Ask Dr. Arwady

February 21, 2023
Since we last spoke...

**ANNOUNCEMENT:**

Everyone in the U.S. can receive Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine, regardless of their ability to pay, even after the public health emergency ends.

Read statement: bit.ly/moderna-access

Find a vaccine at chi.gov/covidvax
Since we last spoke...

**HIV and the Journey Toward Zero**
Documentary Premiere Screening

Some 300 people joined CDPH on February 7th at Malcolm X College for the premiere screening of *HIV & the Journey Toward Zero*. Produced by CDPH, it features a diverse cast of Chicagoans telling their stories about living with and fighting HIV, as they consider what ‘Getting to Zero’ new HIV cases would mean.

For more information on the film and future screenings visit [journeytowardzero.com](http://journeytowardzero.com).
Since we last spoke...

CDPH convened with members of our Trauma-Informed Centers of Care (TICC) to discuss Chicago’s mental health landscape. Through our TICC network, Chicagoans can now receive publicly funded mental health services across all 77 neighborhoods, regardless of insurance, immigration status or ability to pay.
TO GET CONNECTED TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD, GO TO MENTAL HEALTH.CHICAGO.GOV - OR - CALL 211

UN[★]SPOKEN
**Join our CARE team!**

**CARE**
CRISIS ASSISTANCE
RESPONSE AND ENGAGEMENT

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**CDPH**
Chicago Department of Public Health

**JOB OPPORTUNITY**

**MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS CLINICIAN**  
**SALARY: 77,772**

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**JOB DESCRIPTION:**

CDPH currently has five (5) vacancies for a Mental Health Crisis Clinician in the Bureau of Behavioral Health.

Day-to-day responsibilities include:
- Responding in collaboration to 911 calls with an identified behavioral health component; providing case management services to patients as needed;
- Developing/implementing crisis-related safety plans; and providing psychological consultation when responding to calls.

Preference will be given to candidates who:
- Have experience working with patients living with serious and persistent mental illness
- Are bilingual (Spanish) preferred
- Have experience working with multidisciplinary teams

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**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Master's or Doctoral degree in Social Work, Counseling, Psychology or a similar field
- Two years of experience delivering direct clinical services
- A valid State of Illinois driver's license (within three months of employment)
- Current licensure as an LCSW, LCPC, LMFT, Ph. D or Psy. D

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**TO APPLY:**  
Apply online by March 2, 2023  
Job Number: 3530-CDPH-2023
Our local risk based on CDC COVID-19 Community Levels is: **Low**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>New cases per 100,000 population (last 7 days) [Goal is &lt;200]</th>
<th>New admissions per 100,000 population (last 7 days) [Goal is &lt;10]</th>
<th>Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (last 7 days) [Goal is &lt;10%]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>City of Chicago</strong></td>
<td>86</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cook County (including City of Chicago)</strong></td>
<td>87</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
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*Chicago metrics are calculated based on Chicago-level data.*  
*Cook County metrics are calculated by the CDC and posted on the CDC Community Levels website.*  
*Data current as of 2/15/2023.*

Last week, 2.5% of U.S. Counties reported High COVID Community Level and 20% reported Medium Level.

Source: CDC
Variant Surveillance, Midwest Region
Weighted and Nowcast Estimates for Weeks of 11/13/22 – 2/18/23

% Viral lineage among infections

Collection date, week ending

Variant Surveillance, United States

Nowcast Estimates in for 2/12/2023 – 2/18/2023 by HHS Region

Source: CDC Data Tracker
Higher Updated Booster Coverage among Chicagoans than Nationwide Estimates. Over 568,000 doses have been administered to Chicagoans since authorization.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>People with an Updated (Bivalent) Booster Dose</th>
<th>Percent of US Population</th>
<th>Percent of Chicago Population</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population ≥ 5 years</td>
<td>16.9%</td>
<td>22.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population ≥ 12 years</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
<td>23.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population ≥ 18 years</td>
<td>19.3%</td>
<td>24.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population ≥ 65 years</td>
<td>41.0%</td>
<td>41.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

National data as of 2/16/2023. Chicago data reported to I-CARE as of 2/14/2023.
GET YOUR UPDATED

COVID BOOSTER & FLU SHOT AT HOME

In-home vaccination is available to all Chicago households at no cost. Up to 10 people can be vaccinated, so invite your family, friends, or neighbors to get vaccinated together.

TO REGISTER FOR AN APPOINTMENT
CALL 312.746.4835 OR VISIT OR CHICAGO.GOV/ATHOME
Since December 2020, City Colleges of Chicago has welcomed CDPH to host 589 total clinics, administering 127,749+ COVID-19 vaccinations.

589 TOTAL CLINICS

- 148 at Malcolm X College
- 131 at Richard J. Daley College
- 91 at Wilbur Wright College
- 64 at Kennedy-King College
- 57 at Harry S Truman College
- 51 at Arturo Velasquez Westside Technical Institute
- 47 at Olive-Harvey College
TAKE ACTION IF YOU TEST POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

**DAY 1-5**
Stay home:
- Everyone - regardless of vaccination status - should stay home and away from others (isolate).

**People at high risk for severe illness:**
Talk to your doctor about treatment

**DAY 6-10**
Wear a mask:
- If you take 2 antigen tests 48 hours apart and both are negative, you may remove your mask sooner
- Avoid people at high risk of getting very sick

**DAY 6 OR LATER**
End isolation:
- If you never had symptoms OR symptoms are improving and are fever-free for 24 hours.

Find testing resources and the latest guidance at [chicago.gov/covidtest](http://chicago.gov/covidtest)
COVID-19 TREATMENTS ARE AVAILABLE!

If you test positive for COVID-19 and are at high risk of severe illness, contact your healthcare provider, visit a Test to Treat location or immediately call 312.746.4835.

Treatments must begin within days of symptom development to be effective.

More info at: Chi.gov/therapeutics
VAX & PAX lovid

If you’re at high risk for severe illness, vaccines are your best protection against COVID-19. But if you do test positive, TREATMENTS ARE AVAILABLE.

PAXLOVID, for example, is an oral antiviral therapy for the treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19.

Individuals ages 12 and up who are at high risk of developing severe illness, are eligible. Ask a healthcare provider if medications to treat COVID-19 are right for you.

More info at: Chi.gov/therapeutics
Utilization of Oral Antivirals by Drug Type
January 1, 2022 – January 22, 2023

Source: Tiberius

Q1 2022: Paxlovid and molnupiravir were given EUA status in late December 2021. Utilization is low during this period due to limited availability.
Almost 90% of prescriptions are filled by commercial and independent pharmacies.

Source: Tiberius

Q1 2022: Paxlovid and molnupiravir were given EUA status in late of December 2021. Utilization is low during this period due to limited availability.
Publicly available sites where you can see where therapeutics are available—FOR PATIENTS

Publicly available sites where you can see where therapeutics are available—FOR PROVIDERS

Need help and don’t know where to turn?

211MetroChicago.org
Need a vaccine or a booster? Have questions?

visit

CHI.GOV/COVIDVAX

or call

312-746-4835