



STAFF REPORT

Report To: Board of Health **Meeting Date:** October 7, 2021

Staff Contact: Nicki Aaker, Health and Human Services Director

Agenda Title: For Possible Action: Discussion and possible action regarding a proposed acceptance of the report of the Carson City Health Officer. (Nicki Aaker, NAaker@carson.org)

Staff Summary: This item is to provide an update on: (1) the Health Officer's activities; (2) clinical oversight and policy input; (3) trainings and education; (4) Nevada Public Health Association's mission, advocacy and policy priorities and recent health-related legislation passed during the 2021 Regular Session of the Nevada Legislature; (4) national and Nevada COVID-19 statistics and general information, vaccines, and monoclonal antibodies; and (5) seasonal flu. Direction is requested from the Board of Health regarding the Health Officer's report concerning activities the Health Officer is engaged in both internally and externally for the Carson City Health and Services Department.

Agenda Action: Formal Action / Motion **Time Requested:** 10 minutes

Proposed Motion

I move to accept the Health Officer's report, as presented.

Board's Strategic Goal

Quality of Life

Previous Action

N/A

Background/Issues & Analysis

A Health Officer's report is presented at each Board of Health meeting.

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

N/A

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? No

If yes, account name/number:

Is it currently budgeted?

Explanation of Fiscal Impact:

Alternatives

N/A

Attachments:

[9'21 CC Hlth Officer Report.pdf](#)

Board Action Taken:

Motion: _____

- 1) _____
- 2) _____

Aye/Nay

(Vote Recorded By)



Carson City Health Officer Report

Submitted 20Sep2021

For Carson Board of Health (BOH) Meeting 07Oct2021

Health Officer Activities (since last BOH meeting 17Jun2021):

- compiled “ABC’s of Hepatitis” article for Nevada Appeal 6/24
- participated with PHP at National Night Out in Mills Park 8/3
- attended Carson City School District Board meeting 8/10
- attended Quad-County school nurses meeting 8/13, 8/27
- participated in Carson’s Behavioral Health Task Force 8/18
- provided CCHHS quarterly report to Nevada State Board of Health 9/3

Clinical Oversight and Policy Input

- Intro to ChemPack, site visit and clinical algorithm overview 6/28, 7/1
- reviewed & updated Latent TB Infection (LTBI) protocols with PH nursing staff 8/23, 9/15
- 18 hours spent assisting Public Health clinical staff establish medical triage and assistance services at the Carson Community Center and Fuji Park Pavilion for the Caldor Fire Evacuees 8/31, 9/1

While the American Red Cross was primarily responsible for the shelters, CCHHS was asked to provide medical assistance as the Red Cross had a 24 hour delay in the arrival of their nursing staff to both sites.

- provided BiNax test training to six public health nurses (needed immediately to screen shelter evacuees per symptom &/or exposure protocol) 9/1
- reviewed & updated standing Influenza vaccination orders for clinic and PHP 9/13

Training and Education

- Nevada Assoc of Local Boards of Health conference: 6/25, 8/2, 8/3
- Nevada Public Health Foundation annual conference: 6/30
Subject - Domestic Violence
- received BiNax (rapid COVID antigen test) training 8/13
- Review of Nevada state and CDC info re: COVID-19 infections, vaccinations, treatments, and variants
- Review of Nevada State Board of Health quarterly reports, 2021 Nevada County Health Rankings report, NPHA 2021 Legislative scorecard and Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Health and the de Beaumont Foundation recently released report: Seven Ways Business Can Align with Public Health for Bold Action and Innovation.

Carson City Health & Human Services

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- “What It Means to Be a Man — *Boys need a better answer than the one we’re giving them today.*” Cover article of the Jan/Feb 2020 issue of [The Atlantic](#).

General Information for the Carson Board of Health:

Allow me to introduce the Nevada Public Health Association:



The mission of the Nevada Public Health Association (NPHA) is to serve as the voice for public health in Nevada in order to improve health and achieve health equity in our state. In keeping with our vision of a healthy Nevada, NPHA organizes its advocacy around five overarching advocacy and policy priorities:

- Building public health infrastructure and capacity
- Creating health equity
- Ensuring the right to health and health care
- Promoting evidence-based policymaking
- Advocating for Health in All Policies

As an affiliate of the American Public Health Association (APHA), NPHA’s overarching goals and related advocacy efforts are closely aligned with APHA’s advocacy and policy agenda. For additional information about NPHA visit www.nphaonline.org.

The NPHA recents compiled the following report of public health related bills that passed Nevada’s 2021 Legislature and were signed into law. If you want to know the specifics of any of the following check the Nevada Legislative website [Nelis](#) and look at the Enrolled (as enacted/signed) text of the bill by its alpha-numeric designation below.

[AB59 – Tobacco 21](#)

[AB177 – Prescription drug labeling](#)

[AB189 – Presumptive eligibility for pregnant women](#)

[AB191 – Medicaid coverage of community health workers.](#)

[AB192 – Syphilis testing and treatment for pregnant women](#)

[AB286 – Ghost gun ban](#)

[AB321 – Election reform](#)

[AB343 – Walking audits of urban areas](#)

[AB349 – Closes “classic car” loophole](#)

[AB495 – Excise tax on gold and silver mining](#)

[SB5 – Telehealth coverage and reimbursement](#)

SB40 – All payer claims data base
SB44 – Rural regional behavioral health bill
SB70 – Northern regional behavioral health bill
SB190 – Self-administered hormonal contraceptives
SB209 – Paid leave for employee COVID-19 vaccination
SB275 – HIV modernization
SB379 – Health workforce data collection
SB420 – Public health insurance option
SB424 – Public Health Resource Office

COVID-19 Update

Nevada Family Physician editorial excerpts from the report provided to the Nevada State Board of Health, by Nevada's DHHS Chief Medical Officer, Ihsan Azzam, PhD, MD, MPH on August 23, 2021

SAR-CoV- 2

- The 7-day national average [of COVID].... New cases in the U.S. rose by about 17%; hospitalizations increased by 15% and deaths by nearly 24%.
- The number of American children hospitalized with COVID-19 increased by more than 500%, and as of August 21st, more than 1,800 minors were hospitalized in U.S. hospitals.
- Healthcare facilities seem to have been pushed to the limit in many areas; especially for children, as healthcare facilities are also dealing with many individuals affected by an "uncharacteristic" summer surge of Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV).
- About 97% of hospitalized COVID patients are unvaccinated.
- So far 1 in 8 Nevadans has tested positive for the virus.
- In the 14-day period leading up to August 23rd, the Delta variant was responsible for 93% of all genetically sequenced COVID-19 cases in Nevada. [Samples are randomly sequenced].

Vaccines

- More than 61% of Nevada residents age 12 and older have been either partially or fully vaccinated against COVID-19, including 50.5% fully vaccinated, and about 30% of Nevadans eligible for the vaccine have yet to receive it.
- Nevada ranks 26th in the nation [for] administered vaccine doses per 100,000 population.
- Individuals who have a weakened immune system make up about 3-4% of U.S. adults [and are encouraged to get a booster dose of the COVID-19 vaccine].
- Pregnant women are at a higher risk of severe COVID-19 infections. Recent CDC data and reports reaffirmed the safety of the COVID-19 vaccines for pregnant women, including those early in pregnancy and around the time of conception.

- Current national and international studies demonstrated that there is no evidence than any vaccines, including COVID-19 vaccines, adversely affect fertility.
- Unvaccinated people who have been infected [with COVID] are more than two times more likely to be infected again than those who are fully vaccinated.

Monoclonal Antibodies (MCAs)

- One of the very first federally supported MCAs Treatment Centers was set up at Sunrise Hospital and Medical Center in Las Vegas.
- Treatment with MCAs include a one-time intravenous infusion for COVID-19 patients age over 12 with certain risk factors such as overweight, asthma, diabetes and/or heart disease that increases their risk to develop severe sickness.
- The treatment must be given within 10 days of symptom onset to prevent complications and avoid hospitalization.
- Treatment with monoclonal antibodies decreases the need for hospitalization about 70 to 75%
- Indications for the use of MCAs were extended to include post-exposure prophylaxis; allowing high-risk patients to seek care without a positive COVID-19 test, which may help reduce transmission, particularly in congregate settings. However, MCAs is not authorized for pre-exposure prophylaxis to prevent COVID-19.

Upcoming Seasonal Influenza

- This flu season will be unpredictable.
- A dramatic reduction in the influenza virus circulation was observed during the previous 2020-2021 season, which could have led to an increase in the number of susceptible individuals who will be vulnerable during this upcoming influenza season.
- Flu shots significantly reduce severe influenza cases, complications, hospitalizations and death.



Please, also, be aware of the Nevada Care Connection Resource Center at NevadaCareConnection.org. This network helps older adults, people with disabilities and family caregivers connect with the services and programs they need.