

Shawnee County CDDO Affiliate Meeting Minutes August 11, 2021

Present: Shayla Bleidissel, AIS; Jesse Cox, Nancy Hinrichs, Lisa Frazier, Laura Moore, Bill Cox, Tony Castaneda, Ebony Crawley, Dena McWilliams, Loving Hearts Training Center; Dave Skinner, Monaco & Associates; Mike Glaves, the Arc of Douglas County; Amy Vickers, Positive Impact; MaryAnn Hughes, Sunflower Supports; Lina Petrel, Game Time Living; Vince Garcia, RICO Services; Shelby Fry, Brandon Hossain, Stephany Semple, Eileen Doran TARC; Veronica Snider, Paige Reynolds, Chandra Nichols, Amber Brewster, Sandy Wood, Serenity; Jenell Jones, Pearlie Mae's; Chuck Peterson, Frank Greco, Frankie Holloway, Equi-Venture Farms; Gina Allen, John Allen, Compassionate Care Community Services; Lynne Shorter, ResCare; Joni Fitzpatrick, Tandy Kimbrough, SLI, Sabrina Winston, Tiffanie Krentz, Robert Smith, Coleen Hernandez, Rachael Piecukonis, Michelle Shirey, Christine Hurla, SNCDDO.

CDDO Updates/Reminders:

- Documentation needs to be submitted 2 days prior to BASIS assessments.
- We will be sending out something for people getting paid supports in the home, the expectation is that behavior tracking is completed. We need TCM's to help educate families that they need to do the tracking.
- We are recruiting for Council of Community Members. Please send nomination forms to Coleen Hernandez, chernandez@sncddo.org.
- If you called into the meeting by phone, please email Christine Hurla, churla@sncddo.org to be counted for attendance.

SNCO Health Department presenter:

Derik Flerlage, Infectious Disease Division Manager

- Updates on COVID cases and trends since June. 98% of new cases are the Delta variant. In SNCO, percent positivity is around 9-9.5%. The CDC recommends twice weekly testing above 10%
- We are on an upward peak of hospitalizations. We want to try to stop the peak from spiking as our hospitals are struggling.
- CDC COVID data tracker: <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view> Select State and County.
- View SNCO vaccination rates on the SNCO Health Department website: <http://www.snco.us/hd/> Click on Vaccine, scroll down and click on the latest COVID-19 Vaccine Demographic Report. Currently we are close to 50% of the total population in the county has had at least 1 dose, 45% of the total population has had 2 doses. Breakthrough cases are about 2 cases per 1,000 vaccinated.

Q: How does the Delta variant work and why is it spreading?

A: It is more infectious; you can get it a little bit easier. The alpha variant was about 50% more transmissible than the original Covid. The delta variant is about 60% more transmissible than the alpha. We know that it causes people to produce more virus, or viral load. We are seeing people become infected very quickly. The virus is mucosal, meaning it replicates in your mucus, in your nose and replicates and spreads quickly.

Q: For contact tracing we are currently going back 48 hours, is there any change to this?

A: No, close contact is still within 6 feet, for 10 minutes or more. Complete contact tracing for 2 days before the positive test date or symptom onset. We still have a 10 day quarantine for people that are exposed. You can test on day 6 with the PCR test with no symptoms, and can be out of quarantine on day 8 with negative result. Isolation is still 10 days from symptom onset or positive test date.

Q: Why is there a difference between CDC and SNCO Health department guidance on a person returning with 72 hours fever free vs. 24 hours?

A: When the CDC pushes something out, KDHE will evaluate it and choose to adopt it, then the counties will evaluate and choose to adopt. The guidance is still 72 hours fever free but I will look into that just to make sure it hasn't changed.

Q: What is the guidance for individuals being tested because of exposure if they have no symptoms?

A: If you have a vaccinated individual who is exposed, unless they have symptoms, they are not required to test or quarantine. Although the State is now recommending vaccinated individuals get tested approximately 3-7 days after exposure, even if they don't have symptoms, that is just a recommendation. If anyone starts having symptoms, they should get tested. Allergy symptoms are the number one thing we're seeing with the delta variant. Runny nose, congestion, slight cough, some GI symptoms as well. If a person is symptomatic and waiting for test results, you're supposed to be in quarantine.

Q: For providers screening individuals, if they show up with a runny nose, should they be tested?

A: Yes, and the antigen test can be handy for that situation. If you have allergy symptoms and have a negative test, you're ok to return, but if symptoms change or get worse you would want to have a new test. If you always have the same allergy symptoms every season and test negative you're most likely fine, just monitor for changes in symptoms.

Q: What is the difference between the PCR and antigen tests?

A: The PCR test is the gold standard. It's very sensitive and also very specific. You are not going to see false positives. If you test positive, you are positive. It is recommended not to get a PCR if you have been positive in the last 6 months as it can pick up old virus in your system. The antigen test is also very specific, but a little less sensitive. False negatives are much more common with the antigen test, as you may be more early on in the disease process. If you have a negative antigen test but you are having symptoms, you should follow up with a PCR test.

Q: What tests can providers administer themselves?

A: One avenue to get PCR tests are through the Health Department. The other avenue is to fill out another online form for the antigen tests. The antigen tests are really good in outbreak situations. These come through Emergency Management. You need to complete the CLIA waiver if you are testing and getting results on site. We have all that information for you. It is an application process but we are here to help if there is any questions on that. It would be good for providers to have these on site for outbreak situations. If you want to do routine testing, we can support that for a little while but not long-term, we can help you find laboratories, but it does cost.

Q: How do we slow the spread? What is the current guidance for individuals?

A: With any type of person to person care, staff should wear masks, and continue masking when you're interacting with someone else if less than 6 feet apart for more than 10 minutes. You can do risk assessment depending on where you're going, if you're outside, it may be ok to take masks off. Ventilation really matters. Is it crowded, indoors? Surgical masks with face shield is considered full PPE, I would say wear full PPE anytime you're interacting with someone just to be safe.

Q: Is temperature screening for the delta variant useful?

A: Yes and no, fever is sometimes a later onset. The importance of screening would be self-screen or having visitors do a questionnaire, we have a CDC questionnaire on our website.

Q: What is the guidance for limiting cross-over with different meetings and between providers?

A: Meeting virtually when you can, I would say whatever can be virtual, should be virtual. Whatever can happen outdoors, should happen outdoors. Our health officer is definitely recommending masks indoors. Do a risk assessment for each situation. Take breaks, open windows if possible.

Q: Say you have a staff who was symptomatic, positive, and finished quarantine, but is now having sinus issues, do you consider them to need to continue to stay home?

A: If you're positive you do 10 days and fever free. If you still have a fever, the isolation will be extended. Even with other lingering symptoms, if they're fever free, they can come off isolation. The only entity that can release people from isolation is the Health Department. The isolation and quarantine orders are legal in nature. People do not need to test negative before returning. We do not recommend testing negative before returning because people may test positive for weeks, even if no longer contagious.

As we see pop up situations, we are just reaching out to help, we go over the timelines and talk through it, we give recommendations. We don't judge you for any recommendations not followed, we just want to help.

Q: Is there any new information about booster shots or new variants?

A: It is natural to have new variants, they will always pop up. There is a new one, lamda, but we haven't seen it in Shawnee County.

A: I do think it's likely that boosters will be recommended for immunocompromised and elderly. We are looking at how to provide that amount of boosters. I'm not sure when that's coming.

Information on the monoclonal antibody treatment: [see attached.](#)

The treatment may be beneficial in elderly and vulnerable populations. You can go through Stormont Vail or St. Francis.

The vaccine is still available at the health department, Monday thru Friday from 1:00-4:00. Wednesday 2:00-4:00. Walk ins available. For appointments or questions: (785) 251-5700.

We do have projection models for the fall: there is some thought that we would peak at the end of this month or September, and plateau at a high level. If we are able to do some mitigation techniques, that may change. Other factors may affect the numbers, such as school starting and going into flu season.

Information on Testing and the CLIA Waiver to test and get results on site:

For more info on:

- Testing Requests: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SN-Test-Kits>
- CLIA Waiver to conduct on-site testing w/ results: https://www.kdheks.gov/lipo/cliaw/cla_survey_and_cert.htm

Vaccine Information and Shawnee County Specific Information

Vaccination locations for staff and/or residents able to be transported: www.vaccines.gov

- Shawnee County Specific Information: <https://www.snco.us/HD/coronavirus.asp>

CDC Testing Information

COVID-19 Testing Overview: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/testing.html>

Self-Testing: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/testing/self-testing.html>

Training Opportunities/Resources:

- September 9, 2021, 8:30 – 12:30 CDDO Training Session One (CDDO Overview, Article 63, BASIS Assessments, Status Action Forms). Email churla@sncddo.org to sign up.
- October 26, 2021, 1:00 – 4:00 CDDO Training Session Two (BCI, Transition Checklist, CIR, PAS Tools). Email churla@sncddo.org to sign up

Next meeting:
September 8, 2021
11:00