



January 5, 2021

To: Members, Maricopa County Medical Society

From: John McElligott, Executive Director

Re: Teleconference with Maricopa County Department of Public Health on January 5, 2021

The following are my notes from a teleconference with staff of the MCDPH.

- 353,848 cases in Maricopa County, up 39,542 since last week and average 5,649 per day
- This is the highest case load since the start of the pandemic
- 7-day average of 4,635 cases/day and 3-day reporting delay
- All time high of COVID+ inpatients at 3,402 in central region counted by EMResource
- All time high of COVID+ medical/surgical beds at 2,666
- 7-8% of medical/surgical beds in central region are available. Hospitals maintaining that level by adding beds and limiting use to COVID+ cases.
- Of the 5,375 COVID-19 deaths in the county, 29% occurred in LTCF residents with 5% of deaths in the past two weeks
- All five PODs are open and have expanded hours given high demand for COVID vaccine
- Maricopa County is still using the pre-screening questionnaire for Phase 1A at <https://gis.maricopa.gov/covid19/vaccine/prescreen>
- Phase 1B will likely start when Phase 1A is near completion. Details coming soon for those eligible in Phase 1B (education and childcare workers, law enforcement, 75 and older).
- Pfizer-BioNTech is the only vaccine provided through PODs. Moderna may be used in more rural locations, LTCF, and private practices.
- Dosing interval is 21 days minimum for Pfizer-BioNTech and 28 days for Moderna
- Scheduling invitations for a second dose will come from the location where people in Phase 1A received the first dose
- County is planning to expand the five PODs to handle Phase 1B vaccinations
- Lack of vaccine supplies is delaying the launch of Phase 1B
- Medical volunteers are welcome and must register online at <https://mcdph.samaritan.com/custom/501/>