC)
- ❖ Please register as soon as possible if your practice plans to order vaccines
- ❖ Registration completion does not mean the vaccine will immediately be available for ordering
  - You will be notified by the State when vaccines are available for ordering in ImmuNet
  - This will take time! Vaccine needs to be widely available before ordering is opened up more widely.
- ❖ This process is to become a Covid vaccinator for your patients. For vaccinating your staff, reach out to your Local Health Department

# Common registration issues

---

- ❖ **Check junk/spam mail:** If you do not receive email verification after registering, please check Junk/Spam inbox or email ImmuNet help desk
- ❖ **Medical license verification:** For the physician license field, it has be 8 characters. If you are typing something less than 8 for a physician, type a few zeros after the letter in the license number so that the character length of the license number is 8
- ❖ **Browser:** Chrome is the recommended browser for ImmuNet; keep only one tab open in Chrome during registration
- ❖ **VFC vs non-VFC:** Ensure you are completing the correct steps based on your VFC status. There are different steps for VFC and non-VFC sites.  
*(steps beginning page 2 for Non-VFC; page 5 for VFC)*

# Ensure you are not timed out

In order to not get timed out in the middle of the process:

- ❖ Review the entire form first and have the answers handy

OR

1. Expand all tabs
2. Right click to print the entire form
3. Hand write your answers on paper
4. Then, fill out the form on ImmuNet site

**Edit Non-VFC Profile**

**Non-VFC Profile**

Provider Pin: N1001

\*Organization Type

\*Provider Specialty / Sub Org

Community (non-FQHC/RHC)  
Warrant  
Refugee  
Occupational  
STD/HIV Clinic

Add >  
< Remove

Student

Initiating Organization: Amandas Testing Org A  
Initiating User: Amanda kitterman

**Delivery Contact Information**

**Provider Practice/Facility Information**

**Chief Medical Officer / Responsible Medical Provider**

**Chief Executive Officer / Chief Fiduciary**

**Additional Medical Provider Information**

**Practice Vaccine Supply Primary Contact Information**

**Practice Vaccine Supply Backup Contact Information**

**Vaccine Storage and Handling Information**

**Provider Population**

**COVID-19 Vaccine Information**

**COVID-19 Vaccine Primary Contact Information**

**COVID-19 Vaccine Backup Contact Information**

**Vaccine Agreement(s)**



# Quick Eligibility Screening Questionnaire

- ❖ Questionnaire gives you an idea of whether or not you are eligible. It does NOT register you as a Covid vaccinator.

## (1) Quick Eligibility Screening Questionnaire

All potential vaccinating organizations for COVID-19 vaccine should start with the COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility Questionnaire to gauge their eligibility and next steps. Click on the link for '**COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility Questionnaire**' found on the ImmuNet login page (<http://www.mdimmunet.org/>).



### COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility Questionnaire:

If your Organization would like to order the COVID-19 vaccine when it becomes available, please complete the [COVID-19 Eligibility Questionnaire](#).

The following information is asked in the questionnaire:

- If your organization administers vaccines
- Organization legal name and address
- Organization report-to-ImmuNet status
- Populations served, and
- Organization contact information

After clicking the '**Submit**' button, you will get a message regarding your eligibility and next steps.

Note: If you encounter an error submitting the questionnaire, it is likely your answers have been recorded. Eligible providers can sign directly in to ImmuNet and complete the profile registration (go to the next step of this guide).

# How to know when you are finished

www.mdimmunet.org says

Profile is saved. If an Email address was updated, validations have been automatically sent. Once all email addresses are confirmed the profile will be sent to the State for approval and the organization will be eligible to order COVID-19 vaccines.

OK

## ImmuNet COVID-19 Non VFC Profile - Email Address Verification

mdh.izinfo@maryland.gov

to me ▼

Dear user,

ImmuNet has confirmed all email addresses in the Non VFC Profile. Thank You.

Immunet Help Desk

[Help Desk Information](#)

# ImmuNet Help Desk

---

- ❖ Phone lines are very busy
- ❖ The best way to reach us is [mdh.mdimmUNET@maryland.gov](mailto:mdh.mdimmUNET@maryland.gov)

# Discussion and Q/A

---

## ❖ ImmUNET Covid Registration Demonstration

# Appendix

---

## Resources and Links

# Maryland Covid-19 Vaccination Plan

---

- ❖ Maryland has developed a Covid-19 vaccination plan to vaccinate all Marylanders interested in receiving vaccine
- ❖ Plan was released on Tuesday, October 20, 2020
- ❖ This is a working plan and subject to change as new information is received and the Covid-19 pandemic continues to evolve
- ❖ Copy of the plan can be found here:  
[https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/Documents/10.19.2020\\_Maryland\\_Covid-19\\_Vaccination\\_Plan\\_CDCwm.pdf](https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/Documents/10.19.2020_Maryland_Covid-19_Vaccination_Plan_CDCwm.pdf)



# Current Vaccines



<b><i>Schedule</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two dose regimen</li> <li>• 17-21 days apart (can extend)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two dose regimen</li> <li>• 28 days apart (can extend)</li> </ul>
<b><i>Indications</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16 years and older</li> <li>• Pregnant and lactating can be considered</li> <li>• Caution with those with h/o anaphylaxis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 18 years and older</li> <li>• Pregnant and lactating can be considered</li> <li>• Caution with those with h/o anaphylaxis</li> </ul>
<b><i>Administration and Distribution</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ultracold storage, 5 days in refrigeration</li> <li>• 985 doses per box</li> <li>• 15 and 30 minute observation periods</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to 30 days in refrigerator</li> <li>• 100 doses per box</li> <li>• 15 and 30 minute observation periods</li> </ul>

# Phased Approach

	Phase 1	Phase 2
<b><i>Vaccine availability</i></b>	Limited	Widespread
<b><i>Approach</i></b>	Targeted	Universal
<b><i>Vaccine available to:</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Frontline healthcare workers</li> <li>• Other essential workers</li> <li>• Those at highest risk of developing complications from Covid-19 (ACIP high risk conditions)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General public</li> </ul>
<b><i>Vaccine distribution by:</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local health departments</li> <li>• Hospitals</li> <li>• Vaccination clinics (through LHDs)</li> <li>• Essential employer work sites</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local health departments</li> <li>• Hospitals</li> <li>• Pharmacies</li> <li>• Primary care practices</li> <li>• Urgent care centers</li> <li>• School vaccination clinics</li> </ul>

# Allergy considerations for mRNA vaccines - information from [ACIP meeting](#)

---

## Contraindications to vaccination

- Prescribing information for both Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines:
  - Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) to **any component of the vaccine** is a contraindication to vaccination
  - Appropriate medical treatment used to manage immediate allergic reactions must be immediately available in the event an acute anaphylactic reaction occurs following administration of the vaccine

## Key messages

### Preparing for the potential management of anaphylaxis at COVID-19 vaccination sites

Early recognition of  
anaphylaxis symptoms



Prompt treatment with  
epinephrine



Activate emergency  
medical services



# Covid-19 Vaccines/Immunization Information

---

- ❖ [Maryland Covid-19 Vaccination Plan](#)
- ❖ [New York Times Coronavirus Vaccine Tracker](#)
- ❖ ImmuNet Information
  - [ImmuNet enrollment form](#)
  - [ImmuNet helpdesk contact information](#)
  - [Guidance for practices how about reporting to ImmuNet](#)
  - [Technical specifications for the EHR interface with ImmuNet](#)
  - [ImmuNet log-in information portal](#)
- ❖ [Summary of vaccines under development](#)

# Covid-19 Testing Information

---

- ❖ [Maryland Department of Health testing announcements and accessibility information and resources](#)
- ❖ [CDC Covid-19 testing overview](#)
- ❖ [MDPCP Roadmap to Recovery – Covid-19 testing guidelines](#)
- ❖ [Maryland Department of Health guidance regarding point of Care rapid antigen Covid testing](#)
- ❖ [myLAB Box - Covid-19 testing program for Maryland clinicians](#)
- ❖ [FDA letter to clinical laboratory staff and health care providers about the potential for false positive results with rapid antigen tests for Covid-19](#)

# Primary Care Involvement

---

- ❖ Continue to encourage and vaccinate your patients with the flu shot
- ❖ Ensure that you are onboarded (connected) with ImmuNet to report vaccinations administered
- ❖ Once available, register to become a Covid vaccine provider
- ❖ Use the CVI tool to begin to identify your patients that are at a higher risk for Covid

# Covid-19 mAb Treatment Criteria

## ❖ Patient Criteria

- Have BMI  $\geq 35$
- Have chronic kidney disease
- Have diabetes
- Are currently receiving immunosuppressive treatment
- Are  $\geq 65$  years old
- Are  $\geq 55$  years old and have
  - ✓ Cardiovascular disease, or
  - ✓ Hypertension, or
  - ✓ Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease/other chronic respiratory disease
- Are 12 – 17 years old AND have
  - ✓ BMI  $\geq 85^{\text{th}}$  percentile for their age and gender based on CDC growth charts, or
  - ✓ Sickle cell disease, or
  - ✓ Congenital or acquired heart disease, or
  - ✓ Neurodevelopmental disorders, or
  - ✓ A medical-related technological dependence, or
  - ✓ Asthma

# Vaccine Resources

---

- ❖ [CDC Covid-19 Vaccination Communication Toolkit](#) - ready made materials, how to build vaccine confidence, social media messages
- ❖ [New York Times Vaccine Tracker](#) - information on every Covid vaccine in development
- ❖ [New York Times Vaccine Distribution Tracker](#) – information on the distribution of Covid vaccines in the United States
- ❖ [MDH Covidlink Vaccine Page](#) - information on vaccine priority groups in Maryland
- ❖ [CDC Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit](#)
- ❖ [Project ECHO Webinar](#) - webinar on vaccines and Long Term Care Facilities, relevant for primary care



# Scheduling In-Office Appointments

---

- ❖ Patient calls in for an appointment
  - Reception screens patient on the phone using the [pre-visit screening template](#)
  - Schedule in-office visits for different groups: At-risk and vulnerable patients on certain days, healthier patients on other days
  - Schedule telehealth and non-office-based care for other patients including follow-ups and patients uncomfortable with office visits
- ❖ Check In
  - Practice remote check in and limited front-desk contact
  - Consider using a triage zone outside of office or main area;
  - Or use a barrier at the front desk
  - Design your office to accommodate patients who come in specifically for Covid testing and triage, separate from patients who arrive for non-Covid related and elective procedures
    - ✓ Ensure patients and staff do not cross between Covid and non-Covid areas
    - ✓ Set aside a specific area for patients who come in for testing to wait and be triaged

# Scheduling In-Office Appointments

---

- ❖ Checking out
  - Practice remote check out, limit front desk exposure;
  - Or use a barrier at the front desk
- ❖ If patient is paying co-pays, etc., set up credit card reader outside of the barrier
- ❖ Other workflow resources
  - [Care management workflows](#)
  - [BMJ telemedicine workflow graphics](#)
  - [CDC flowchart to identify and assess 2019 novel Coronavirus](#)
  - [CDC telephone evaluation flow chart for flu](#)
  - [CDC guidance for potential Covid-19 exposure associated with international or domestic travel](#)

# CDC Guidelines for Covid Patient Management

---

- ❖ Healthy people can be monitored, self-isolated at home
- ❖ People at higher risk should contact healthcare providers early, even if illness is mild
- ❖ Older adults and people with severe underlying chronic medical conditions are at higher risk, need closer contact
- ❖ Emergency Department and Hospitals only when needed - not for screening or low risk/minimal disease
- ❖ **Guidelines are important and powerful tools, but remember providers' clinical experience and judgment are key to care**

# Prepare Safe Workflows and Stock Sufficient PPE

---

- ❖ Ensure your practice has 30 days of PPE immediately available
- ❖ Consult usual suppliers and order PPE well in advance of anticipated need
  - There may be PPE shortages in the future
- ❖ Continue using PPE according to CDC guidelines
- ❖ Ensure safe workflows for all patients, particularly vulnerable patients

# Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Sources and Requests

---

- ❖ Practices should initially request PPE through their usual vendors
- ❖ Practices should make their PPE requests through their local health departments
- ❖ Maryland PPE Manufacturers List – next slide
- ❖ [National and international PPE supplier list](#)
- ❖ [PPE request form](#)

# Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Sources and Requests

---

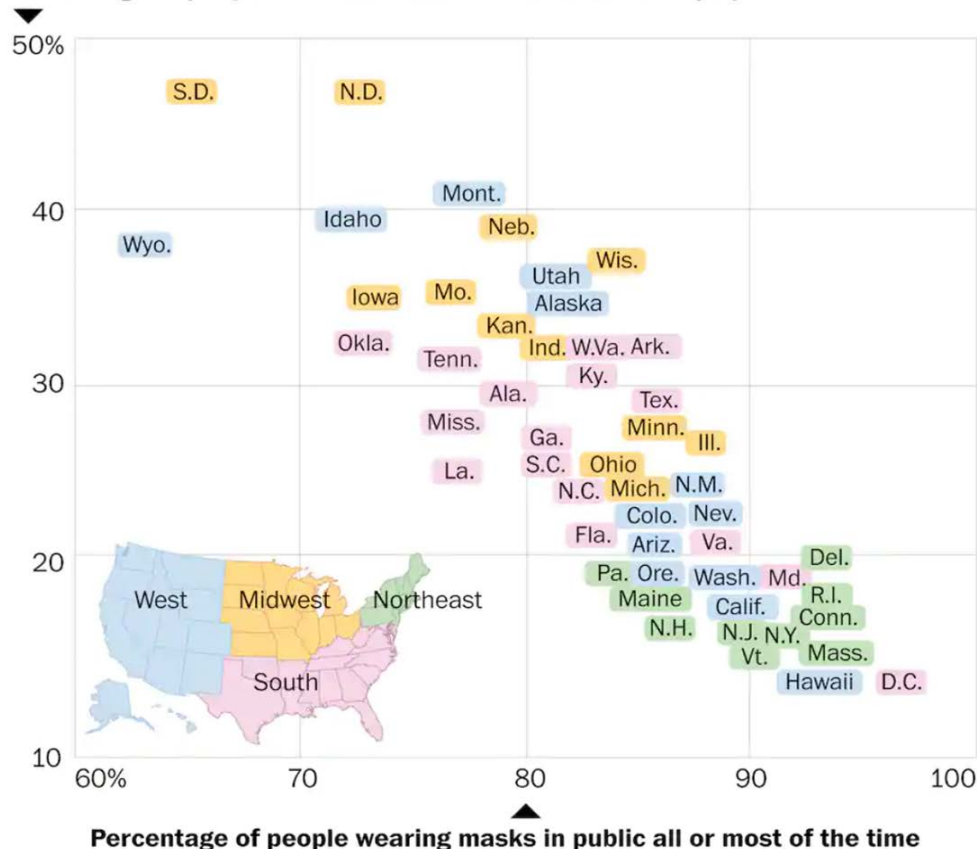
- ❖ Increasing Maryland's supply of PPE – one of the 4 building blocks on the Road to Recovery
- ❖ Maryland has launched the [Maryland Manufacturing Network Supplier Portal](#), an online platform that helps connect Maryland suppliers with buyers in need of critical resources
- ❖ For additional business resources during Covid-19, visit [businessexpress.maryland.gov/coronavirus](https://businessexpress.maryland.gov/coronavirus)
- ❖ Providers may also request PPE from the non-profit [‘Get Us PPE’](#)

# Masks and Distancing Remain Critical

## Masking up

Fewer covid-19 symptoms reported in states with higher rates of mask use.

Percentage of people who know someone with covid-19 symptoms



Data as of Oct. 19

Source: Delphi CovidCast, Carnegie Mellon University

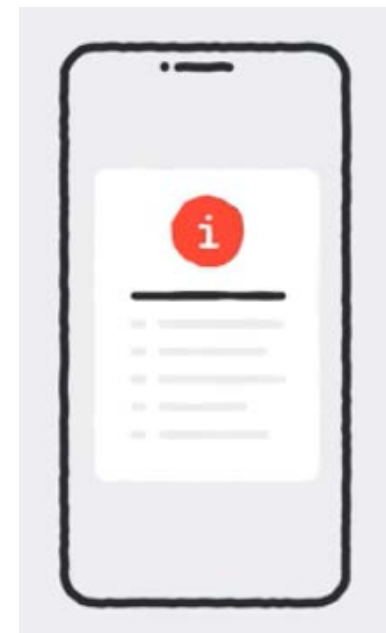
THE WASHINGTON POST

## ❖ IHME model:

- Universal mask use *saves 129,574 lives* before Feb 2021
- 85% mask use *saves 95,814 lives* before Feb 2021

# MD COVID Alert App

- ❖ New opt-in cell phone app that notifies users if they have been exposed to somebody who is Covid-19 positive
- ❖ Mimics CDC close contact definition (6-feet or less for >15 minutes) with bluetooth
- ❖ Individuals who receive exposure notifications:
  - Receive advice to get tested
  - Receive information about possible exposure date
  - COVID-19 positive users may receive a call from a contact tracer
- ❖ More information is available [here](#)





# Emerging Virus Variant

---

- ❖ Known as B.1.1.17
- ❖ Was first noticed in Britain. The number of B.1.1.17 cases have grown significantly there and in South Africa
- ❖ Has appeared in more than 30 countries, including the United States and Maryland
- ❖ B.1.1.17 variant seems to be between 10 percent and 60 percent more transmissible than the original virus

# Provider/Patient Mental Health Resources

---

## ❖ Providers

- “Helping the Helpers and Those They Serve,” a [webinar series](#) from the Maryland Department of Health Behavioral Health Administration and MedChi (on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of every month starting 11/12/2020)
- [Heroes Health Initiative](#)

## ❖ Patients

- [Ask Suicide-Screening Questions toolkit](#)
- CDC [list of resources](#) for coping with stress

# Health Equity Resources

---

- ❖ [Maryland Department of Health Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities](#) (MHHD)
- ❖ Maryland Department of Health Minority Outreach and Technical Assistance Program [overview](#)
- ❖ MHHD fiscal year 2020 minority outreach and technical assistance [program information](#)
- ❖ [Description](#) of the term “health disparity”
- ❖ [Implicit bias test](#)
- ❖ “Hundreds of Days of Action as a Start to Address Hundreds of Years of Inequality” – New England Journal of Medicine [article](#) by Maulik Joshi, DrPH
- ❖ “Discussion Draft of the Preliminary Framework for Equitable Allocation of COVID-19 Vaccine” – [discussion draft](#) for public comment by Committee on Equitable Allocation of Vaccine for the Novel Coronavirus, The National Academies of Science, Engineering, Medicine

# Telehealth Resources

---

- ❖ [Maryland Health Care Commission Telehealth](#)
- ❖ [Maryland Health Care Commission Telehealth Readiness Assessment Tool](#)
- ❖ [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act \(HIPAA\) for Professionals](#)
- ❖ [American Telehealth Association](#)
- ❖ [Maryland Telehealth Alliance](#)
- ❖ [National Consortium of Telehealth Resource Centers](#)

# Support for Patients at Home

---

## ❖ Food

- Meals on Wheels

## ❖ Caregivers

- Visiting nurses and caregivers

## ❖ Emotional support

- Support from family
- Phone calls and videochat to fight loneliness
- MD Department of Aging [Senior Call Check Program](#)

# Staying Current - Sources

---

- ❖ [CDC](#)
- ❖ [MDH Covid-19 information page](#)
- ❖ [MDPCP Covid-19 webpage](#)
- ❖ Local Health Departments
- ❖ [CONNECT](#)
- ❖ Clinician Letters
- ❖ Multiple Resource Links in Appendix

# MedChi/CareFirst/Backline Grant

CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield (CareFirst) and the Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi) launched a grant program that will equip additional Maryland physicians with the technology they need to provide needed virtual care during the Covid-19 pandemic and beyond

## Eligibility Requirements

- The medical practice and medical license are in Maryland
- The medical practice is a private, independent group of five or fewer physicians
- The practice enrolls in Backline after March 1, 2020 as the result of the Covid-19 crisis
- MedChi has confirmed the practice's enrollment with DrFirst
- Enrollment in Backline occurs before December 31, 2020

## Application Steps

Can be completed in less than 5 minutes

- Complete the application linked [here](#)
- Email completed application to [amullin@medchi.org](mailto:amullin@medchi.org)
- For questions, email or call Andrea Mullin at [amullin@medchi.org](mailto:amullin@medchi.org) or 800-492-1056 x3340

## Grant Amount

\$300 per eligible physician



# Food Resources

---

❖ Nutrition: Inform patients that children can receive three free meals/day at sites listed on:

➤ [Maryland Summer Meals](#)

➤ [Montgomery County](#)

➤ [Prince Georges County](#)

➤ [Charles County](#)

➤ [Frederick County](#)

[Howard County](#)

[Anne Arundel County](#)

[St. Mary's County](#)

[Harford County](#)

[Calvert County](#)

❖ Free meals available from 42 rec centers in Baltimore

➤ Call 311 for locations and to schedule pickup time



# Resources for Specific Groups

---

- ❖ Community- and Faith-Based Organizations  
(<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-community-faith-organizations.html>)
- ❖ Mass Gatherings and Large Community Events  
(<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/mass-gatherings-ready-for-covid-19.html>)
- ❖ Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions for Specific Groups  
(<https://www.cdc.gov/nonpharmaceutical-interventions/index.html>)

# Resources and References

---

- ❖ Maryland Department of Health Coronavirus Website (<https://coronavirus.maryland.gov>)
- ❖ CDC Coronavirus Website (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>)
- ❖ CDC National data on Covid-19 infection and mortality (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/cases-in-us.html>)
- ❖ CDC Interim Guidance for Homes and Communities (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-prevent-spread.html>)
- ❖ CDC Interim Guidance for Businesses (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/guidance-business-response.html>)
- ❖ CDC Interim Guidance for Childcare and Schools (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/guidance-for-schools.html>)
- ❖ CDC Travel Website (<https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/>)