

Emergency Department

Update

Friday, February 11, 2022

Issue # 101

GENERAL

BOOSTERS

- There has been an **extension** on the booster requirement for health care workers until **March 1, 2022**
- Please ensure that you have uploaded your booster status to the Employee Portal
- Individual emails have gone out to those whose upload status is incomplete. Thank you to those that have responded already.
- You may upload your booster status to People and Pay by going to the Employee Gateway [Employee Gateway](#) and accessing the Employee Portal using your DSW Number. Look for the Employee page and click "Update/View Vaccine Status"
- If you need assistance, or believe you have already uploaded your status, please contact HR.Booster@sfdph.org

MASKING

- Be sure that your patients are wearing their isolation masks when staff are in the room with them
- While N95 and eye protection continue to be the minimum PPE for patients contact, because we all work so closely together for extended periods of time it is highly recommended to always wear an N95 while in the department
- Consider alternative break spaces for meal breaks. Outside or the Cafeteria are a couple of alternatives to break rooms

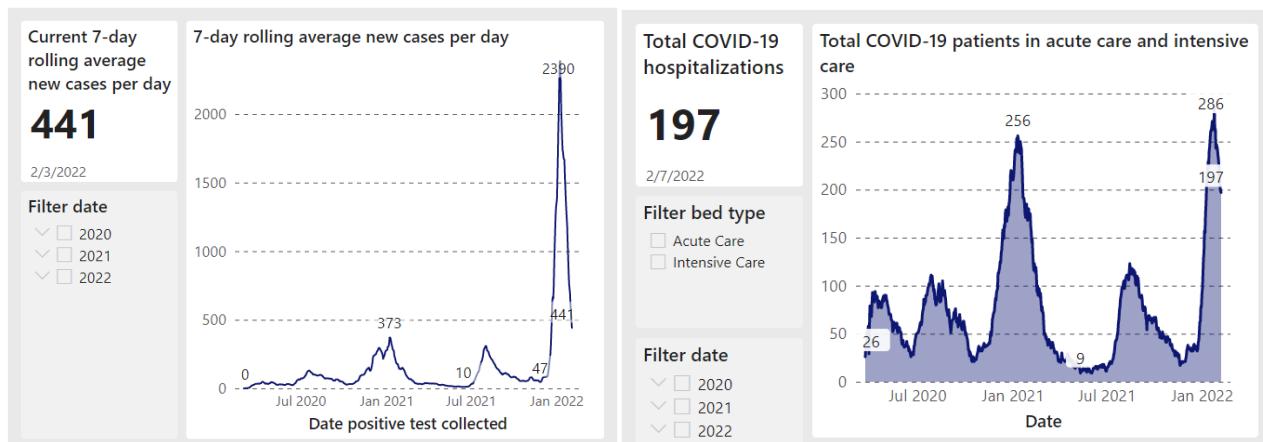
SELF-SCREENING

- Please continue to self-monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID. If you are experiencing any symptoms or have had a known exposure, please contact OHS 628-206-4100

HOSPITAL SURGE LEVEL

- As of, Friday, February 11, 2022 we have **30** COVID positive hospitalized patients at ZSFG placing us in the **YELLOW** Hospital Surge Level

COVID-19 CITY WIDE DATA



EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES, PRODUCTS

PPE

- Most PPE stable—Moldex medium and large are on back order

Items that are Backordered or Delayed

- EKG patches—ETA unknown
- Xeroform ETA 2/21
- Vacutainer blood collection tubes
- Temp Foley: ETA 3/7
- 14F pigtail catheters :ETA 2/25
- Insulin syringe 1ml: ETA 2/14
- Lumbar Puncture procedure trays: ETA 3/9
- Nasal Cannula: No ETA
- Tissue: No ETA
- Ultrasound Gel: a substitution product has been stocked in resus and Back room
- Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches are no longer available from the distributor. They are the only vegetarian sandwich option, please use sparingly. Starkist tuna meal kits will be replacing the PBJ while there are supply chain delays

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

PEM PEARL

Dina Wallin, MD, FACEP, FAAP

I was pleasantly surprised to see a [negative study](#) published this week-- the authors found that applying **topical Lidocaine-Epinephrine-Tetracaine (LET)** three times 10 minutes apart was *not* superior to applying it once and allowing to sit for 30 minutes.

This raises the topic of LET and how useful it can be. As soon as you (and "you" being triage or bedside nurse OR provider) identify that a patient has a wound that MAY need irrigation/exploration and/or repair, it's time to apply the LET! We've got two formulations at SFGH, LET gel and LET liquid.

- **LET gel:** my preferred method. This needs to be specially compounded by pharmacy and refrigerated, so is not always available. You may consider creating a three-sided "pocket" with a

tegaderm over the wound, fill the pocket with the gel, and occlude the fourth side. This gives the kid great mobility while the gel is doing its job.

- **LET liquid:** best applied with a **cotton ball**, not gauze (gauze wicks the liquid up and OUT of the wound, while cotton ball facilitates a dwell). Cotton balls are available in the PEM attending cabinet and also from Deb Robinson.

LET typically takes at least 30 minutes to achieve an effect. You can check for blanching of the skin-- if the wound and surrounding skin are blanched, you're likely good to go! In my experience, *vast* majority of lacerations do not require additional injected anesthetic after appropriately-applied LET (and FYI, I use LET on adult patients, too! Incredibly efficient use of time). Happy sewing!

ACLS-BLS CERTIFICATION

Due to the recent COVID-19 surge, **DPH will temporarily waive the AHA verification requirement for all AHA cards expiring between 1/12/2022 to 3/9/22 for 90 days**, in order to provide flexibility to healthcare workers and AHA instructors during this COVID-19 surge.

Please use the QR Code below to sign up on Eventbrite in advance to complete your online exam prior to coming to the skills session.



**American
Heart
Association.**



CELEBRATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CELEBRATIONS

Send me your celebrations (david.staconis@sfdph.org) that you would like included in the ED Updates and I will share them here.

Celebrating her colleagues from a recent shift, **Matt Alafa, RN; Shirah Wexler, RN; Rob Alvernaz, RN; Rachel Upton, Melissa Pitts, RN**: "In reflection of [a recent shift's] happenings, I want to let you know how much I appreciate your response to the decline of the patient in [Pod A], and all your collective expertise and wisdom in taking care of him. And you did so much more, on a very busy shift. Just when I feel my faith on shaky ground, I am reminded how lucky I am to know you all." ~With love, Laurie Chaprack, RN

Please welcome two new ED Social Workers to the team!



Hi, my name is Raquel Moore and I am thrilled to be your new overnight ED social worker and up for the challenge to navigate the in and outs of the ED. My background mainly consists of doing in-community therapy with children and families, which I believe aids in my ability to engage and build rapport with individuals. I am a native of San Francisco, CA, but have been living across the country for the last 11 years. I received my Bachelors in Social Work at Clark Atlanta University and my Master's in Social work at New York University. Fun fact: I love football and am a super SF 49ers fan! Thank you for welcoming me to the team and I look forward to working with you all!

Raquel Moore, ASW



I am so thrilled to be joining the legendary SFGH ED team!

I am a Wisconsin native and Packer fan, and have worked for the City And County of San Francisco over the past 4 years, first with the Department of Aging and Adult Services working with older adults and adults with disabilities, and then with the trauma inpatient unit at SFGH. Prior to this, I worked in Child Protective Services with Napa County (CA) and Milwaukee County (WI). I graduated with my MSW from University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and was a 4E scholarship recipient. My first experience in the medical setting was in the ED at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and got my start in social work here in the City in 2010 with Seneca Center Family of Agencies. I love the outdoors, running and hiking, and working on my Spanish language skills!

Danielle Nightingale (Weyers), ASW

WELLNESS MINUTE

The following excerpt from a British newspaper is the stuff of the ED every day, i.e. the repair of peoples' bodies who've found themselves in an accident or fight.

Just so you know, I am sending you this not to remind you of the ordinary heroism of your every day (which no one need remind you as you live it), but to acknowledge the dying words of Taliesin Myrddin Namkai-Meche, which bare the motivations I witness in each of daily, on the deepest — you who are still here, you who are still showing up with your heart and mind open, who sometimes can't even sometimes understand within yourselves the mystery of why you/we/I find I/we/us are so perfect for this work, at this place, (even) at this time.

What he said in his last breaths, surely names the passion that roots us in our work here.

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from the English newspaper, The Guardian, February 9, 2022 —

"It was 26 May 2017 on the Portland MAX light rail service when a white supremacist, named Jeremey Christian, began threatening two teenage girls, one of the girls was black, the other in hijab. Three other men, all strangers on the same train, stood up to Christian, defending and ultimately saving the girls. Christian attacked the three men with a knife, killing 53-year-old Ricky John Best and 23-year-old Taliesin Myrddin Namkai-Meche and injuring Micah David-Cole Fletcher.

As Taliesin was bleeding, another passenger, a woman named Rachel Macy, knelt with him, comforting him and stauching his wounds. Taliesen knew he was dying.

"Tell everyone on this train I love them," he said to Macy in his final moments.

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No matter how toughened or tired or done with it you might feel as you read this, love is the river that carries you/we/me.

Let some out-breaths carry some of the stress away somewhere in your day.

What you do is hard and eternally amazing.

Chaplain Mary-Cecile (M.C.)