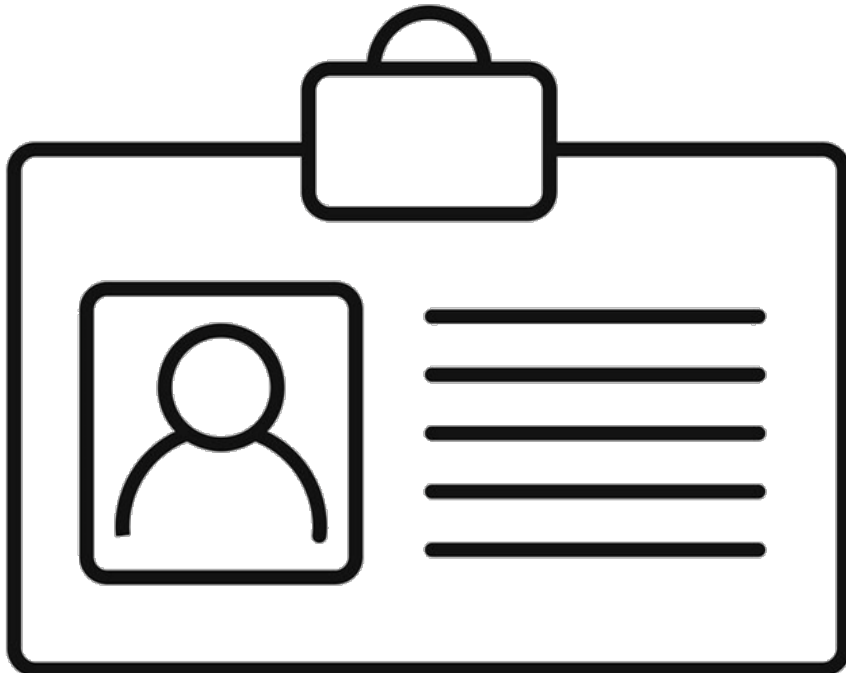




Georgia Department of Public Health:
Strike & Support Team Office Hours Kick-Off for Skilled Nursing Care
Centers, Hospice, ICF's, and Medical Directors
May 20, 2022

Meet the Team:



Presenter:

Swati Gaur, MD, MBA, CMD, AGSF

Medical Director, Alliant Health Solutions

Regina Howard, BSN, RN, CIC

Georgia Department of Public Health
Infection Preventionist

Panelists:

Melody Brown, MSM

Patient Safety Manager
Alliant Health Solutions

Thank You to Our Partners

- Georgia Department of Public Health
- University of Georgia



Purpose:

- These sessions will consist of a regularly scheduled monthly webinar for skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) as well as SNF medical directors. Office hours are your opportunity to come and learn, share, vent and more!
- Each month we will have updates on infection prevention, clinical protocols and ideas for new tools and resources. This is your chance to access subject matter experts on infection control and clinical practice in long term care.
- Come prepared to pose your questions to subject matter experts and learn from your peers about their best practices and their barriers.

Trainings

There will be a total of two training sessions per year focused on relevant infection prevention topics, updates, and best practices shared.

Training 1:

- **May 24, 2022 | 8:30AM-12:30PM**
Infection Prevention Infrastructure
- **May 25, 2022 | 8:30-10:30AM**
Respiratory Protection Program

Training 2: October/Dates TBD



Your Opinion Matters

Share in CHAT what is keeping you up at night related to Infection Prevention.

We want to provide you with information that is relevant to what you are doing everyday.

Which Guidance Am I To Follow?

- **CMS Guidance-** all healthcare facility types (Skilled Nursing, Nursing Homes) that receive Medicare and Medicaid funding
- **Administrative Order-** PCH and ALF with >25 licensed beds
- **CDC Guidance-** all healthcare facility types
 - CMS guidance and Administrative Order are based on CDC guidelines

Hot off the Press

Matters of Interest for Skilled Nursing Home
Facilities/Findings from the Field by Georgia
Department of Health

Matters of Interest for Skilled Nursing Home Facilities/Findings from the Field by GA Department of Public Health:

- Constant turnover of staff in facilities among Infection Preventionists (IPs) including among leadership.
- Multiple roles of Infection Preventionist (IP) interferes with time for self education, IP education of staff and performing infection control surveillance responsibilities.
- Behavioral Health (BH) concerns there has been no guidance specific to BH facilities.
- Rural health facilities have inadequate access to internet & minimal computer access in their facilities to provide timely staff educational training requirements.
- A survey of educational interest in priority order include, Multiple Drug Resistant Organisms (MDROs), Industrial Hygiene, Antibiotic Stewardship (AS), Environmental Cleaning etc...

What Do I Need To Ensure Visitation Is Safe?

- Visits may be conducted based upon facility's structure and residents' needs
 - Resident rooms
 - Designated areas
 - Outdoor areas
- Core principles of Infection Control (IP) best practices should be implemented to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission

A Picture Speaks A Thousand Words



Visitors Education Instructional Signage



How Does CDC Define Vaccination Terms?

- Vaccination definitions per CDC on 1/16/22
 - **Up-to-date** means a person has received all recommended COVID-19 vaccines, including any booster dose(s) when eligible.
 - **Fully vaccinated** means a person has received their primary series of COVID-19

What is an Observation Resident?

- Observation Resident- New admissions and readmissions whose COVID-19 status is unknown or are not up-to-date with vaccination should be placed in the observation unit and quarantined for **10 days**.
- Observation unit needs to be separate from the COVID-19 unit and needs to be located outside of any traffic pattern for non-quarantined residents.
- Full PPE is required and must be changed between each resident encounter.

What is Source Control?

- **Source Control** in healthcare-refers to respirators and surgical facemasks, to contain a wearers' respiratory secretions when they breathe, talk, sneeze, or cough
 - When used solely for source control, any of the options listed above could be used for an entire shift unless they become soiled, damaged, or hard to breathe through

How to be ready? Be On The Lookout.

Hall County, Georgia

[State Health Department](#) 

COVID-19 Community Level ● Low

Recommended actions based on current level

Stay [up to date](#) with COVID-19 vaccines. [Get tested](#) if you have symptoms. Wear a mask if you have symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19. Wear a mask on [public transportation](#). You may choose to wear a mask at any time as an additional precaution to protect yourself and others.

Weekly Metrics Used to Determine the COVID-19 Community Level

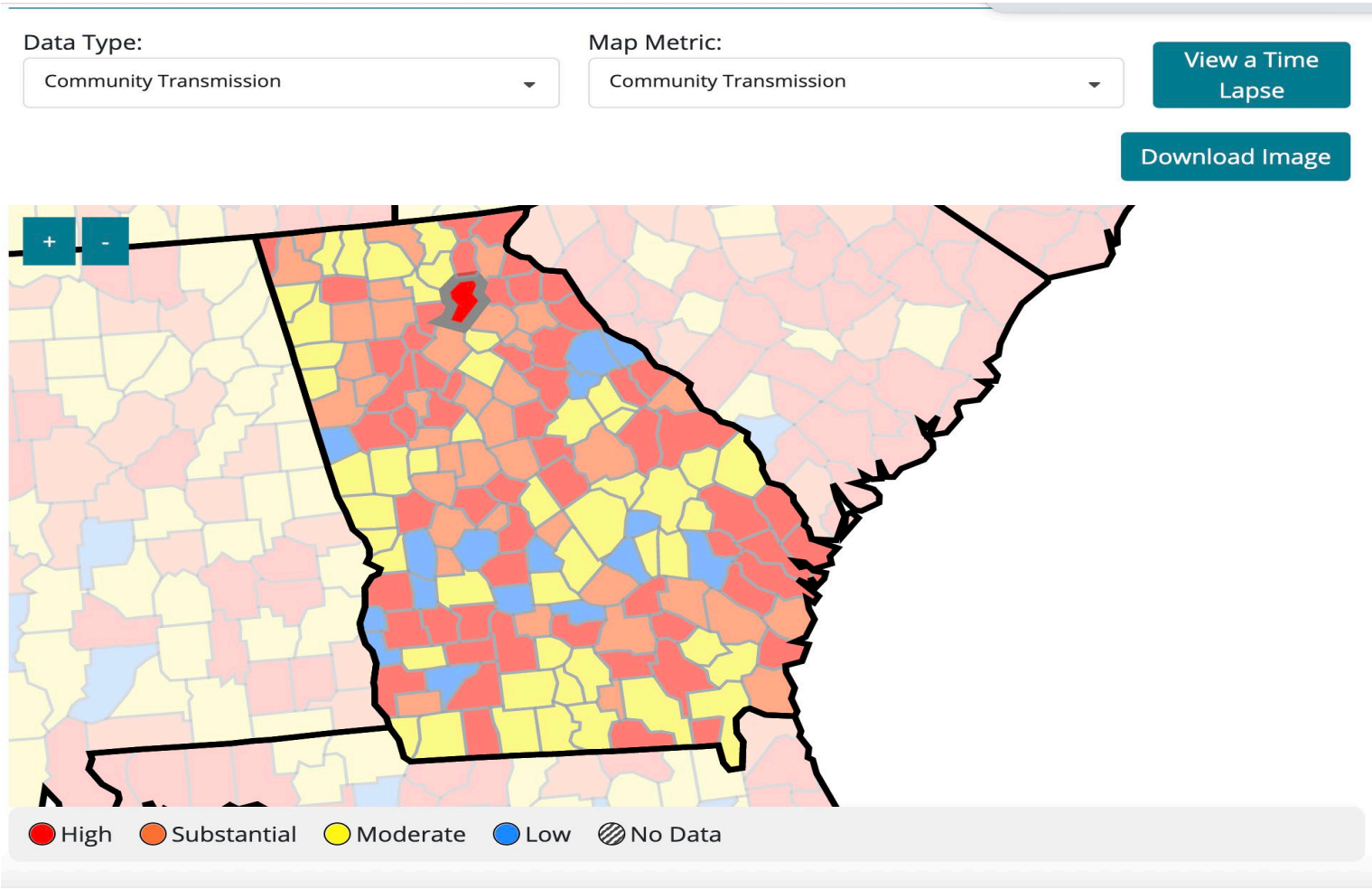
Case Rate per 100,000 population	44.02
New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population	0.3
% Staffed inpatient beds in use by patients with confirmed COVID-19	0.8%

How are [COVID-19 Community Levels](#) calculated?

*Note: The COVID-19 Community Level and associated metrics presented above are updated weekly **on Thursday** and may differ from the values for the same metrics presented below, which are updated daily.*

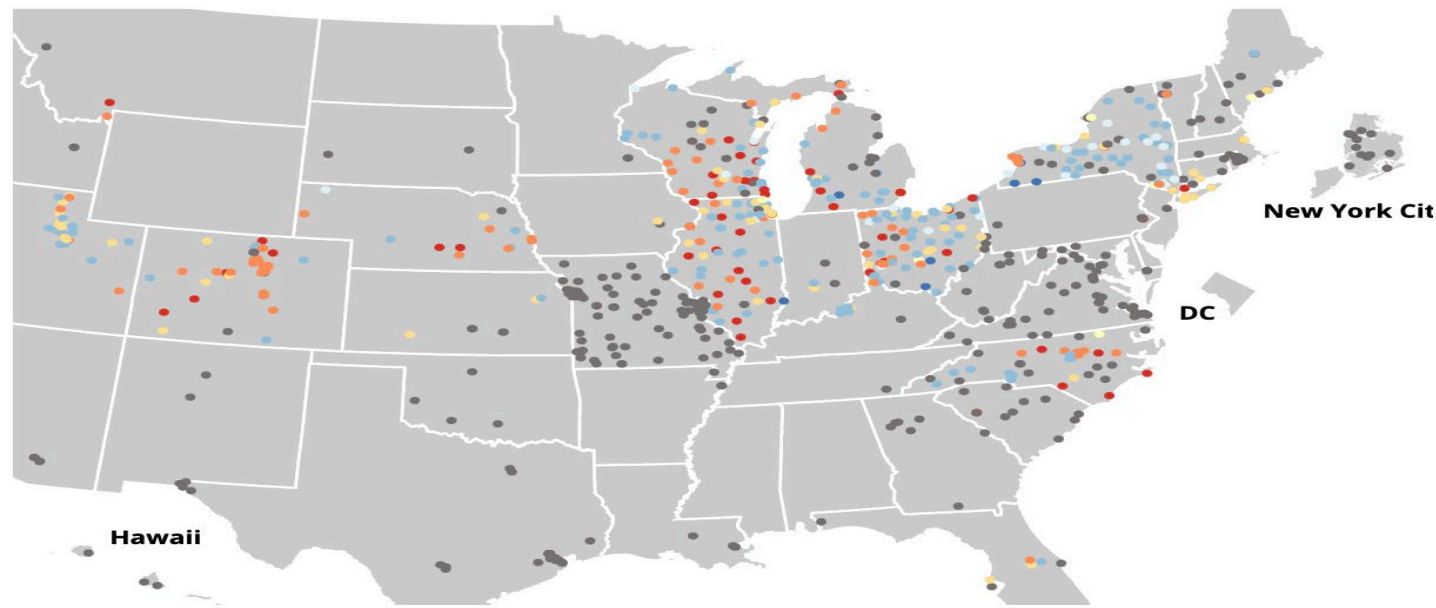
https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view?list_select_state=all_states&list_select_county=all_counties&data-type=Risk

How to be ready? Be On The Lookout.





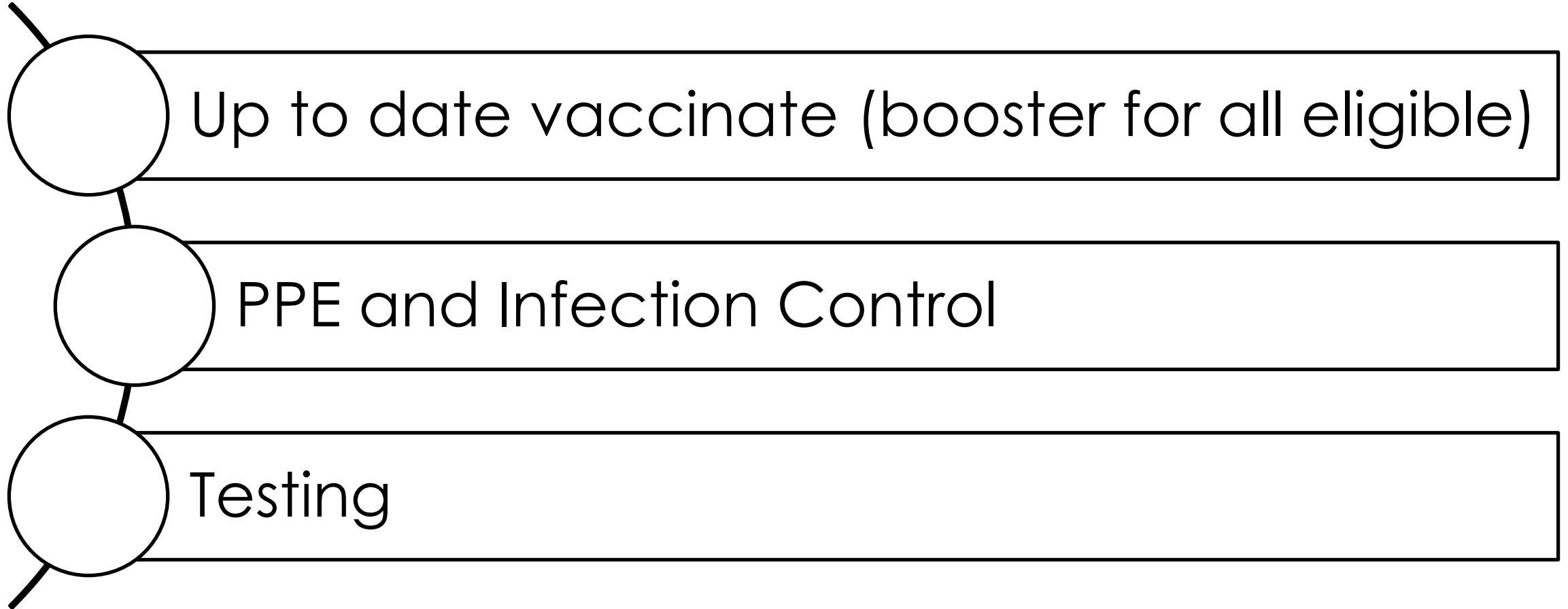
Wastewater Surveillance: CDC Data Tracker



Percent change of SARS-CoV-2 in the last 15 days by site, United States

15-day % change category	Num. sites	% sites	Category change in last 7 days
– 100%	12	3	33%
– 99% to – 10%	157	35	– 11%
– 9% to 0%	29	6	0%
1% to 9%	14	3	27%
10% to 99%	85	19	– 7%
100% to 999%	95	21	– 43%
1000% or more	61	13	– 41%

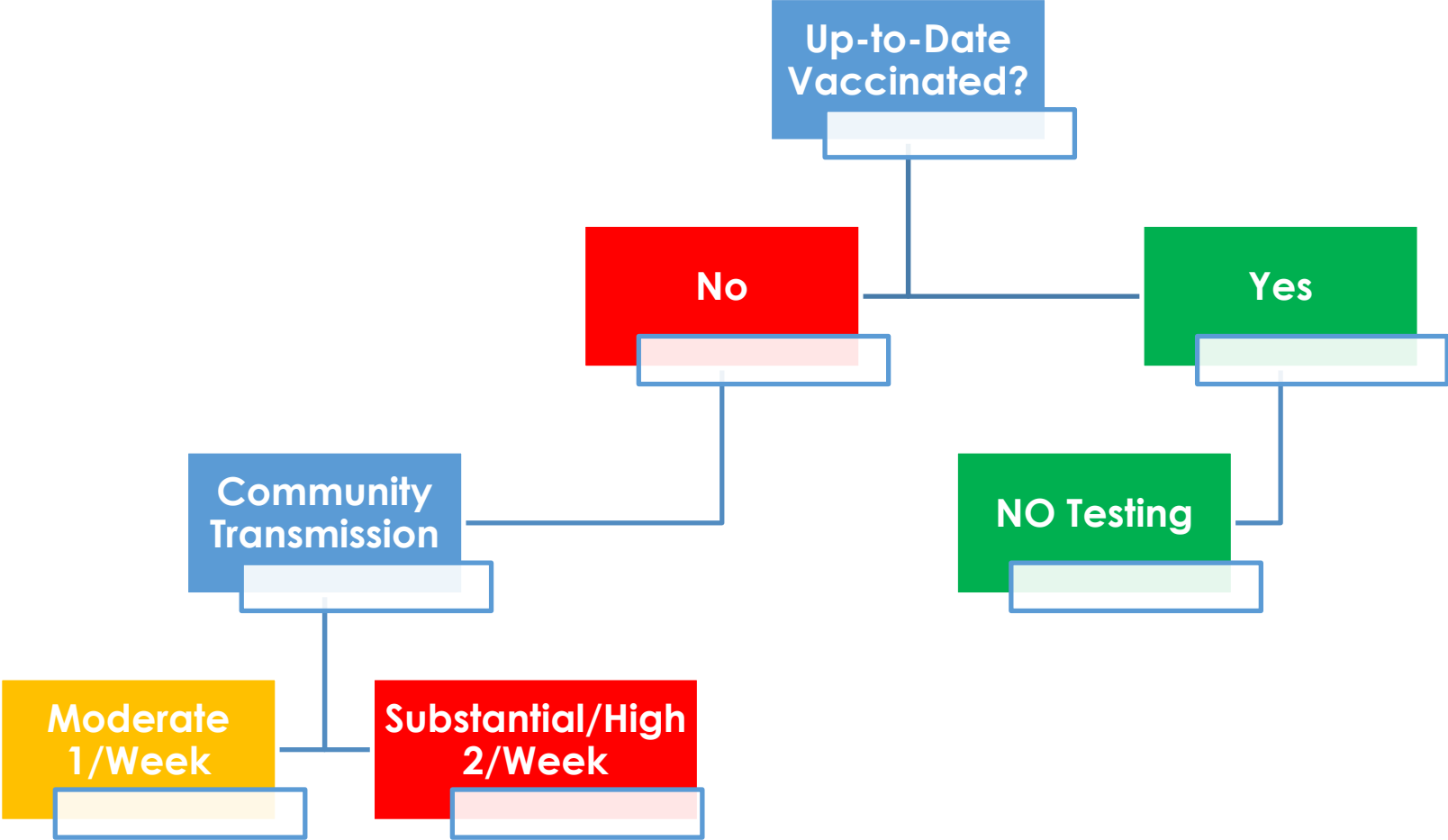
How to be ready? The Three Pillars:



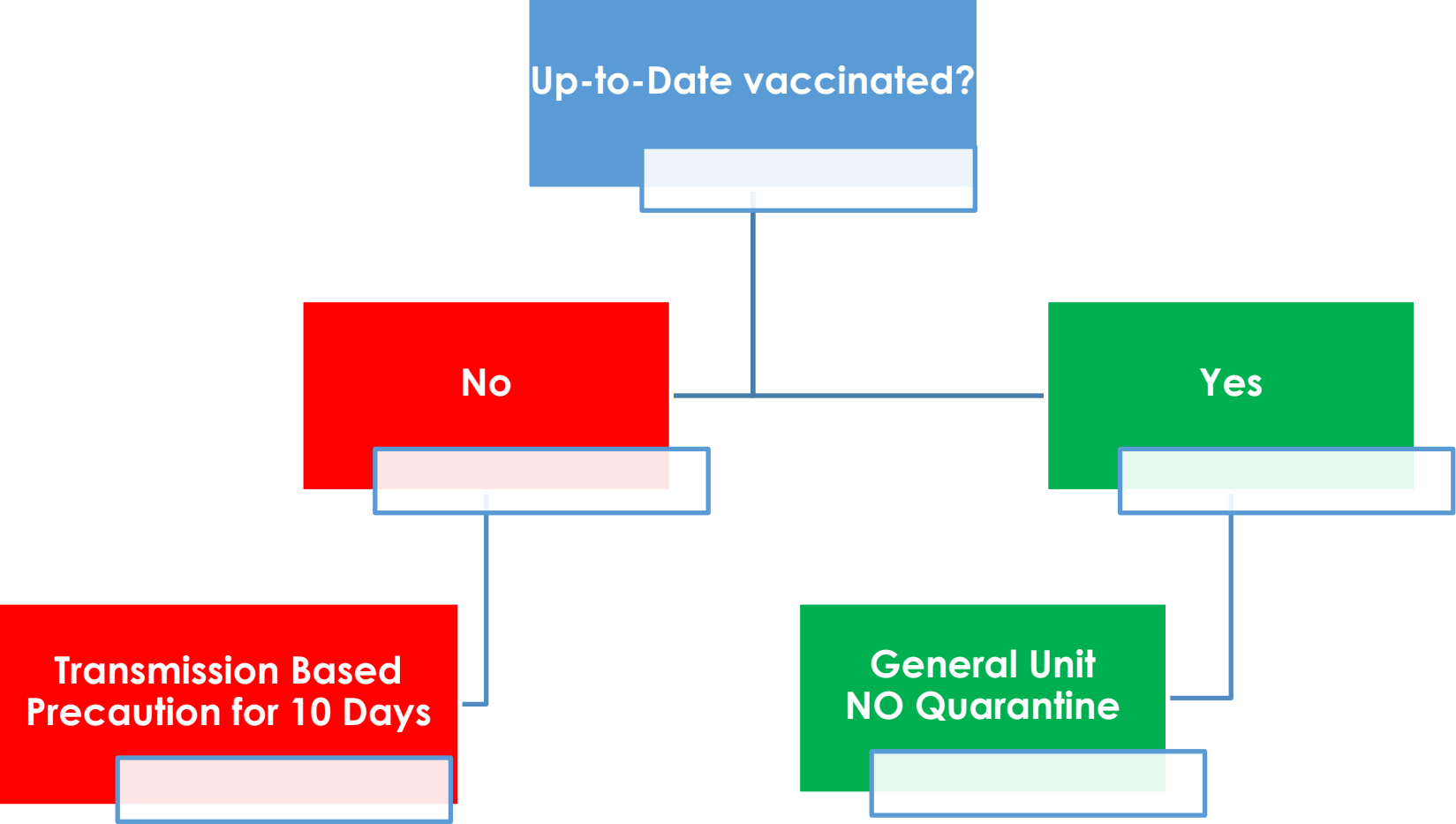
PPE Use

	Low Blue	Moderate Yellow	Substantial Orange	High Red
Facemasks (i.e., well-fitting surgical masks, KN-95, or NIOSH-approved N95 or equivalent or higher-level respirators)	Universal use of well-fitting surgical masks or KN-95 respirators	Universal use of well-fitting surgical masks or KN-95 respirators	Universal use of N-95 for HCP during all patient care encounters	Universal use of N-95 for HCP during all patient care encounters
Eye protection (i.e., goggles or a face shield that covers the front and sides of the face)	Eye protection can be worn	Eye protection can be worn	Universal use of eye protection	Universal use of eye protection

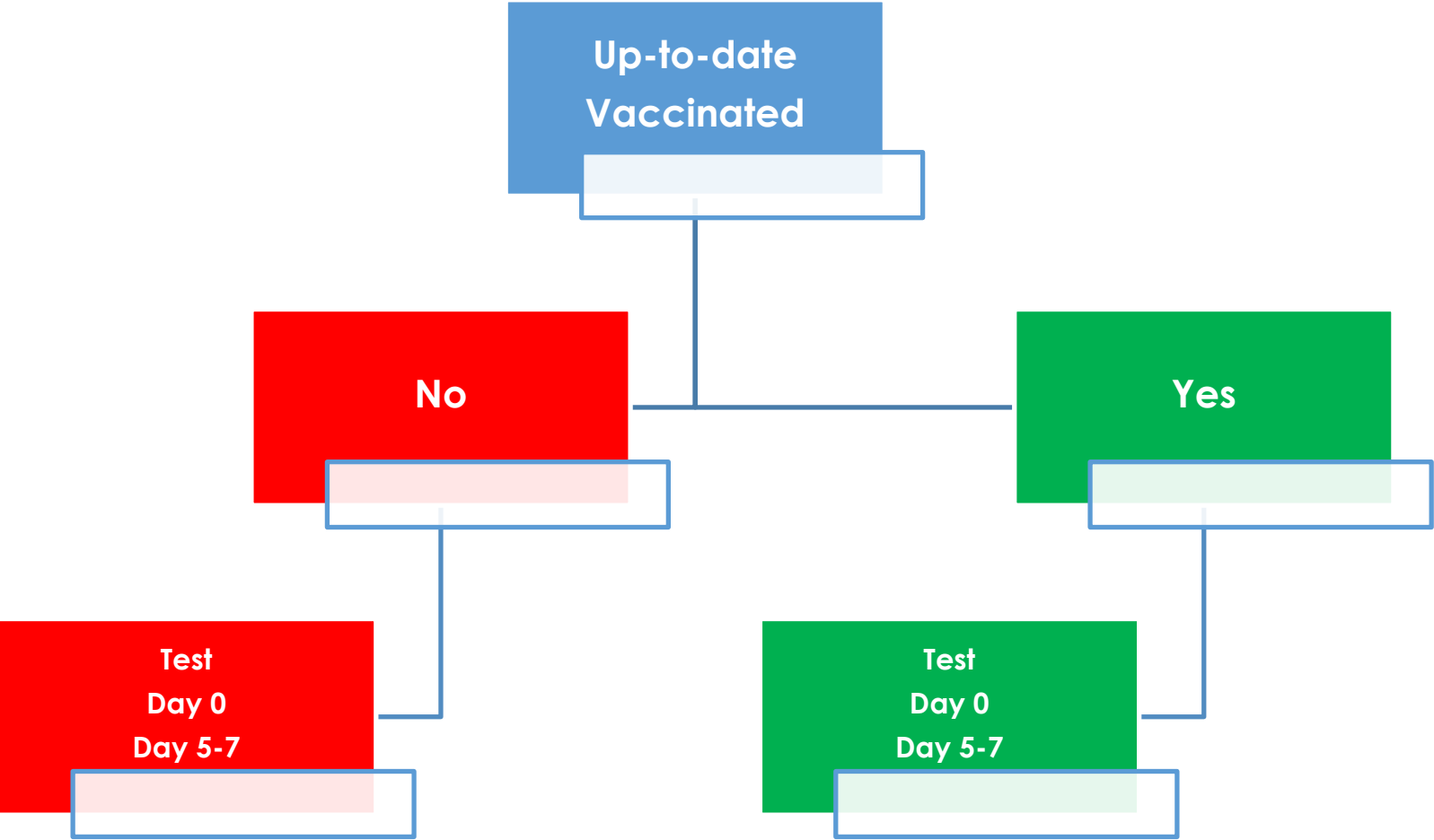
Routine/Expanded Screening Testing



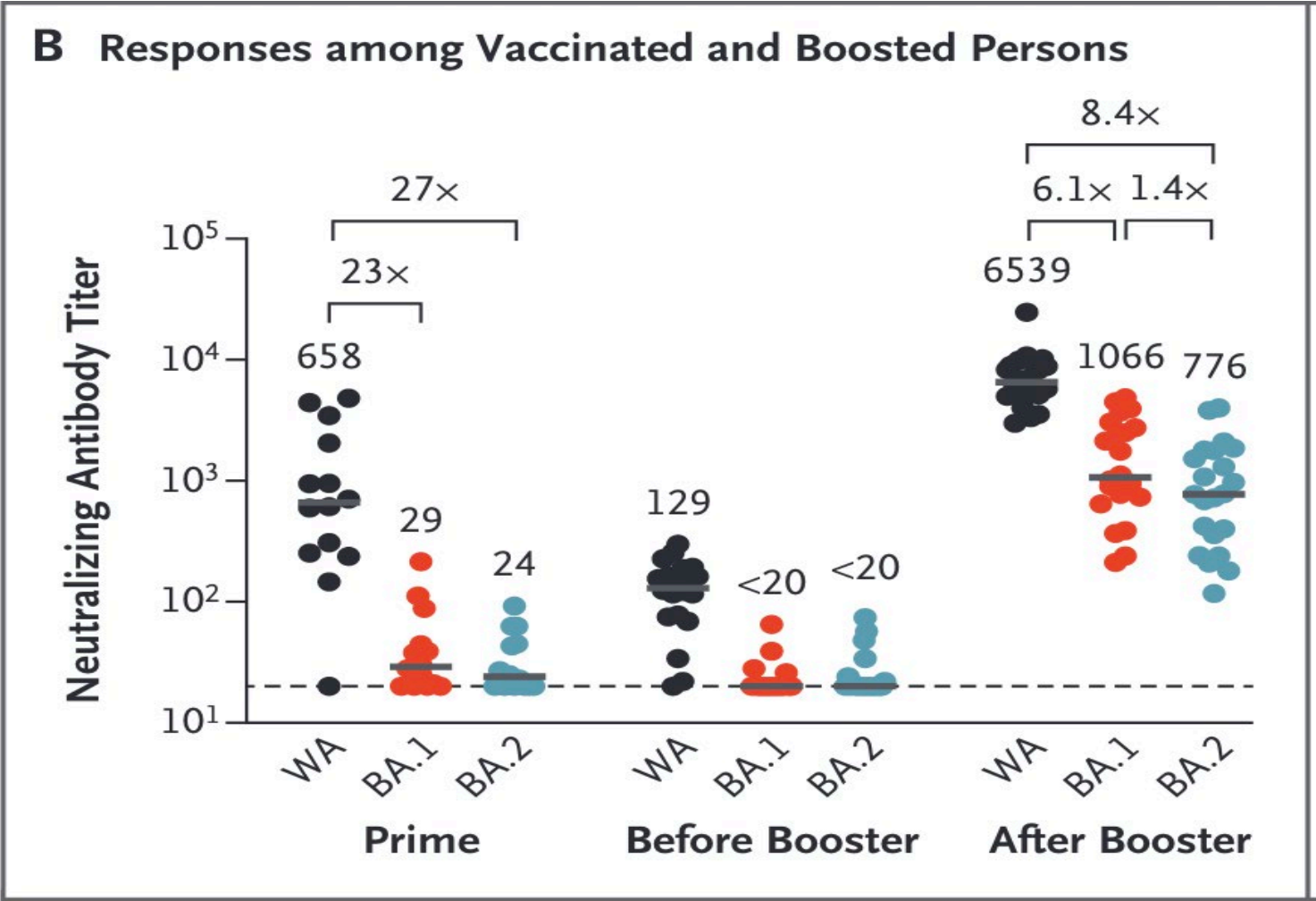
Resident Admission



Resident Admission



Neutralization of the SARS-CoV-2 BA.1 and BA.2 Variants



<https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMc2201849>

Questions?



Save the Date!

Next Office Hours:

Friday, June 17, 2022

11AM



Thanks Again...

- Georgia Department of Public Health
- University of Georgia



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