



# UCSF Health COVID-19 Clinical Update

**Clinical Update**  
**February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**In Today’s Issue:**

- Revised post-mortem COVID testing
- Mask Comfort Guidance
- COVID Vaccine FAQs
- Axillary Adenopathy after COVID-19 Vaccination

Thank you to all the teams who are supporting our patient care and all of these COVID related efforts!

**Today’s Status:**

	Inpatient COVID19 + Patients	Asymptomatic Case Positivity (7 day moving average)	Symptomatic Case Positivity (7 day moving average)	COVID Surge Status
UCSF Health	45	1.29 %	7.0 %	Orange
ZSFG	21			Yellow

Currently, San Francisco remains at Level 4 High Alert, but with continuing improvement this week to 16.4 new cases daily per 100,000 population. This is equal to about 143 new cases daily in San Francisco. More San Francisco COVID19 public health indicators are available via this [SFDPH Website](#).

**Updates to Post-Mortem COVID Testing**

The San Francisco city and county health ordinance ([Order No. C19-14](#)) that requires SARS-CoV-2 testing of decedents remains in place. In collaboration with San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFDPH), we have clarified testing requirement for COVID positive and COVID recovered decedents. This testing is considered part of routine post-mortem care and due to the health ordinance, cannot be declined.

**Clinical Workflow:**

- UCSF is testing all deceased patients unless they meet any of the exception criteria
- Provider enters a COVID-19 RNA, Qualitative lab test for the deceased patient
- RN collects the lab specimen prior to patient transport to the morgue.

**Exceptions:**

- COVID-19 RNA, Qualitative lab order status is already “in process” or “pending”
- Stillborn
- **Flagged as COVID positive (Confirmed) in APeX**
- **Flagged as COVID Recovered in APeX**

Please refer to this [practice update](#) for further details.

**Mask Comfort Guidance**

This [Mask Comfort Enhancement Guidance \(PDF\)](#) describes mask options and methods for improving comfort.

## **How do I answer general questions about the COVID vaccine from patients?**

An [FAQs sheet](#) with common questions about the COVID vaccine is available.

## **What is the current status of getting a COVID vaccine?**

UCSF is working as quickly as possible to expand our vaccination program. Similar to other institutions nationwide, UCSF Health is experiencing unpredictable vaccine supplies that are not keeping pace with our expansion of populations and capacity.

Please encourage your patients to keep trying to schedule an appointment, when they are eligible, through MyChart. We are now scheduling vaccine appointments six days out. **Appointments open up on Tuesday evenings and Wednesday mornings**, so make sure to check MyChart then.

Patients and employees are also able to seek appointments at **other locations** closer to their homes offered by county health departments, mass vaccine sites, and in coming days, by pharmacies and community centers. These alternative locations will become increasingly available as distribution broadens. These locations can be searched for on the various county web sites (below).

- [SF DPH](#)
- [CA DPH](#)
- [Alameda County DPH](#)
- [Contra Costa County Health Services](#)
- [County of Sonoma](#)
- [Marin Health & Human Services](#)

## **Axillary Adenopathy after COVID-19 Vaccination**

Axillary adenopathy after COVID-19 vaccination has been reported with both the Pfizer-BioNTech (64 cases in the vaccine group vs 6 in the placebo group) and Moderna (11.6% of patients after first dose, 16% of patients after second dose) vaccines. Lymphadenopathy occurred 2-4 days following vaccination and lasted a median of 1-2 days after the Moderna vaccine and a mean of 10 days after the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine.

The UCSF Department of Radiology and Biomedical Imaging, Breast Imaging Section, guided by the Society of Breast Imaging recommendations, will use the following protocols for patients presenting for breast imaging with a history of COVID-19 vaccination within the previous 4 weeks.

### Imaging Management

- Screening Mammography  
Patients with ipsilateral unilateral or asymmetric bilateral axillary adenopathy seen on screening mammography, will be recalled for diagnostic imaging to be done 8-12 weeks after second vaccine dose
- Screening MRI  
Patients with ipsilateral unilateral or asymmetric bilateral axillary adenopathy seen on screening MRI, will be recalled for breast ultrasound to be done 8-12 weeks after second vaccine dose
- Diagnostic Breast Imaging Studies  
Patients with ipsilateral unilateral or asymmetric bilateral axillary adenopathy on diagnostic imaging and no other clinical concerns, will be scheduled for follow-up imaging to be done 8-12 weeks after second vaccine dose
- Patients with persistent or increasing axillary adenopathy at follow-up will be scheduled for subsequent biopsy
- Exceptions to this protocol will be made based on clinical or patient concerns

### Clinical considerations

If clinically appropriate, consider advising patients to schedule routine screening mammography prior to COVID-19 vaccination or 4-6 weeks after second vaccine dose

For details and updates to this information, please check [here](#). For questions, please call Breast Imaging Clinical Services at 415-502-4595

**What updates have been posted to the [HEIP site](#) since the last clinical update?**

Descriptive Title	New or Update	Category	Date Updated	Summary of Updates
<a href="#">Axillary Adenopathy after COVID-19 Vaccination</a>	New	Algorithms and Clinical Guidance	2/8/2021	Imaging management of patients with axillary adenopathy after COVID-19 vaccination. Clinical considerations for the timing of routine screening mammography around COVID-19 vaccination.
<a href="#">FAQs COVID-19 Screening of Pediatric Patients</a>	Update	Algorithms and Clinical Guidance	2/11/2021	The asymptomatic COVID-19 inpatient testing recommendations are also updated to include weekly testing for all patients in the PICU, ICN, and PCICU.
<a href="#">Pediatric COVID-19 Guidance for ED and Inpatient Symptomatic and Asymptomatic Patients</a>	Update	Algorithms and Clinical Guidance	2/11/2021	This update clarifies the workflow for patients with known COVID-19 exposures (met definition for being a close contact to a COVID-19 case). The asymptomatic COVID-19 inpatient testing recommendations are also updated to include weekly testing for all patients in the PICU, ICN, and PCICU.
<a href="#">Post Vaccine Return To Work Guidance</a>	Update	Occupational Health Services	2/9/2021	Minor edits for the symptom monitoring and return to work

**Frequently Used Links**

View COVID Data dashboards:

- UCSF Health [COVID-19 Enterprise Dashboard](#)
- Hopkins [COVID-19 Dashboard](#) (for World, USA and CA #s)
- SF Chronicle [COVID-19 Dashboard](#) (CA, County and SF#s)

Occupational Health Services:

- Continue to work/return to work [detailed staff guidelines](#) and [simple sheet](#)
- COVID-19 Hotline 415.514.7328
- [COVID+ Employees FAQs](#)

[UCSF Health COVID19 Infection Prevention Website](#)

[UCSF Town Halls](#)

[Emotional Health and Well-Being](#)

[Visitor Policy](#)

[COVID-19 Testing page](#)

[UCSF Travel Policy](#)

Daily Employee Health Screening: **Text "Screen" to: 83973** or [UCSF Online Health Screen](#)

[UCSF COVID-19 Vaccine Information Hub](#)

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