



**NEVADA
HEALTH
RESPONSE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 11, 2021

Meghin Delaney

Communications Director

CONTACT: pressroom@nvhealthresponse.nv.gov

COVID-19 Press Bulletin for 1-11-2021

Carson City, NV — Today, Julia Peek, Deputy Administrator of Community Health Services was joined by Dr. Carmen Ponce, an epidemiologist with the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services to provide updates on Nevada's ongoing COVID-19 response and discuss, during a call with members of the media.

This bulletin provides facts, figures, and informational items from the call. As a reminder, data is provided in a dashboard on the home page of the [Nevada Health Response](#) website and can be accessed 24 hours a day.

SUMMARY:

- The County Criteria Tracker is released every Monday and can be found on the NV Health Response dashboard. All counties in Nevada, with the exception of Storey and White Pine, have been flagged for elevated disease transmission.
 - All flagged counties met the criteria of a high case rate per 100,000.
 - All flagged counties had a high-test positivity rate.
 - Lincoln and Storey county were flagged for a low average number of tests per day per 100,000.

- As of today, Nevada has logged 250,249 cases, with the 14-day rolling average of daily cases being 1,866.
- The state has completed a total of 2,235,084 molecular tests since the beginning of COVID-19.
- The test positivity rate over the last 14 days is 21.1%.
- The Nevada Hospital Association reports there are currently 1,777 COVID-19 hospitalizations (1,649 confirmed; 128 suspected)
- More information on hospitalization trends can be found on the [Nevada Hospital Association](#) website.

Dr. Carmen Ponce, Epidemiologist with the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services

- There is a long history of vaccination, and vaccines have been used for mass immunization since 1960.
- The key element in the disappearance of communicable diseases as top causes of death in any country, are due to effective vaccines applied massively to the population. Examples of diseases include Smallpox or the regional elimination of diseases such as Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria, Rubella, and Mumps,
- Vaccination has two important goals:
 - To Immunize Individuals against the disease giving them specific antibodies protection.
 - To achieve control of the epidemic, interrupting the chain of transmission of the disease.

- The transmission is from an infected person to a number of non-infected persons; if the non-infected person is immunized, the transmission will stop, while the non-immunized/non-infected person will get sick and will continue the disease transmission to another number of people.
- The COVID-19 vaccination will accomplish the same goals.
- The vaccine uses a protein particle named mRNA which give instructions to the cells to make the “spike protein” on their surface equal to the one on the surface of the virus that causes COVID-19.
- The immune system will recognize that the spike protein does not belong and begin the immune response, the same way that the response is made when a natural infection against the COVID-19 virus.
- At the end of this process, the body will be prepared to respond at the first contact with the real virus.
- The development of vaccines requires the highest medical scientific knowledge, and the best vaccines have been created in the United States.
- The FDA scientific protocols are very strict and subject to many controls by different scientific groups and disciplines to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of vaccines.
- The COVID-19 vaccine has been rigorously tested.
- Once the vaccine was produced, clinical trials with tens of thousands of participants who will be followed in different phases to obtain

biological information about how well the vaccine works to induce the immune response, verify the absence of severe risks, and determine the more effective doses.

- In more advanced phases, bigger groups of participants involving broad demographic groups and generate critical information about effectiveness and additional safety data, comparing the group receiving the vaccine with those who used a placebo.
- In other words, the vaccine prevented the disease in those who received the vaccine and those without it acquired the disease in same rates than the open population.
- FDA have provided an emergency use authorization to COVID-19 vaccines, one created by Moderna and they other by Pfizer-BioNTech.
- Possible symptoms of the COVID-19 vaccine:
 - Injection site pain
 - Tiredness
 - Headache
 - Muscle pain
 - Chills
 - Joint pain
 - Fever
 - Injection site swelling
 - Injection site redness
 - Nausea
 - Feeling unwell
 - Lymph nodes swollen
- All of the symptoms have typically been transitory and mild intensity.
- There is a remote chance that vaccine cause a severe allergic reaction, signs will include:
 - Difficulty breathing
 - Swelling of you face and throat
 - A Fast heartbeat
 - A bad rash all over your body
 - Dizziness and weakness

- Be prepared to stay in the facility for 15 min after your vaccination, and if you or anybody in your family have had a severe allergic reaction, please inform the medical provider and be prepared to stay in the facility at least 30 minutes.
- The effectiveness of COVID-19 Vaccine is 90%. This means of every 100 persons receiving vaccine, at least 90 will develop the immune response that will help prevent future infections.
- Diseases have been eradicated with vaccines with 80% or 85% of effectiveness.
- The important part is getting the biggest part of population vaccinated.

###