



Communicable Disease Branch Local Health Department Monthly Webinar Key Points – August 13, 2024

The North Carolina Division of Public Health (NC DPH) Communicable Disease Branch will be releasing key points that include information discussed on the monthly Tuesday Local Health Department call. Please use the information below as a summary of the topics presented on the call. As guidance changes, please use the most recent information provided. For questions, contact the NC DPH Communicable Disease Branch 24/7 Epidemiologist on Call at **919-733-3419**.

Important Updates

- Available online at [NC Communicable Disease Manual - Other Diseases of Public Health Significance \(ncdhhs.gov\)](https://ncdhhs.gov)
- **New:** NCDHHS LHD Monthly Webinar 08 13 2024.pdf

Video recording: <https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/998420589/ec11d4ce74>

Questions & Answers

Q. Is there anywhere to access COVID-19 hospital admission numbers? The Respiratory Infection dashboard maybe?

A. Yes - hospitalization data from NC DETECT are posted on the dashboard landing page (<https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/dashboard>).

Q. Will there be any new guidance that will be sent for the community?

A. Please let us know what guidance you are specifically looking for.

Q. Given State Fair is coming up in October, anything change in terms of surveillance/guidance for HPAI?

A. As a reminder, the NC State Fair and Mountain State Fair are the largest events, but there are smaller fairs in many counties: <https://ncagfairs.com/tracker>

Q. Where is the most up to date guidelines for community with COVID?

A. CDC's most recent community prevention guidance can be found here <https://www.cdc.gov/covid/prevention/index.html>

Q. Shingles in LTCF and ALF? Where is most up to date guidelines?

A. <https://www.cdc.gov/shingles/hcp/infection-control/index.html> If you have additional questions, please feel free to reach out to the VPD team or Epi On Call

Q. Is Mpox clade specific activity incorporated in NC wastewater surveillance?

A. No, we currently do not have clade-specific testing in our mpox wastewater monitoring.

Q. Can we get the slides? I was unable to write the last slide down fast enough

A. The slides will be shared after the meeting.

Q. Is there somewhere we can find the flyer for fair health and safety tips that was on an earlier slide?

A. Try this: <https://flu.ncdhhs.gov/HPAI/index.htm>

Q. Elizabeth Draper, great job with the immunization update!

A. Thank-you! Glad my nervousness didn't come through :)

Q. I am from Rockingham. Who can I contact for testing kits?

A. Please email Sara Bratton at covid19testingandtreatments@dhhs.nc.gov

Q. I thought y'all mentioned at the beginning of the meeting that you are now monitoring wastewater for H5N1. Where can we access this data? Is it publicly available?

A. No, it is not available publicly yet. We are working on plans for public display that would be useful and interpretable.

Q. Are we still H5N1 free?

A. There have been no recent H5 detections in poultry flocks or dairy herds in NC. There have been no human infections identified in the state.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, 9/10/2024