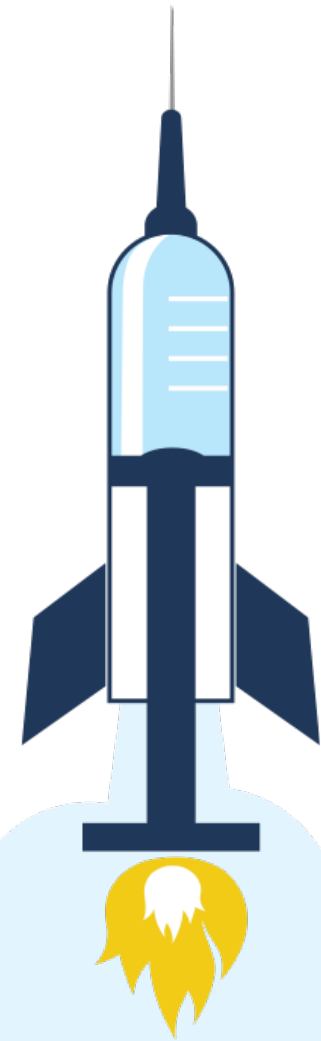


# Are You Ready for the Upcoming Respiratory Season?

Swati Gaur, MD, MBA, CMD, AGSF

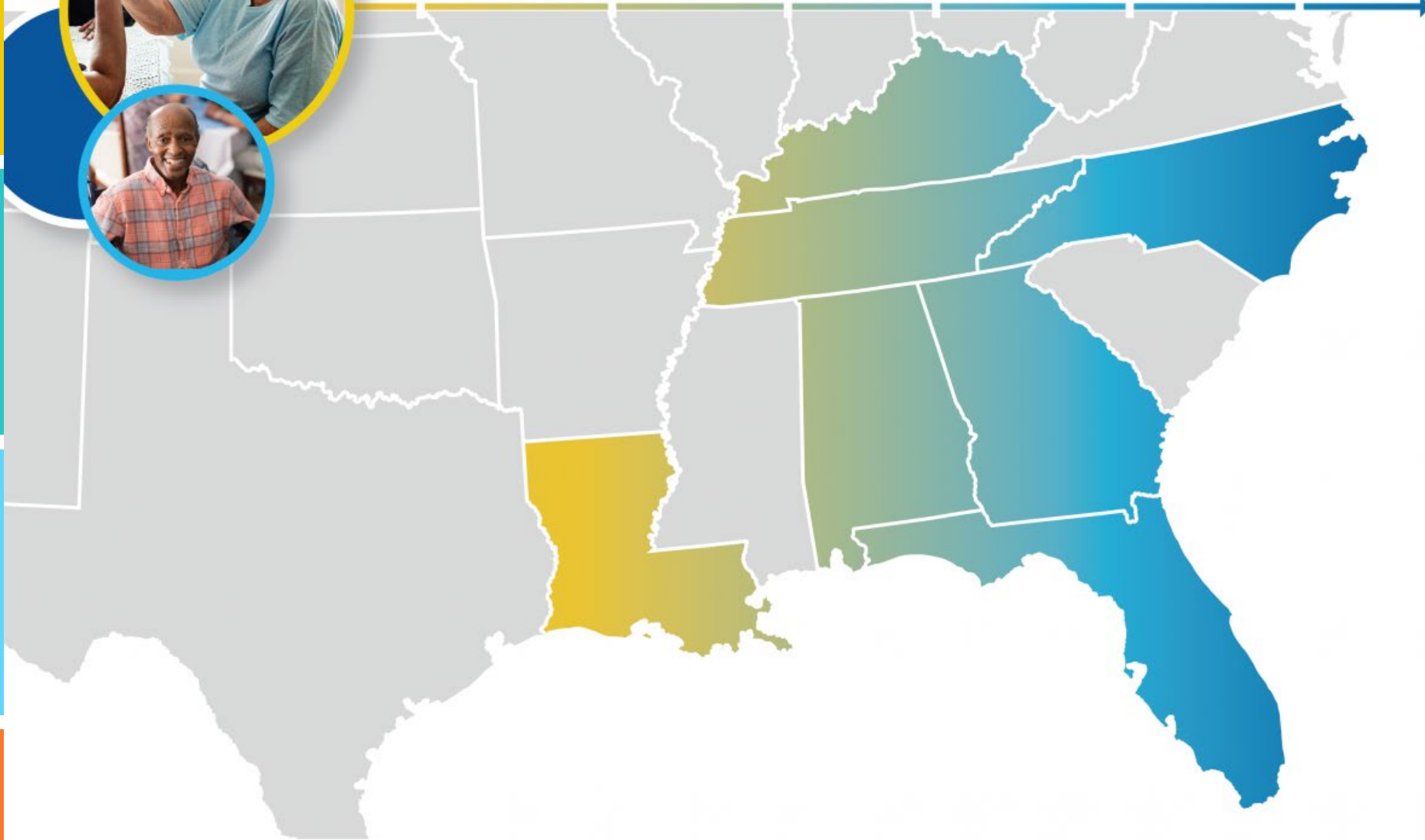
October 26, 2023



 **ALLIANT**  
HEALTH SOLUTIONS

**QIN-QIO**  
Quality Innovation Network -  
Quality Improvement Organizations  
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES  
QUALITY IMPROVEMENT & INNOVATION GROUP

# Making Health Care Better *Together*



## About Alliant Health Solutions

# In This Session, We Will:

- Discuss the resources to assess the risk of a viral outbreak in a nursing home
- Discuss the new trifecta of respiratory protection
- Recognize the impact on resident safety and CMS quality reporting
- Develop a sustainable program of effective safety against respiratory illnesses

# What websites do you check to assess the risk of outbreaks?

Please type it in to chat!

<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#datatracker-home>

<https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/covid19/ltc-report-overview.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/surveillance/resp-net/dashboard.html>

<https://www.medicare.gov/care-compare/?providerType=NursingHome>

# CDC COVID-19 Data Tracker

## COVID-19 Update for the United States

### Early Indicators

#### Test Positivity >

% Test Positivity

9.5%

(October 8 to October 14, 2023)

Trend in % Test Positivity

**-0.7%** in most recent week



Aug 26, 2023

Oct 14, 2023

#### Emergency Department Visits >

% Diagnosed as COVID-19

1.3%

(October 8 to October 14, 2023)

Trend in % Emergency Department Visits

**-11.9%** in most recent week



Aug 26, 2023

Oct 14, 2023

### Severity Indicators

#### Hospitalizations >

Hospital Admissions

16,158

(October 8 to October 14, 2023)

Trend in Hospital Admissions

**-5%** in most recent week



Aug 26, 2023

Oct 14, 2023

#### Deaths >

% of All Deaths in U.S. Due to COVID-19

2.5%

(October 8 to October 14, 2023)

Trend in % COVID-19 Deaths

**+4.2%** in most recent week



Aug 26, 2023

Oct 14, 2023

These early indicators represent a portion of national COVID-19 tests and emergency department visits. [Wastewater](#) information also provides early indicators of spread.

Total Hospitalizations

6,422,520

Total Deaths

1,148,691

CDC | Test Positivity data through: October 14, 2023; Emergency Department Visit data through: October 14, 2023; Hospitalization data through: October 14, 2023; Death data through: October 14, 2023.  
Posted: October 20, 2023 12:00 PM ET

HHS Region:

USA

Data for the 2-Week Period

Ending on:

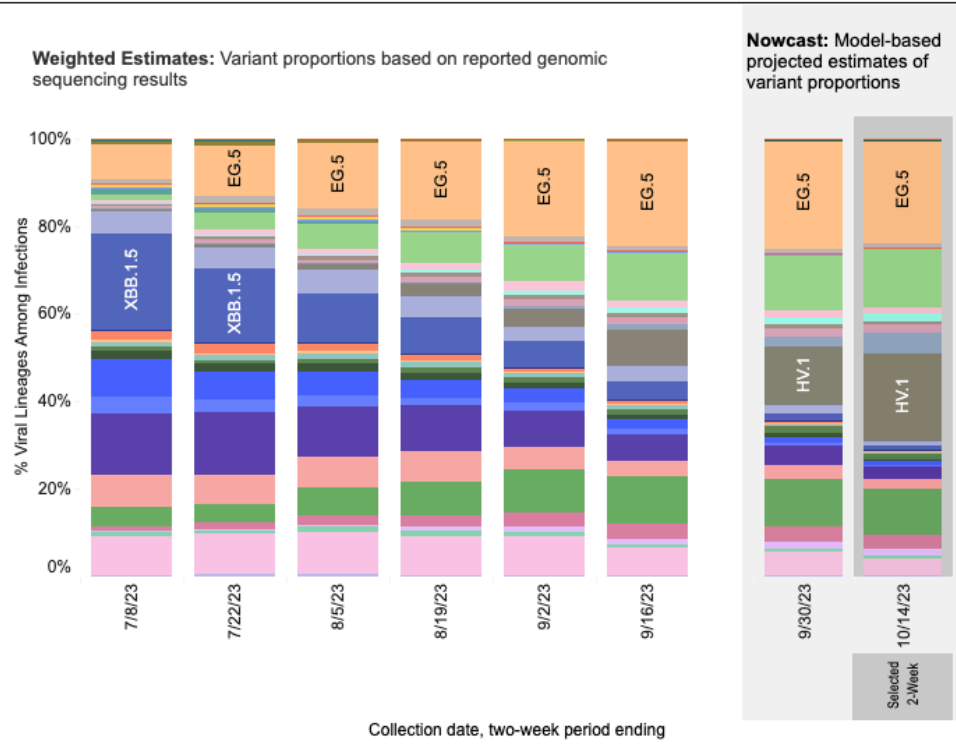
10/14/2023(Nowcast)

This shows weighted and Nowcast estimates for the United States. The table and map show estimates for the 2-week period ending on 10/14/2023(Nowcast) if available.

### Weighted and Nowcast Estimates in United States for 2-Week Periods in 6/25/2023 – 10/14/2023

### Nowcast Estimates in United States for 10/1/2023 – 10/14/2023

Hover over (or tap in mobile) any lineage of interest to see the amount of uncertainty in that lineage's estimate.



		USA	
WHO label	Lineage #	%Total	95%PI
Omicron	EG.5	23.6%	21.2-26.3%
	HV.1	19.5%	16.8-22.6%
	FL.1.5.1	13.5%	10.8-16.7%
	XBB.1.16.6	10.3%	9.1-11.8%
	HK.3	4.9%	3.6-6.7%
	XBB.2.3	4.1%	3.4-4.9%
	XBB.1.16.11	3.1%	2.5-3.9%
	XBB.1.16	2.8%	2.4-3.3%
	XBB.1.16.1	2.2%	1.7-2.7%
	XBB.1.16.15	1.8%	1.3-2.4%
	HF.1	1.7%	1.2-2.4%
	GK.1.1	1.6%	1.3-2.1%
	XBB	1.4%	1.2-1.7%
	GE.1	1.4%	1.0-1.9%
	XBB.1.5.70	1.2%	0.8-1.8%
	GK.2	0.9%	0.7-1.2%
	XBB.1.5	0.9%	0.7-1.0%
	EG.6.1	0.8%	0.6-1.2%
	XBB.1.9.1	0.8%	0.6-1.0%
	XBB.1.5.72	0.6%	0.4-0.8%
	XBB.1.5.68	0.5%	0.3-0.8%
	XBB.1.9.2	0.5%	0.4-0.7%
	XBB.1.42.2	0.5%	0.3-0.8%
	BA.2	0.3%	0.1-0.8%
	XBB.1.5.10	0.3%	0.2-0.4%
	CH.1.1	0.2%	0.1-0.3%
	XBB.2.3.8	0.2%	0.1-0.3%
	XBB.1.5.59	0.1%	0.1-0.2%
	FD.1.1	0.1%	0.1-0.1%
	FE.1.1	0.1%	0.0-0.1%
	XBB.1.5.1	0.0%	0.0-0.0%
	EU.1.1	0.0%	0.0-0.0%
	B.1.1.529	0.0%	0.0-0.0%
	BQ.1	0.0%	0.0-0.0%
	FD.2	0.0%	0.0-0.0%
Other	Other*	0.0%	0.0-0.1%

\* Enumerated lineages are US VOC and lineages circulating above 1% nationally in at least one 2-week period. "Other" represents the aggregation of lineages which are circulating <1% nationally during all 2-week periods displayed.

# BA.1, BA.3 and their sublineages (except BA.1.1 and its sublineages) are aggregated with B.1.1.529. Except BA.2.12.1, BA.2.75, XBB and their sublineages, BA.2 sublineages are aggregated with BA.2. Except BA.2.75.2, CH.1.1 and BN.1, BA.2.75 sublineages are aggregated with BA.2.75. Except BA.4.6, sublineages of BA.4 are aggregated to BA.4. Except BF.7, BF.11, BA.5.2.6, BQ.1 and BQ.1.1, sublineages of BA.5 are aggregated to BA.5. Except the lineages shown and their sublineages, sublineages of XBB are aggregated to XBB. Except XBB.1.5.1, XBB.1.5.10, FD.2, EU.1.1, XBB.1.5.68 and XBB.1.5.70 sublineages of XBB.1.5 are aggregated to XBB.1.5. Except FL.1.5.1, sublineages of XBB.1.9.1 are aggregated to XBB.1.9.1. Except XBB.1.16.1, XBB.1.16.11, XBB.1.16.15 sublineages of XBB.1.16 are aggregated to XBB.1.16, sublineages of XBB.1.42.2 are aggregated to XBB. Except FE.1.1, sublineages of XBB.1.18.1 are aggregated to XBB. For all the other lineages listed, their sublineage are aggregated to the listed parental lineages respectively. Previously, FL.1.5.1, GE.1, EG.6.1 and HV.1, FD.1.1, XBB.2.3.8, HF.1, GK.2, GK.1.1, HK.3 was aggregated to XBB.1.9.1, XBB.2.3.10, XBB.1.9.2, XBB.1.5.15, XBB.2.3, XBB.1.16.13, XBB.1.5.70 and XBB.1.9.2.5.1.1 respectively. Lineages BA.2.75.2, XBB, XBB.1.5, XBB.1.5.1, XBB.1.5.10, FD.2, XBB.1.9.1, XBB.1.9.2, XBB.1.16, XBB.1.16.1, XBB.2.3, BN.1, BA.4.6, BF.7, BF.11, BA.5.2.6, BQ.1, EU.1.1, XBB.1.5.68, FE.1.1, EG.5, XBB.1.5.72, FL.1.5.1, GE.1, EG.6.1, XBB.1.16.11, FD.1.1, XBB.1.5.70, XBB.2.3.8, HV.1, XBB.1.42.2, GK.2, HF.1, XBB.1.16.15, GK.1.1 and HK.3 contain the spike substitution R346T.

<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#variant-proportions>

Weekly Rates

Cumulative Rates

**Filters**

Season

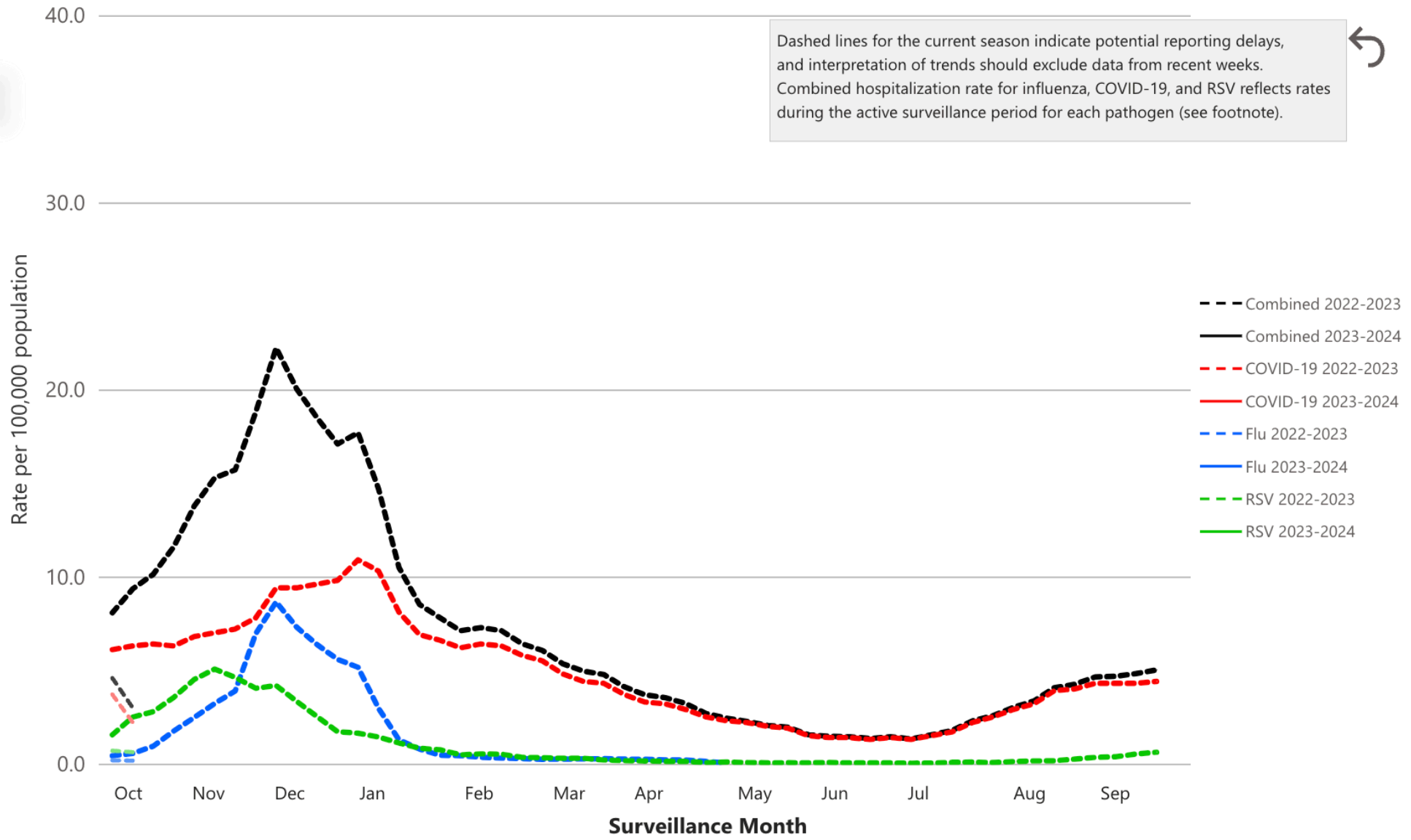
Multiple selections

Pathogen

All

Reset Filters

### Weekly Rates of Respiratory Virus-Associated Hospitalizations by Season

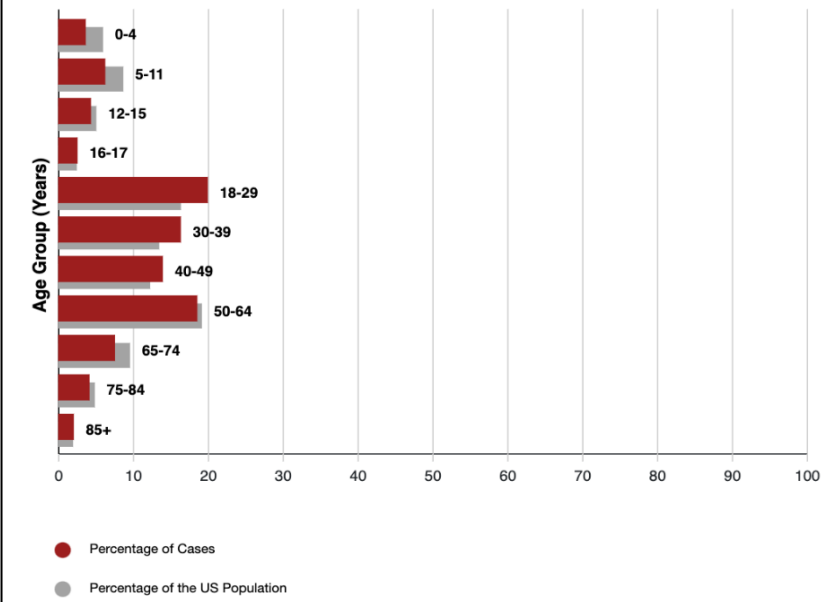


Data last updated: October 18, 2023. | Accessibility: Right-click on the graph area to display options such as show data as table and copy visual.

# COVID-19 Cases vs Deaths

## Cases by Age Group:

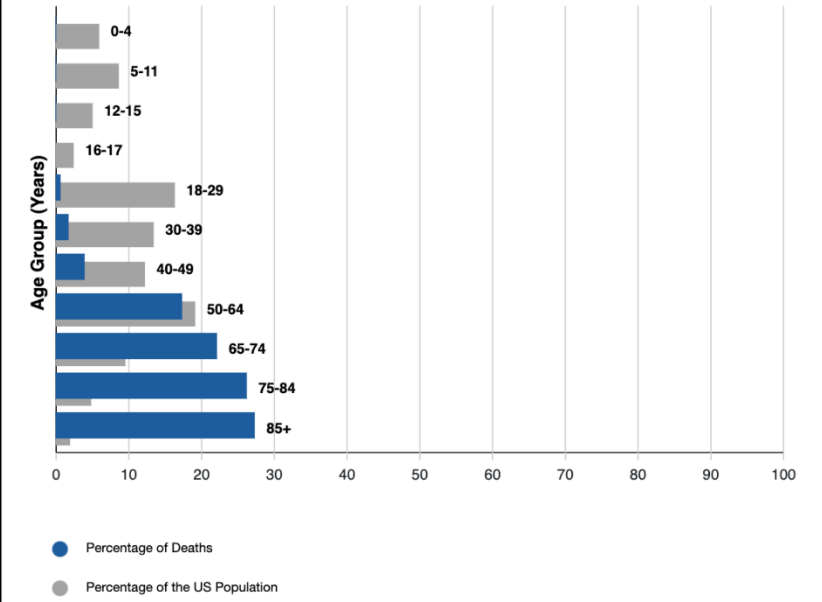
Data from 102,043,171 cases. Age group was available for 101,015,667 (98%) cases.



Show Percentage of the US Population that is in this demographic category  
 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, COVID Data Tracker. Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, CDC; 2023. October 16. <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker>

## Deaths by Age Group:

Data from 1,002,986 deaths. Age group was available for 1,002,132 (99%) deaths.



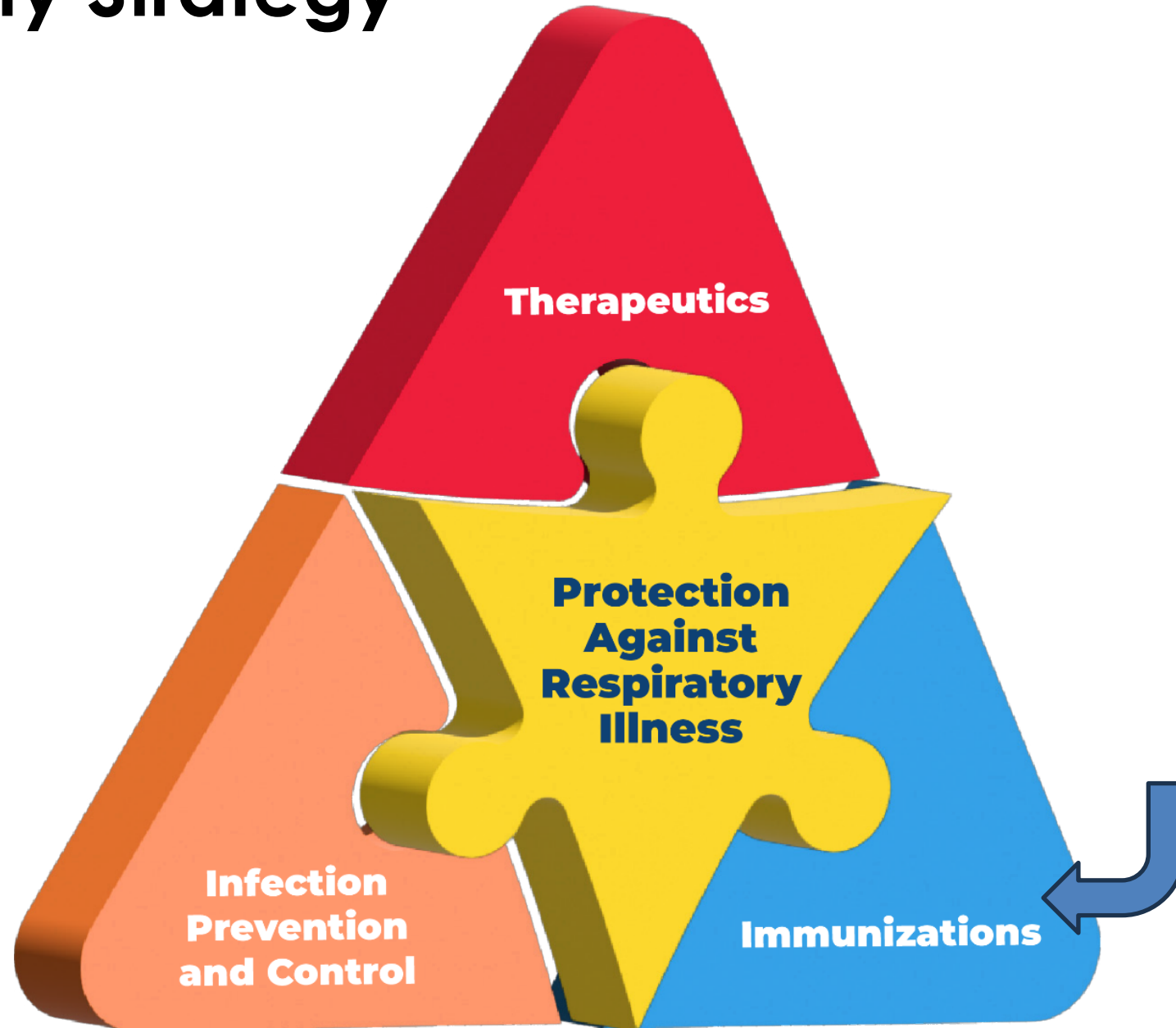
Show Percentage of the US Population that is in this demographic category  
 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, COVID Data Tracker. Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, CDC; 2023. October 16. <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker>



# Safety Strategy



# Safety Strategy



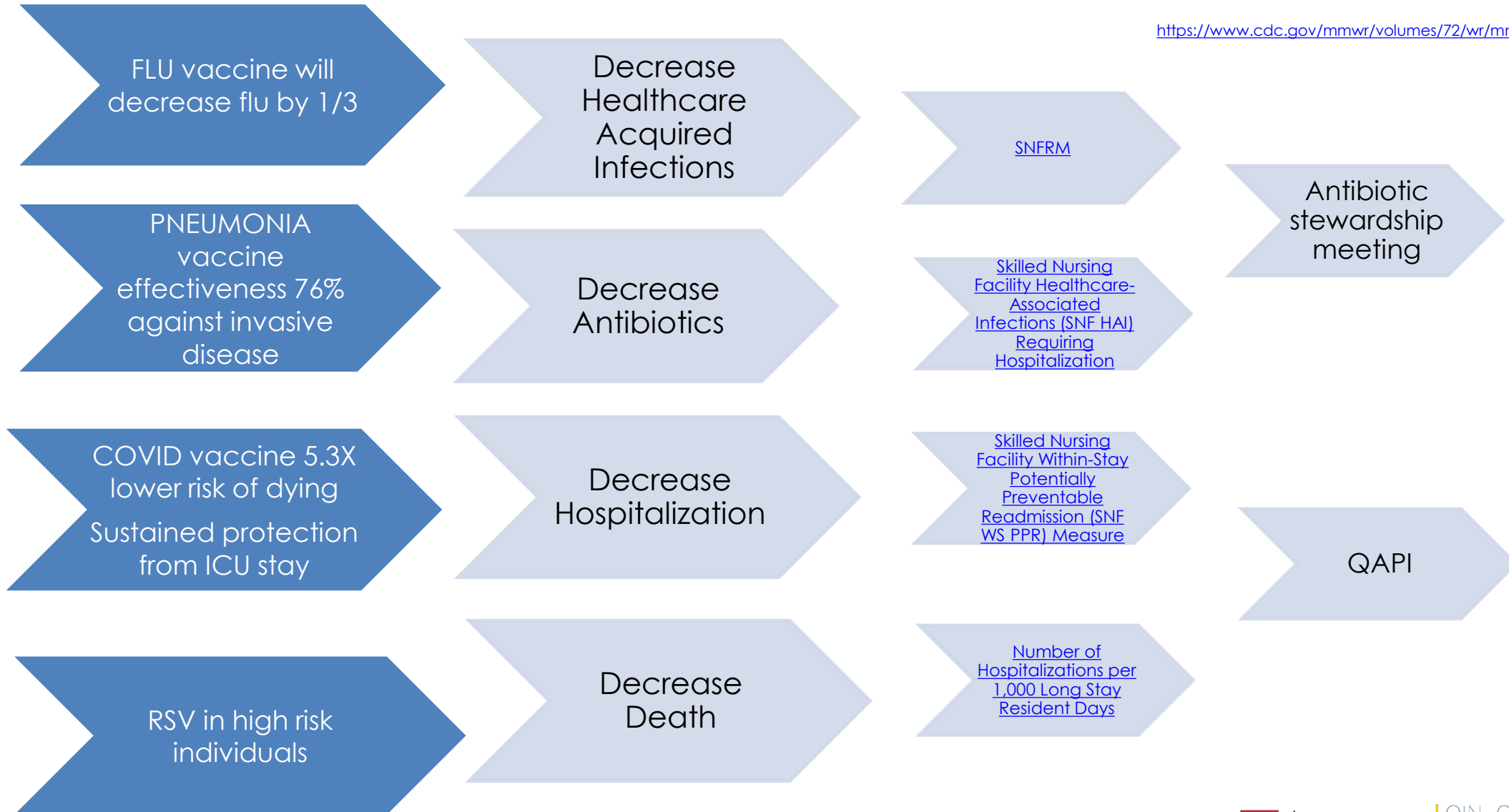
# Vaccine Impact

<https://www.acpjournals.org/doi/10.7326/M22-2042>

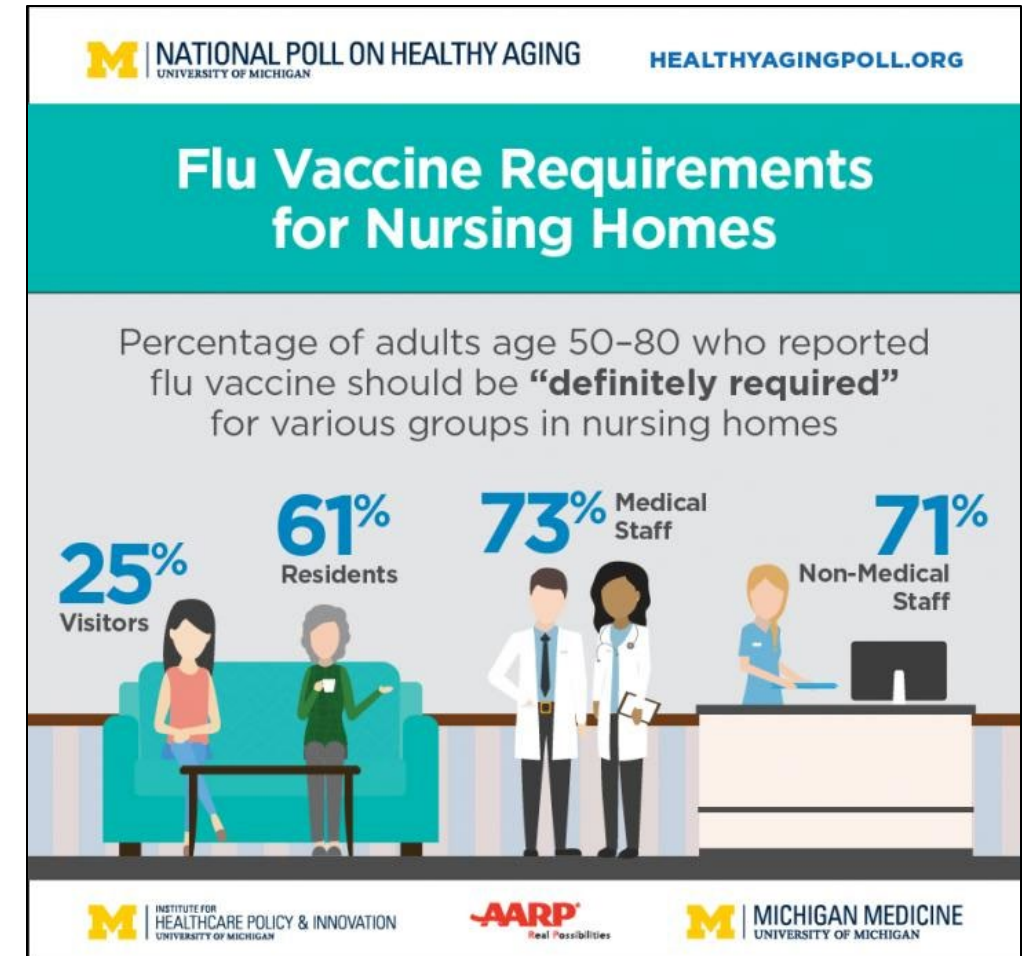
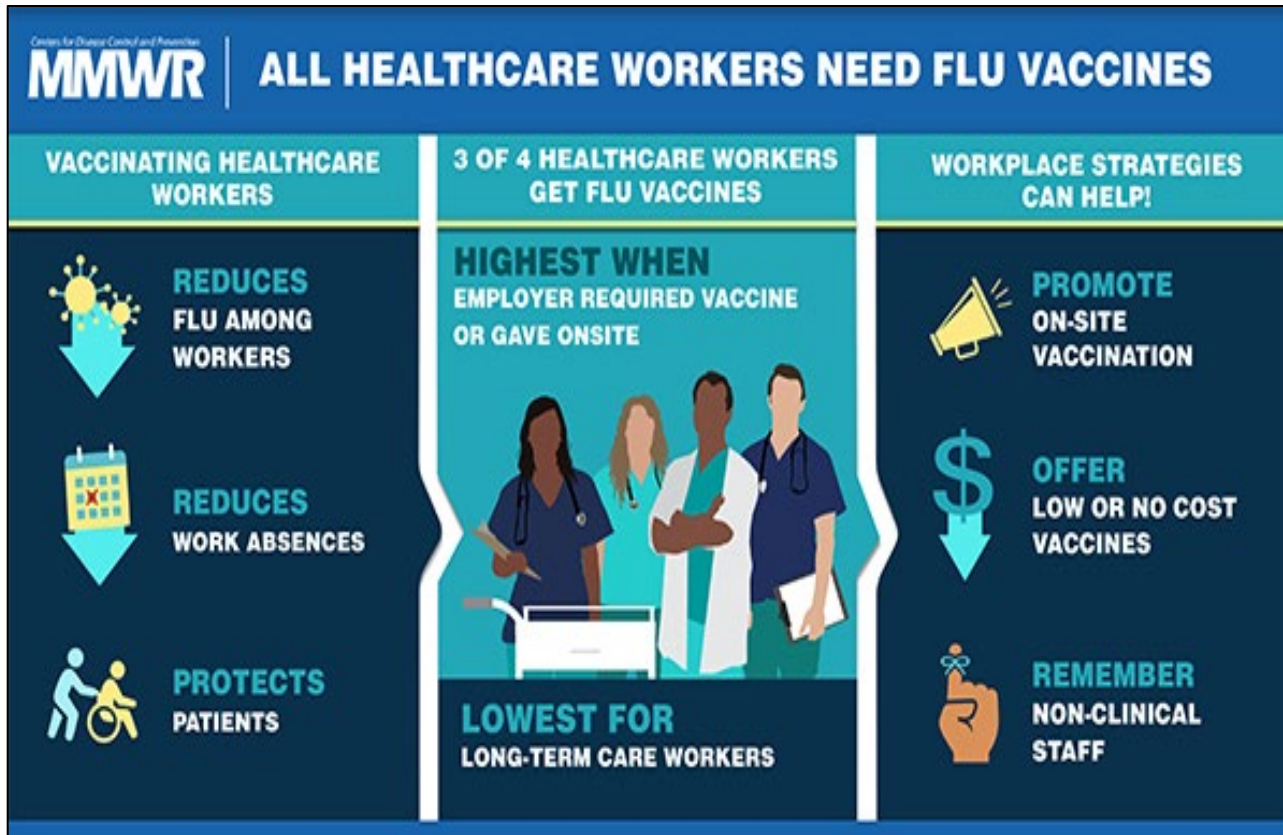
<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/meetings/downloads/slides-2022-06-22-23/02-influenza-Chung-508.pdf>

<https://academic.oup.com/cid/article/40/9/1250/369981>

[https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/72/wr/mm7221a3.htm#T1\\_down](https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/72/wr/mm7221a3.htm#T1_down)



# Let's Talk About Staff Vaccination



# CMS Quality Reporting Program

## **SNF QRP Measure #11: COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage among Healthcare Personnel (HCP) (CBE #3636)**

This measure was finalized in the [FY 2022 SNF PPS Final Rule](#), which was published in the Federal Register on August 4, 2021 (86 FR 42480 through 42489). Data submission for this measure began October 1, 2021.

## **SNF QRP Measure #12: Influenza Vaccination Coverage among Healthcare Personnel (HCP) (CBE #0431)**

This measure was finalized in the [FY 2023 SNF PPS Final Rule](#), which was published in the Federal Register on August 3, 2022 (87 FR 47537 through 47544). Data submission for this measure began October 1, 2022.

<p><b>Influenza</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vaccination of all persons aged <math>\geq 6</math> months who do not have contraindications is recommended.</li> <li>• <b>Changes:</b> Updated U.S. influenza vaccine composition for 2023–2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adults 65+ should get a high-dose or adjuvated flu vaccine</li> <li>• Persons with egg allergy: Should receive influenza vaccine, no additional safety measures required</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>COVID-19</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated COVID-19 vaccines recommended for everyone aged <math>\geq 6</math></li> <li>• The vaccines are <b>covered by insurance</b>. Uninsured and underinsured children and adults have access to vaccines through <b>VFC</b> or <b>Bridge Program</b>.</li> <li>• Everyone ages <b>5 years</b> and older recommended for a single 2023 – 2024 dose</li> <li>• No additional dose for age 65+ recommended <b>at this time</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>RSV</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RSV can cause serious illness in older adults. Certain underlying medical conditions and advanced age are associated with increased risk of severe RSV.</li> <li>• Adults 60+ may receive an RSV vaccine based on shared clinical decision-making with a healthcare provider.</li> </ul>

# Influenza Vaccination of Persons Aged $\geq 65$ Years

- Adults aged  $\geq 65$  years should preferentially receive any one of the following higher dose or adjuvanted influenza vaccines:
  - Quadrivalent high-dose inactivated influenza vaccine (HD-IIV4),
  - Quadrivalent recombinant influenza vaccine (RIV4), or
  - Quadrivalent adjuvanted inactivated influenza vaccine (aIIV4).
- If none of these three vaccines is available at an opportunity for vaccine administration, then any other age-appropriate influenza vaccine should be used.
- Vaccination of older adults in July and August should be avoided unless later vaccination might not be possible.
  - Due to potential waning of immunity.

# Flu Vaccines for > 65 Years

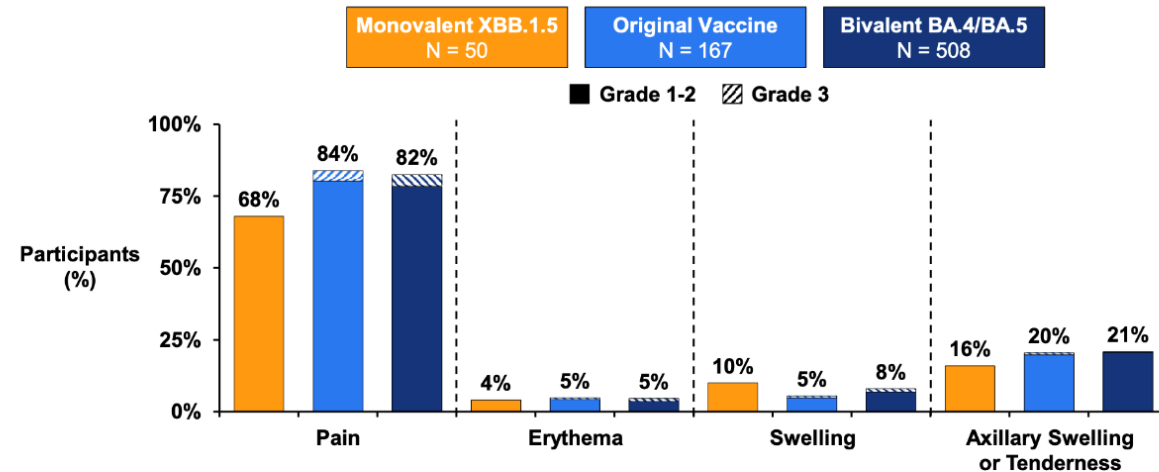
<b>Quadrivalent IIV (HD-IIV4)—High-dose—Egg-based (60 µg HA per virus component in 0.7 mL)</b>			
Fluzone High-Dose Quadrivalent <i>Sanofi Pasteur</i>	0.7 mL prefilled syringe	≥65 yrs	≥65 yrs—0.7 mL
<b>Adjuvanted quadrivalent IIV4 (aIIV4)—Standard-dose with MF59 adjuvant—Egg-based (15 µg HA per virus component in 0.5 mL)</b>			
Fluad Quadrivalent <i>Seqirus</i>	0.5 mL prefilled syringe	≥65 yrs	≥65 yrs—0.5 mL
<b>Quadrivalent RIV (RIV4)—Recombinant HA (45 µg HA per virus component in 0.5 mL)</b>			
Flublok Quadrivalent <i>Sanofi Pasteur</i>	0.5 mL prefilled syringe	≥18 yrs	≥18 yrs—0.5 mL



# Data on the Updated COVID-19 Vaccine

6

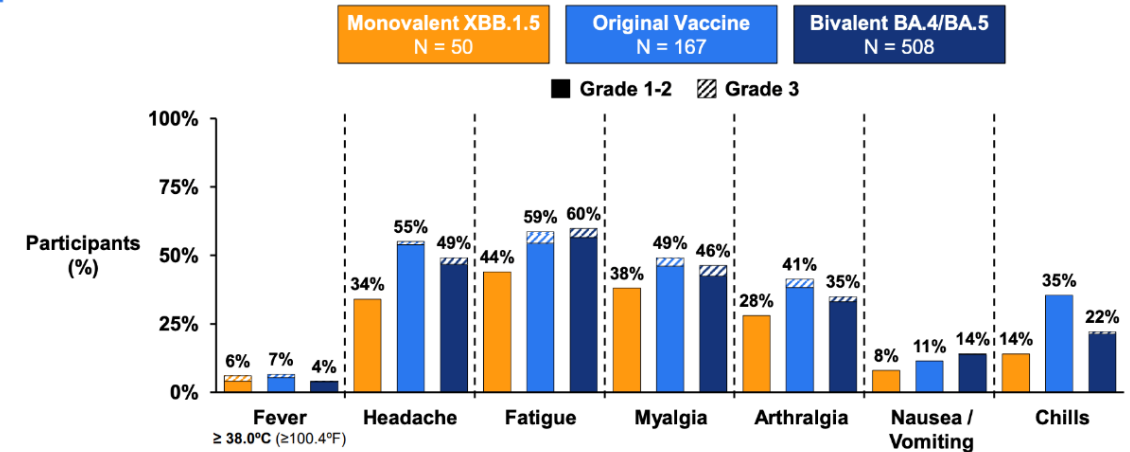
## Local Reactions Following Booster Doses in Adults Study 205J and Study 205H, Solicited Safety Set



Local reactions similar or lower than previously authorized Moderna COVID-19 vaccines

Within 7 days of injection; No Grade 4 events reported  
Chalkias et al., *medRxiv*, 2022, Chu et al, *Nat Med* 28:1041, 2022

## Systemic Reactions Following Booster Doses in Adults Study 205J and Study 205H, Solicited Safety Set

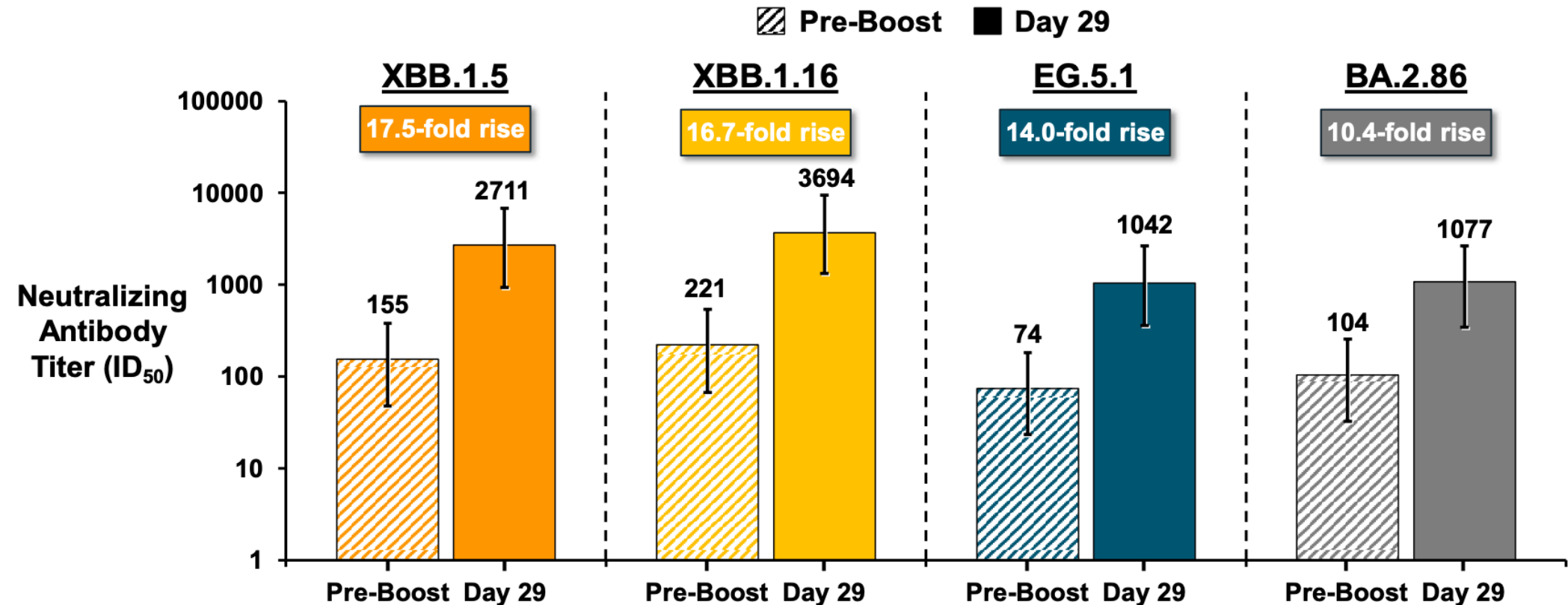


Systemic reactions similar or lower than previously authorized Moderna COVID-19 vaccines

Within 7 days of injection; No Grade 4 events reported  
Chalkias et al., *medRxiv*, 2022, Chu et al, *Nat Med* 28:1041, 2022

# Cross Neutralization Results (Day 29) After XBB.1.5 Vaccine in Adults – *Duke Assay*

Study 205J, Per-Protocol Immunogenicity Set - All Participants



**Substantial fold rise demonstrated across newer variants**

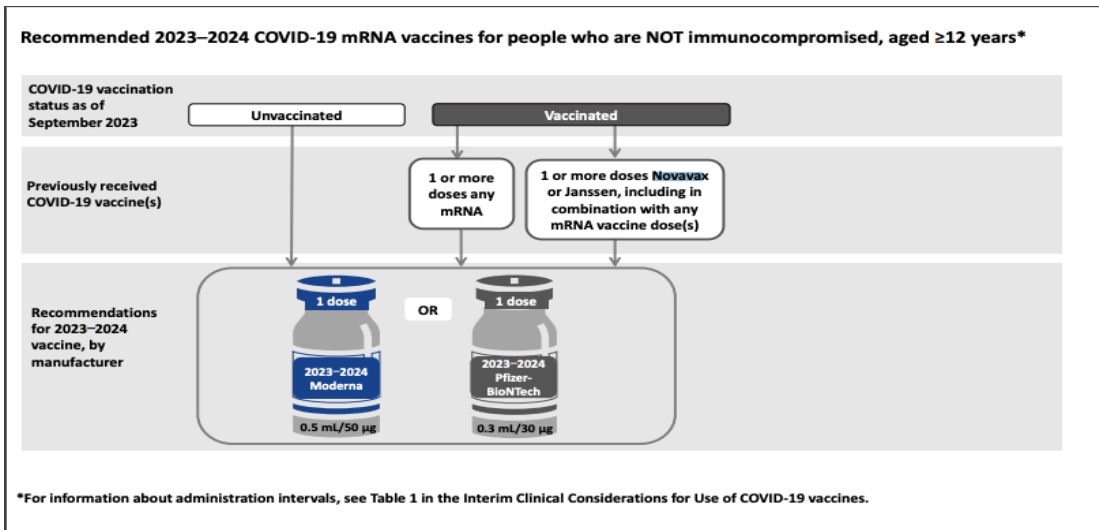
# COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendation 2023-2024

Novavax:

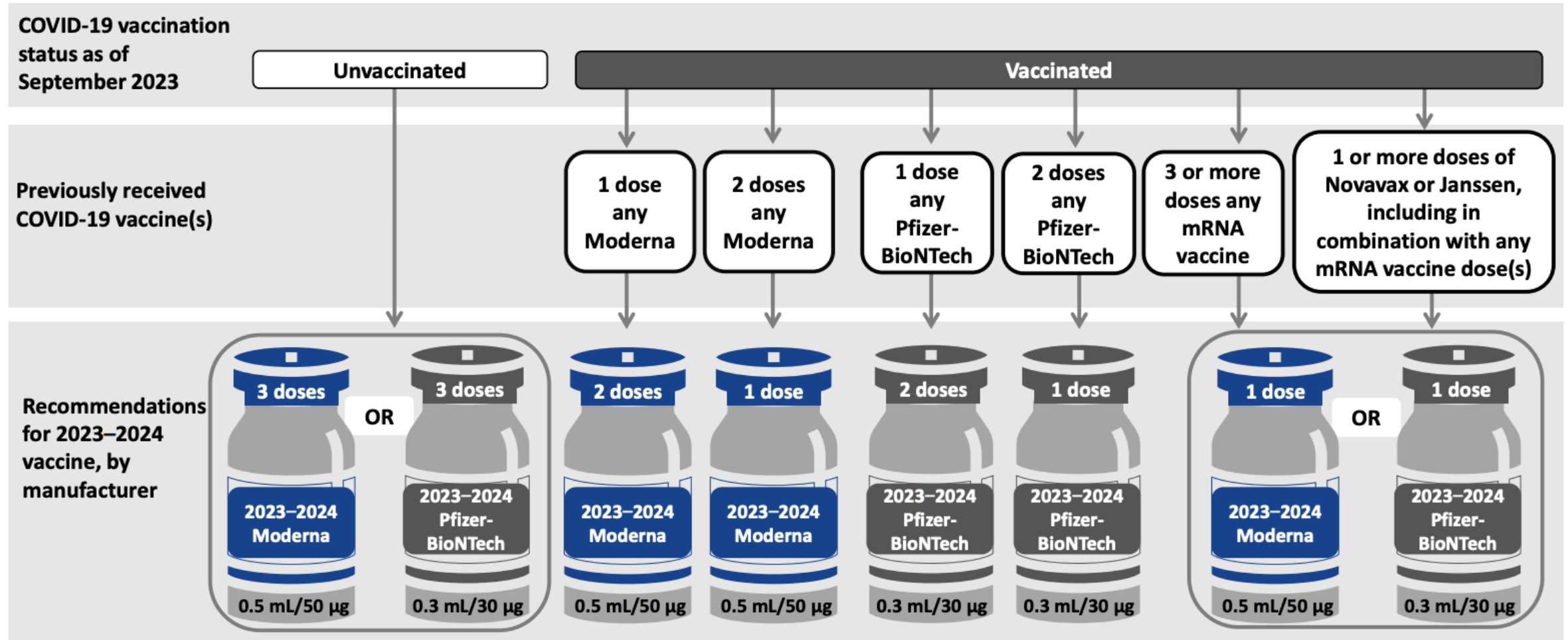
- Ages 12 years and older
- Previously completed primary vaccination using any FDA-approved or FDA-authorized COVID-19 vaccine
- Unable or unwilling to receive an mRNA vaccine and would otherwise not receive a booster dose.
- Administered at least 6 months after completion of any primary series.
- 2023-24 vax was authorized by FDA Oct 3, 2023

## Doses recommended:

- **1 dose of 2023–2024 COVID-19 vaccine**, regardless of prior vaccination history



# Recommended 2023–2024 COVID-19 vaccines for people who ARE moderately or severely immunocompromised, aged ≥12 years\*



\*For information about administration intervals, people who transition from age 11 years to age 12 years during an mRNA vaccination series, and administration of additional dose(s), see Table 2 in Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines.

# A Note on RSV Vaccine

## Chronic Underlying Medical Conditions Associated with Increased Risk of Severe RSV Disease



Lung disease



Neurologic or neuromuscular conditions



Cardiovascular disease



Kidney disorders



Moderate or severe immune compromise



Liver disorders



Diabetes Mellitus



Hematologic disorders



Other conditions that might increase the risk for severe disease

Use of Respiratory Syncytial Virus Vaccines in Older Adults: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices — United States, 2023

## Other Factors Associated with Increased Risk of Severe RSV Disease



Residence in a nursing home or other long-term care facility (LTCF)



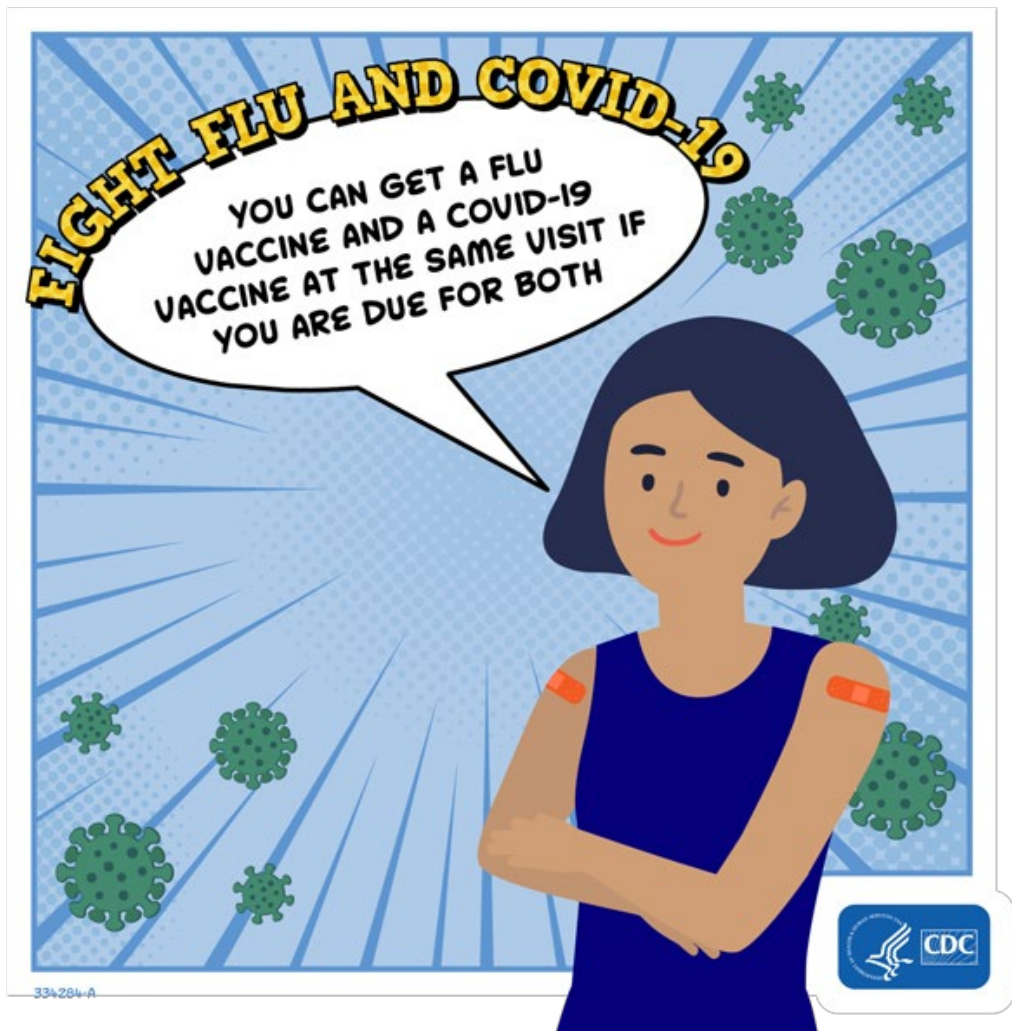
Frailty



Advanced age

Use of Respiratory Syncytial Virus Vaccines in Older Adults: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices — United States, 2023

# Coadministration



COVID-19 vaccine + Flu vaccine



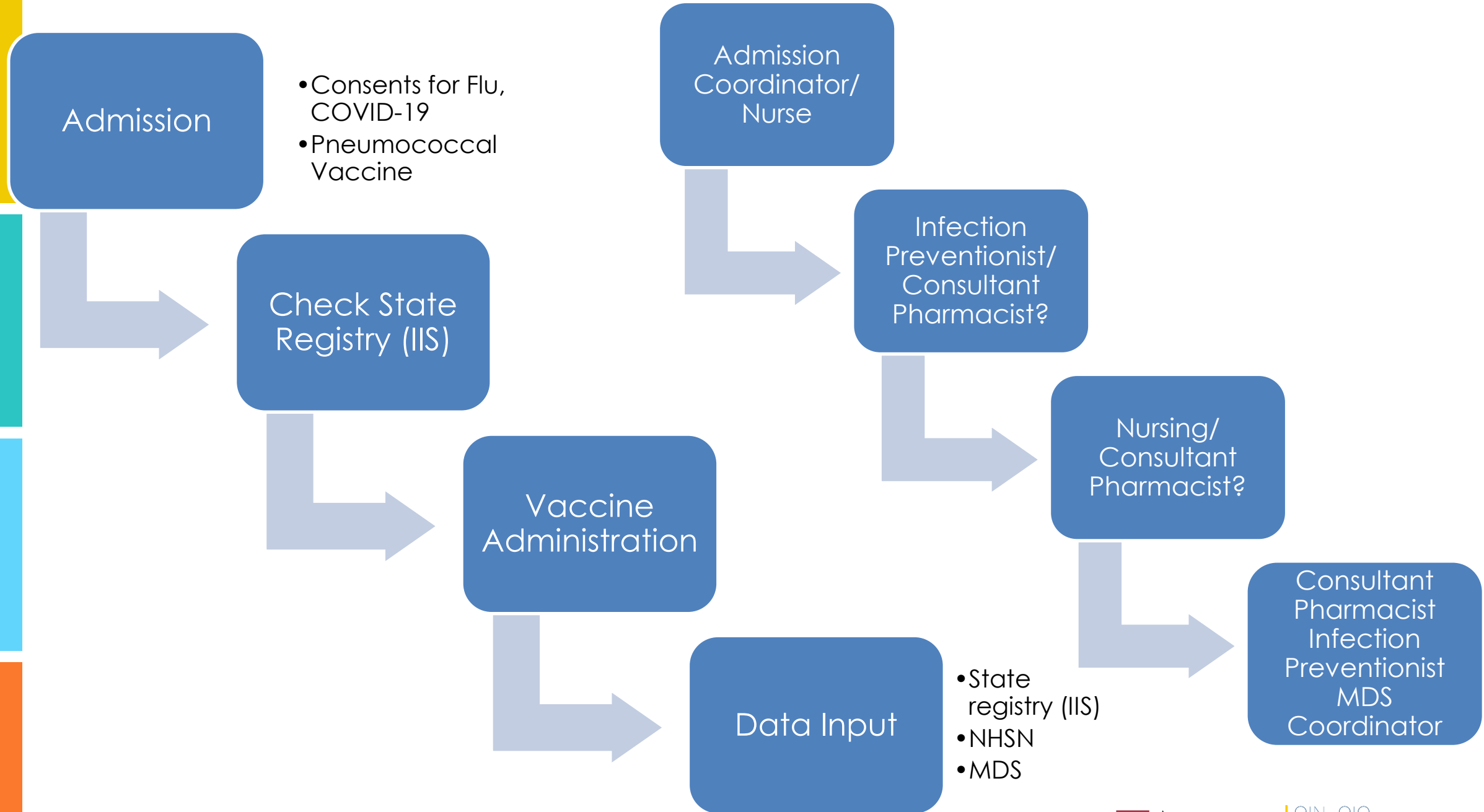
Pneumococcal vaccine + Flu vaccine



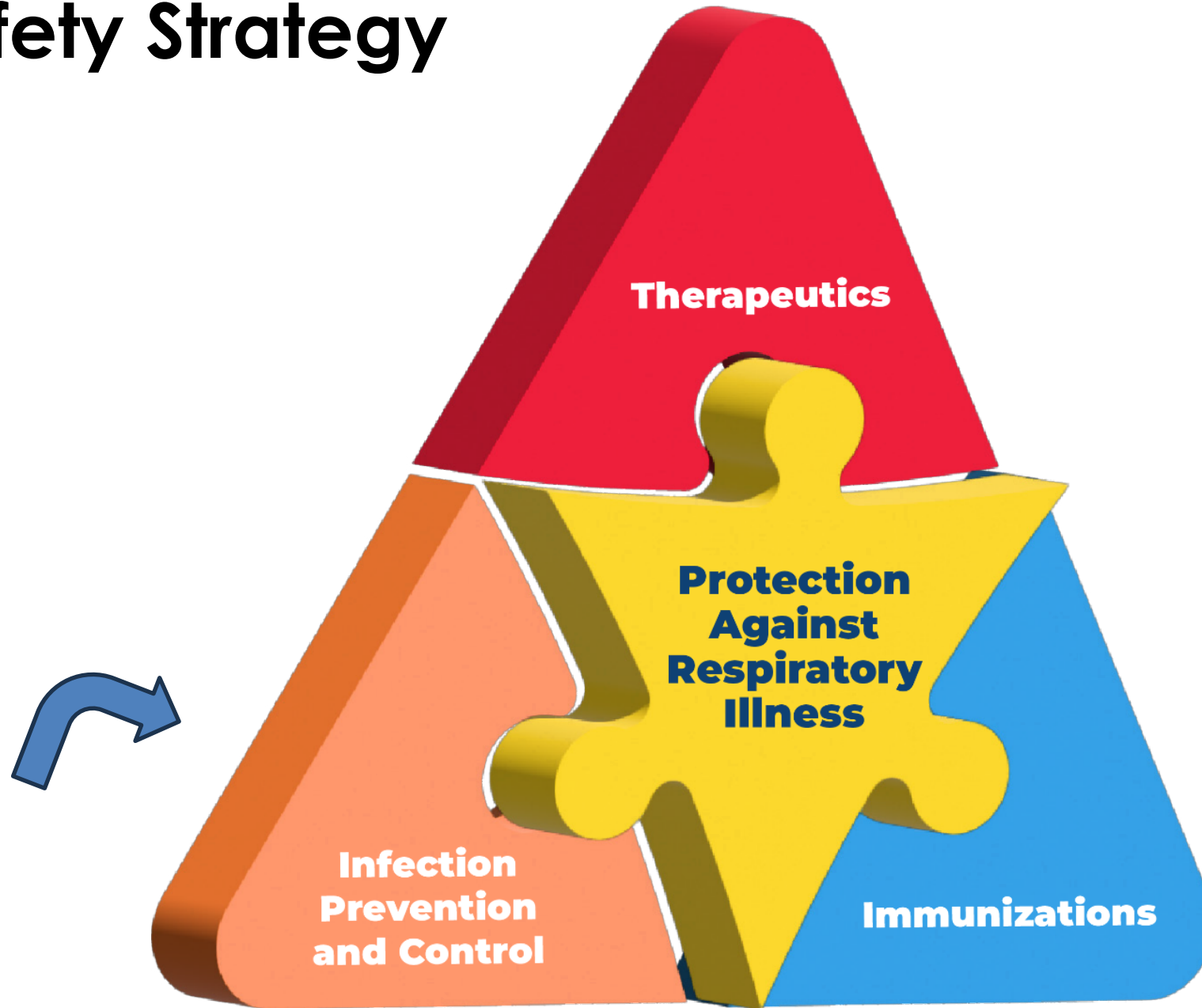
COVID-19 vaccine +  
Pneumococcal vaccine



Any of the above vaccines can be given in conjunction with RSV vaccine

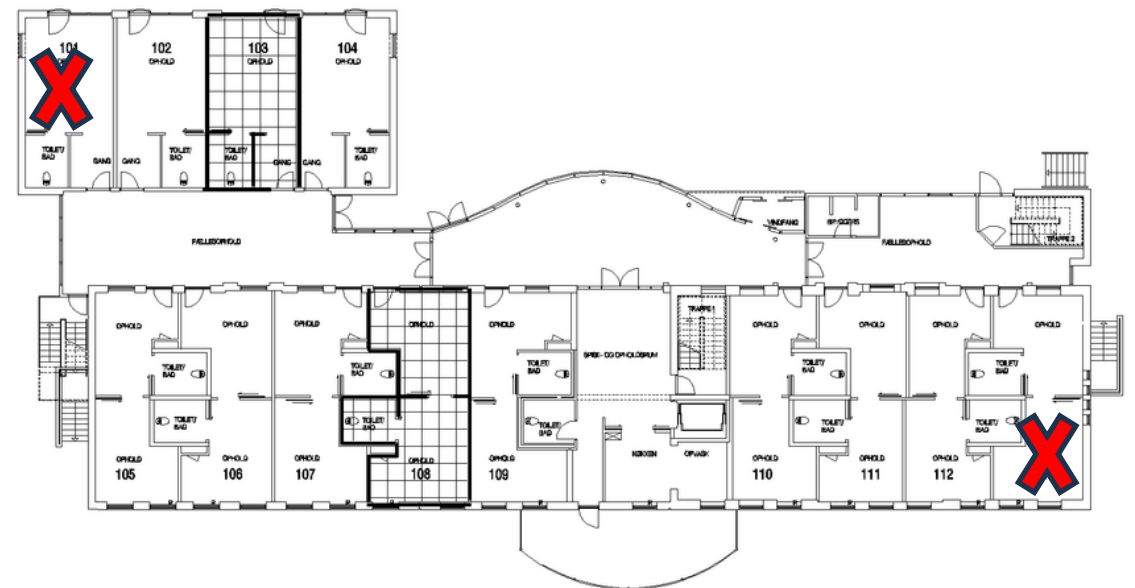
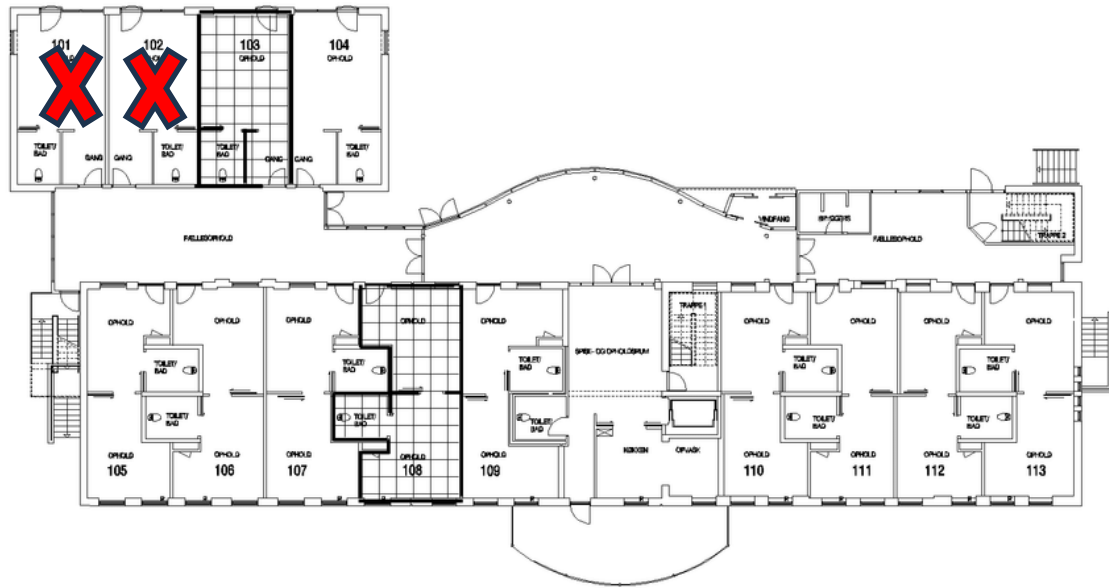


# Safety Strategy





# Facility Mapping is Critical Part of Infection Control



# How COVID, Flu, Common Cold and RSV Symptoms Compare

## COVID

Body aches, chills, cough, diarrhea, fatigue, fever, headache, loss of taste/smell, nausea/vomiting, shortness of breath, stuffy/runny nose

## FLU

Body aches, chills, cough, fatigue, fever, headache, sore throat, stuffy nose

## COMMON COLD

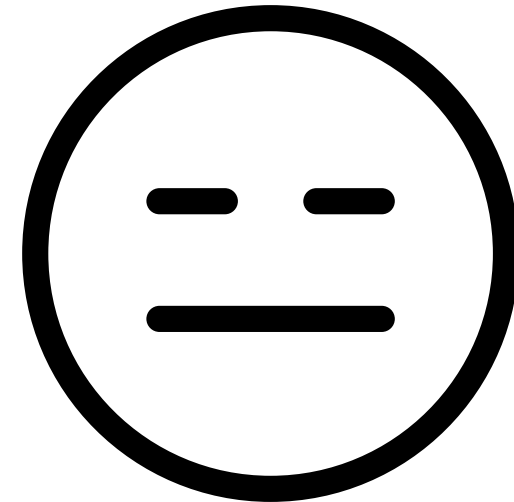
Cough, low-grade fever, sneezing, sore throat, stuffy nose

## RSV

Cough, runny nose, sneezing, fever, wheezing

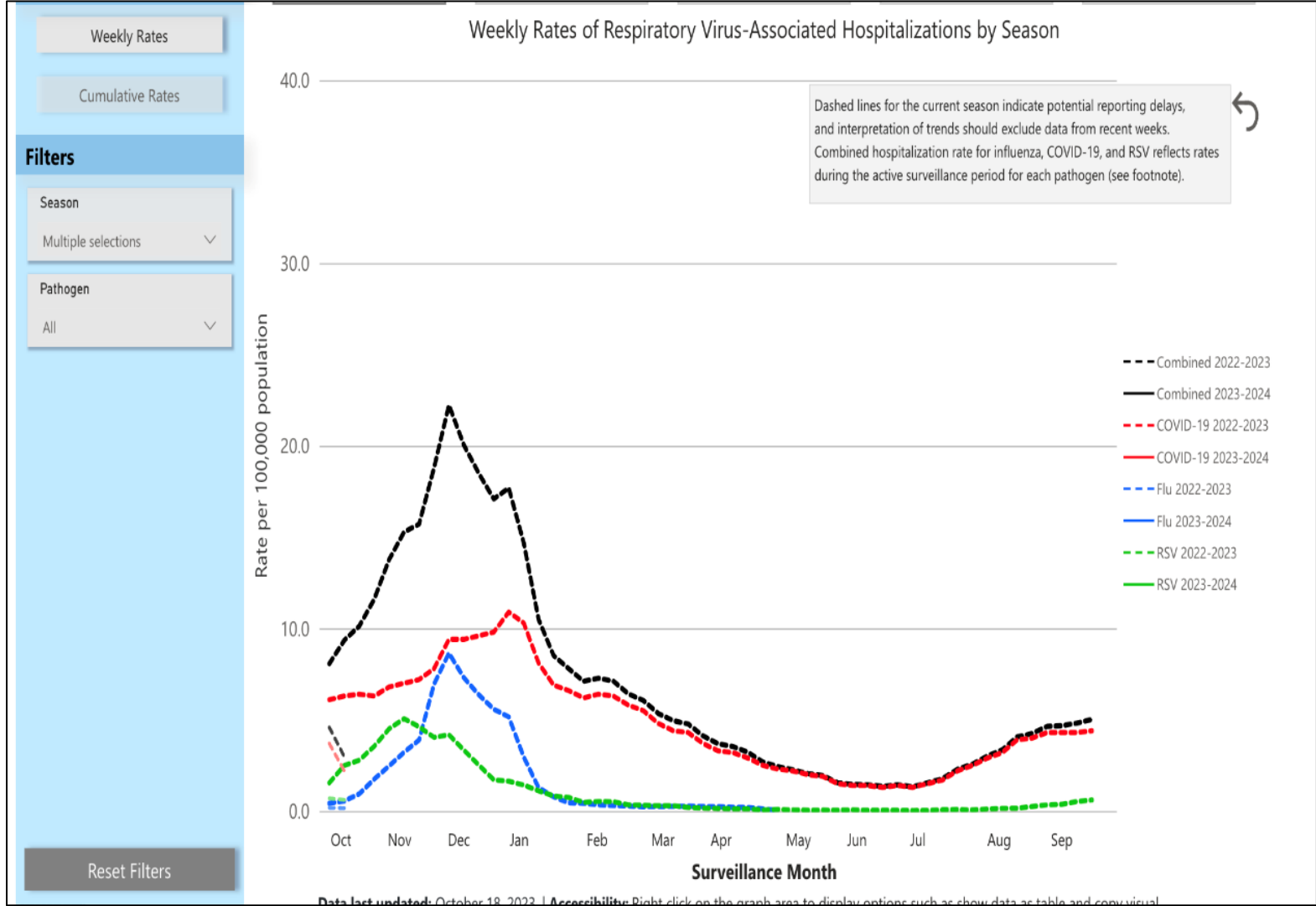
Source: CHLA

# Surveillance



**We can't tell!**

# Testing



Test for

Flu  
Covid  
RSV

You can have both  
at the same time

# COVID-19

Airborne+droplet+Contact+standard



## AEROSOL CONTACT PRECAUTIONS



(In addition to Standard Precautions)

**Only essential personnel should enter this room**  
*(If you have questions, ask nursing staff)*

**Everyone Must: including visitors, doctors & staff**



**Clean hands when entering and leaving room**



**Respirator**  
Use a NIOSH-approved N95 or equivalent or higher-level respirator especially during aerosolizing procedures\*



**Wear eye Protection**  
(face shield or goggles)



**Gown and glove at door**

**KEEP DOOR CLOSED**



**Use patient-dedicated or disposable equipment**

**Clean & disinfect shared equipment**

# Flu

Droplet and standard precautions



## DROPLET PRECAUTIONS



(In addition to Standard Precautions)

*(If you have questions, ask nursing staff)*

**Everyone Must:**



**Clean hands when entering and leaving room**



**Wear mask**

**Doctors and Staff Must:**

**Wear eye protection with respiratory symptoms and standard precautions if contact with secretions likely.**

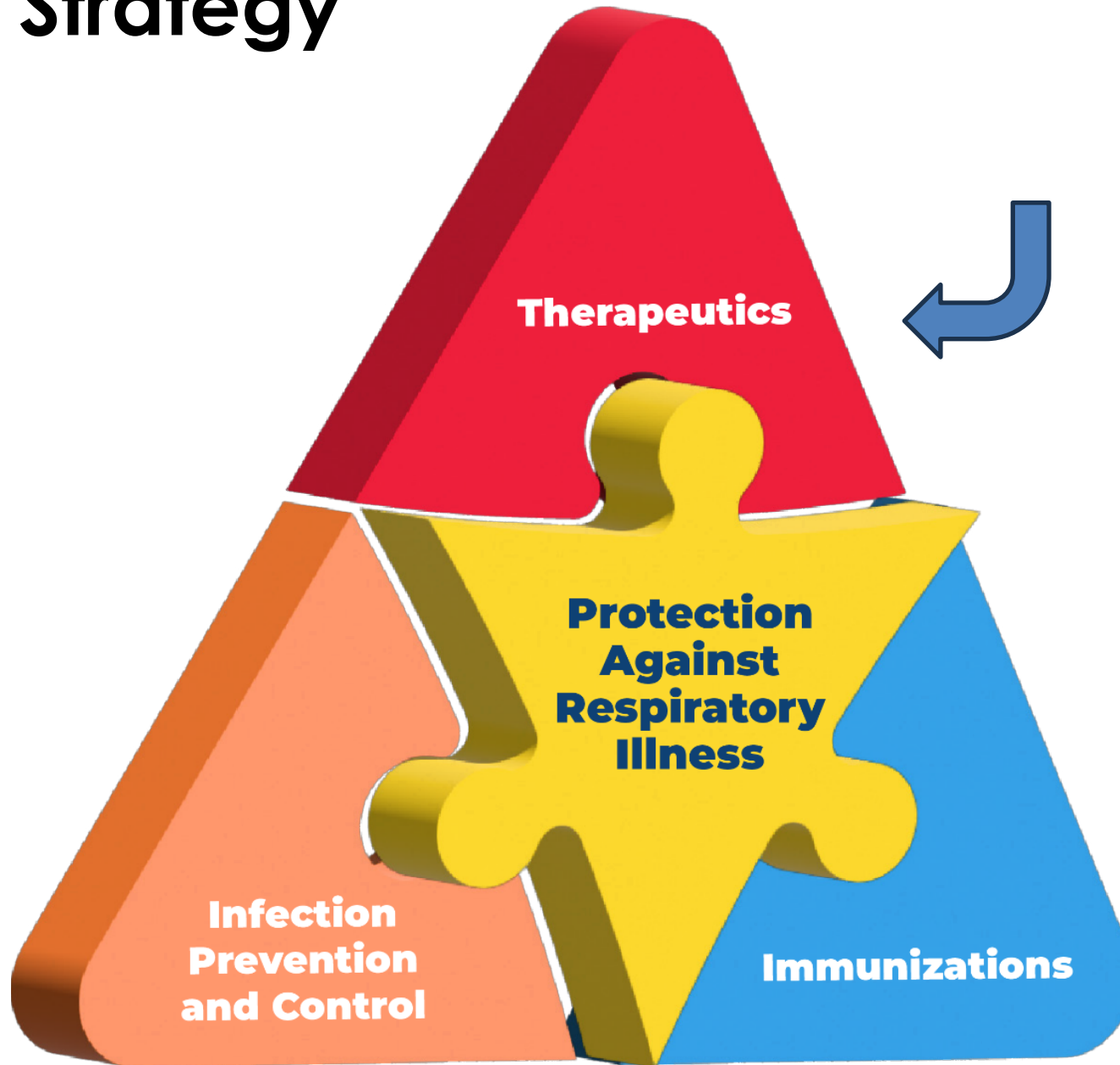






# Safety Strategy





# COVID-19 Treatment Guidelines

Does Not Require  
Hospitalization or  
Supplemental Oxygen

All patients should be offered symptomatic management **(AIII)**.

For patients who are at high risk of progressing to severe COVID-19,<sup>a</sup> use 1 of the following treatment options:

## Preferred Therapies

*Listed in order of preference:*

- **Ritonavir-boosted nirmatrelvir (Paxlovid)<sup>b,c</sup> (AIIa)**
- **Remdesivir<sup>c,d</sup> (BIIa)**

## Alternative Therapies

*For use ONLY when neither of the preferred therapies are available, feasible to use, or clinically appropriate. Listed in alphabetical order:*

- **Molnupiravir<sup>c,f</sup> (CIIa)**

The Panel **recommends against** the use of **dexamethasone<sup>g</sup>** or **other systemic corticosteroids** in the absence of another indication **(AIII)**.

<https://www.covid19treatmentguidelines.nih.gov/management/clinical-management/clinical-management-summary/>

<sup>a</sup> CDC webpage for criteria of high risk; <sup>b</sup> Caution about drug-drug interactions; <sup>c</sup> If hospitalized, treatment course can be completed;

<sup>d</sup> Remdesivir is 3 consecutive day infusion; <sup>f</sup> Molnupiravir has lower efficacy than preferred options; <sup>g</sup> There is currently a lack of safety and efficacy data using glucocorticoids in non-hospitalized patients

# Paxlovid

- The earlier the better
- Don't wait for symptoms in high-risk patients
- Consider having it onsite in the ebox for the duration of outbreak
- If there is a high likelihood of infection, it can be given before the test is back
- [Liverpool drug interaction checker](#)

## Who should get it?

Treatments should be considered for any patient over the age of 50 or with a high-risk health condition, regardless of vaccination status.

Patients are more likely than others to get very sick from COVID-19 if:

- They are 50 years of age or older.
- They have a compromised or weakened immune system OR they have [one or more health issues](#), heart, lung, or kidney disease; are overweight; have diabetes; severe asthma; or some types of disabilities.
- They are unvaccinated.

# Flu

Start treatment early!  
The first two days ideal

- Oseltamivir twice a day for five days
- Baloxavir – single dose – early and uncomplicated
- Don't use it for prophylaxis





## CLINICAL SURVEILLANCE

Low threshold for testing  
Expand surveillance symptoms  
Increase frequency



## TEST

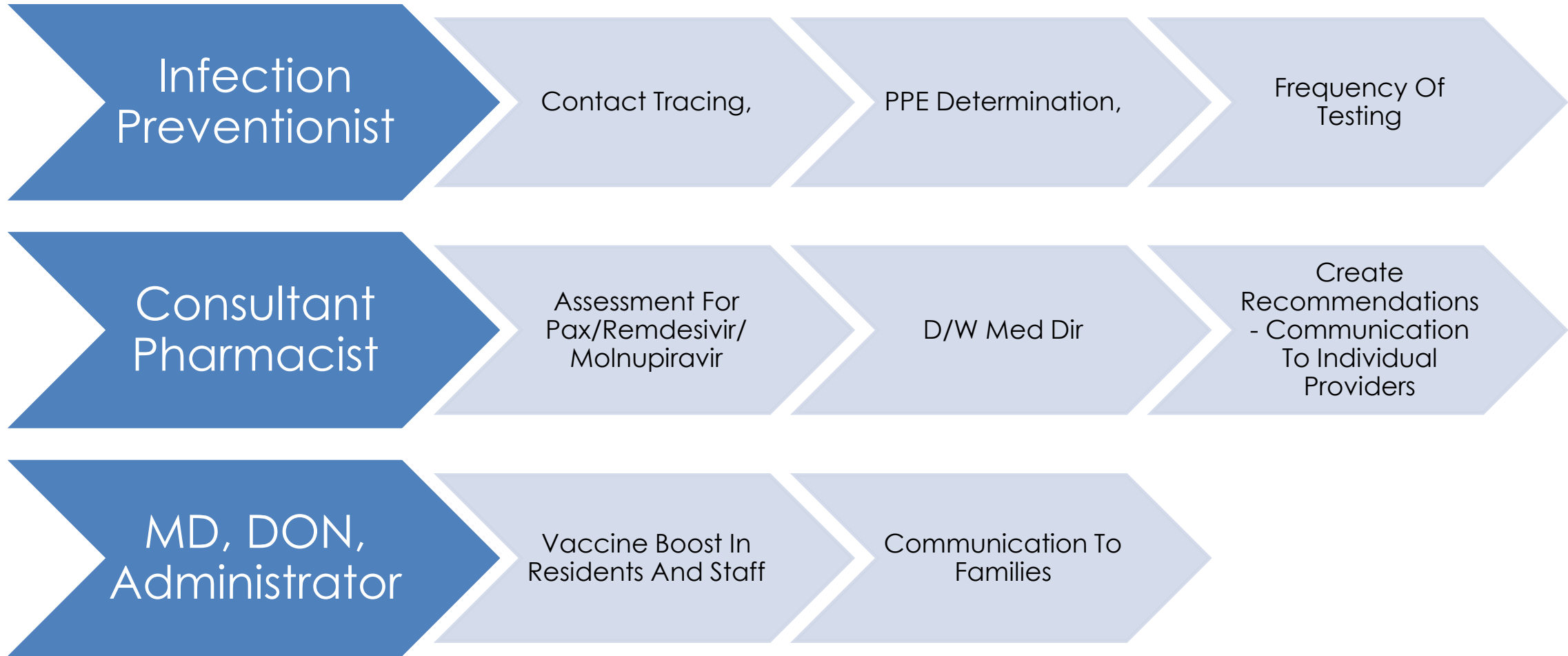
COVID-19 Ag test +  
Flu/RSV/COVID-19  
PCR



## COVID PROTOCOL

Institute standing orders (lab, Supportive Rx, monitor)  
(communication to IP, CP, Med Dir, DON, Adm)





**Questions?**



# Nursing Home and Partnership for Community Health: CMS 12th SOW GOALS



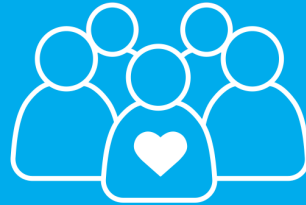
## OPIOID UTILIZATION AND MISUSE

- Promote opioid best practices
- Reduce opioid adverse drug events in all settings



## PATIENT SAFETY

- Reduce hospitalizations due to c. diff
- Reduce adverse drug events
- Reduce facility acquired infections



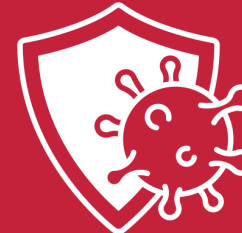
## CHRONIC DISEASE SELF-MANAGEMENT

- Increase instances of adequately diagnosed and controlled hypertension
- Increase use of cardiac rehabilitation programs
- Reduce instances of uncontrolled diabetes
- Identify patients at high-risk for kidney disease and improve outcomes



## CARE COORDINATION

- Convene community coalitions
- Reduce avoidable readmissions, admissions to hospitals and preventable emergency department visits
- Identify and promote optimal care for super utilizers



## COVID-19

- Support nursing homes by establishing a safe visitor policy and cohort plan
- Provide virtual events to support infection control and prevention
- Support nursing homes and community coalitions with emergency preparedness plans



## IMMUNIZATION

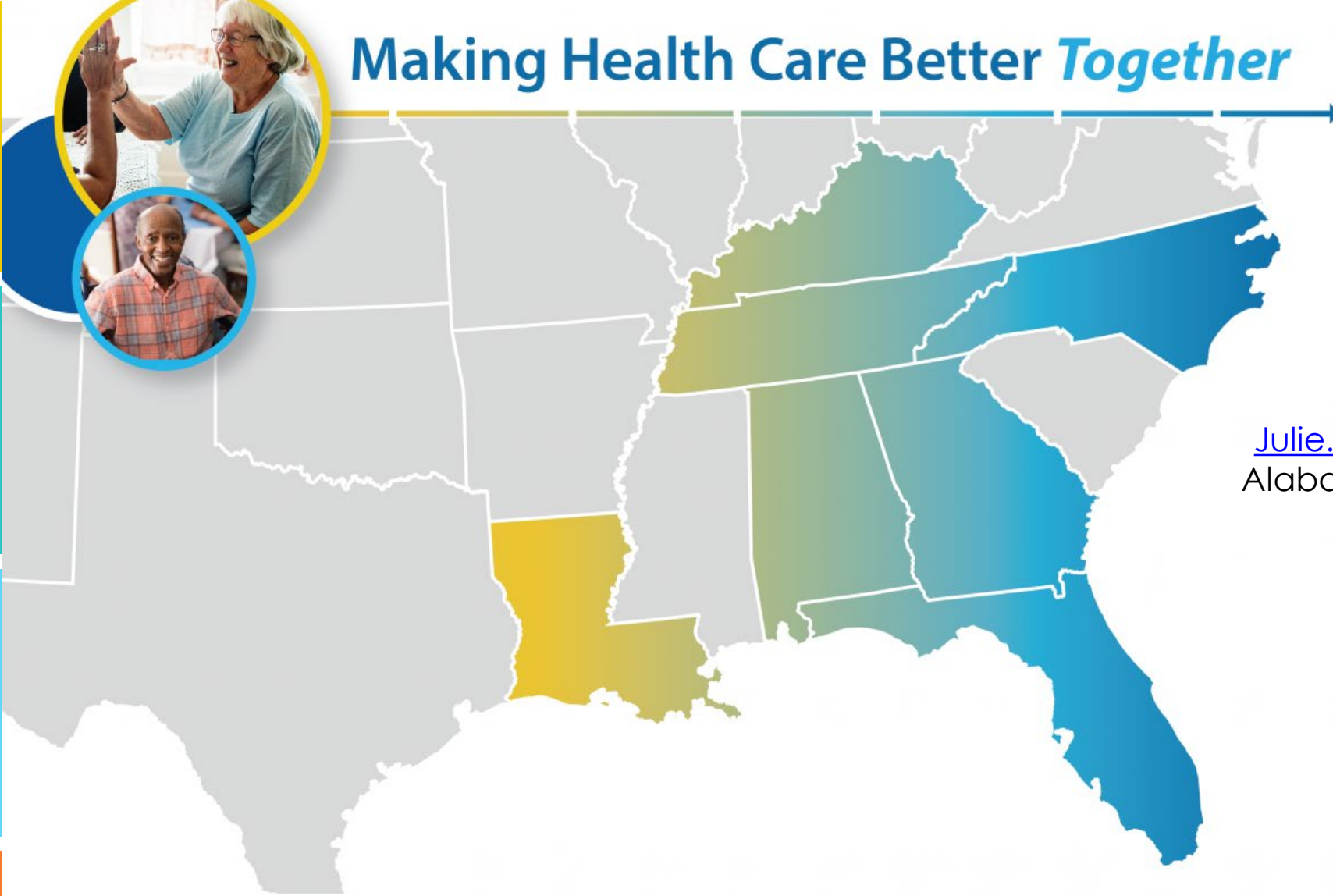
- Increase influenza, pneumococcal, and COVID-19 vaccination rates



## TRAINING

- Encourage completion of infection control and prevention trainings by front line clinical and management staff

# Making Health Care Better *Together*



Julie Kueker

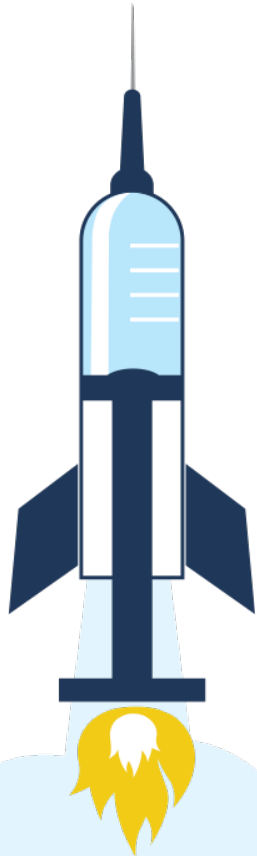
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# Making Health Care Better Together



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