

Winter 2021-2022 Omicron Surge

LA Health Services wants to share up-to-date information about COVID-19 so you can keep yourself and your family safe. The Omicron variant spreads much more easily. Please stay away from large gatherings and keep your mask on indoors when around others.

Know Before You Go

- 1. The Emergency Room (ER) should only be used for emergency care. You should not go for COVID-19 testing or for COVID/flu symptoms that are not serious.
- 2. If you have mild symptoms, call your Primary Care <u>clinic</u> or the Nurse Advice Line (NAL) at 844-804-0055. The NAL is open 7am-7pm, 7 days a week. Do not go to the ER or walk into clinics.
- 3. Get tested if you have COVID-19 symptoms. Visit <u>covid19.lacounty.gov/testing/</u> for testing places near you.
- 4. You can still get Emergency Services (such as 911), but it may take longer than usual.

Finding a Testing Location

All testing sites on the LA County testing website gives COVID-19 tests at no cost. Your insurance coverage or immigration status does not matter. To find a testing location please visit <u>covid19.lacounty.gov/testing/</u>.

You can now get "Pick-Up Testing Kits" -- pick up a PCR test kit, do the test anywhere, then drop off the completed kit. You can get a "Pick-Up Testing Kit" at 13 testing sites across LA County. You do not need an appointment and can get a kit until the supply for the day runs out. *For more information on where to get a pick-up kit, please visit: <u>Pick-Up Testing Kit</u>*

Vaccine & Booster Updates

New information about vaccines and boosters:

- a. Anyone 12 years and older who got the 2-dose Pfizer-BioNTech shots should get a booster 5 months after their second shot.
- b. Anyone 18 years and older who got the 2-dose Moderna shots should get a booster 5 months after their second shot
- c. People who got Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine should get a booster 2 months after the shot
- d. Children 5-11 years old who have a weakened immune system should get one more dose of the Pfizer vaccine 28 days after their second shot

To schedule a vaccine or booster appointment, call your <u>clinic</u> or visit the <u>LA Health Patient</u> <u>Portal.</u> For more information visit <u>COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Shots | CDC.</u>

Available Treatments for Severe COVID-19

Call your provider if you think you are a high-risk patient with moderate to severe COVID-19 symptoms. You can ask about treatment options, such as medicines you can take by mouth at home. Keep in mind that most patients with COVID-19 will not need treatment.

