



San Francisco Department of Public Health

Daniel Tsai
Director of Health

City and County of San Francisco
Daniel L. Lurie
Mayor

Director's Report for Health Commission Meeting of December 15, 2025

A current overview of issues affecting the state of public health in San Francisco
<https://sf.gov/departments/san-francisco-health-commission/past-meetings>

In alignment with the California Department of Public Health, we will no longer report on COVID-19 case data. More people are now testing themselves at home for COVID-19 and we do not get data from at-home testing. This affects the accuracy of data on testing volume. We will continue to report on [test positivity](#) and will monitor other indicators including hospitalizations.

INCIDENT AT ZSFG HOSPITAL

The San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH) mourns the tragic loss of our colleague, Alberto Rangel, at Ward 86 at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital (ZSFG).

On Thursday, December 4, Alberto, a dedicated social worker, was assaulted by a patient at Ward 86. Despite the heroic efforts of his Ward 86 colleagues and our emergency, trauma, and intensive care teams, Alberto sadly passed away over the weekend. Our thoughts and deepest sympathies are with his family, loved ones, close colleagues, and the entire ZSFG, UCSF and DPH community.

Alberto dedicated himself to making a real difference for patients, families, and colleagues at Ward 86, the Mission Neighborhood Health Center, and the Trauma Recovery Center. We will carry his memory in our hearts and remember him for his kindness, his respect for every patient, and his commitment to seeing humanity in each person he encountered.

This tragic loss requires decisive and immediate action. In addition to DPH's ongoing internal investigation and root cause analysis of the incident, we will also be retaining an independent security firm. This firm will conduct and assess a comprehensive impartial analysis of the incident and a thorough, systemwide review of security protocols, infrastructure, and safety management. The firm selected will be tasked with providing a set of recommendations on how to improve and support the safety of our staff at ZSFG, as well as DPH clinics and other environments. There will be opportunity for staff at all levels to engage, and we are committed to sharing the results of the independent firm's assessment and recommendations with our entire community.

DPH and ZSFG have already initiated a comprehensive top to bottom investigation and root cause analysis to identify vulnerabilities and implement rapid improvements. Immediate steps include:

- Expediting installation of a weapons detection system for Buildings 80/90 at ZSFG
- Restricting access to Buildings 80/90 to one entrance



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- Increasing security presence and Deputy Sheriff presence at Buildings 80/90
- Implementing security wandering at Buildings 80/90 while the weapons detection system is being installed
- Strengthening/adjusting security protocols for entrance to clinical buildings when a patient is identified as a high-risk threat to staff safety
- Engage with the Sheriff to review and enhance intervention protocols during safety incidents

We are fully committed and laser-focused on strengthening safety at every DPH facility. I am working with leadership teams across the city, DPH, UCSF, and ZSFG to mobilize resources, accelerate critical improvements, and plan for the future.

This is an incredibly difficult time for all of us. DPH staff feedback, insights, and suggestions will be vital as we work together to create lasting and meaningful change. I will continue to keep you informed as we learn more and as additional measures are implemented.

ZSFG staff (from DPH and UCSF) can find wellness and counseling resources [here](#) and the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) offers [support](#) for all DPH employees.

Our hearts remain with Alberto's family, loved ones, and everyone who is grieving. The extraordinary compassion, unity, and support shown by staff in recent days have been a source of comfort and strength for our entire community. Let us continue to support one another, holding Alberto's legacy close as we move forward together.



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COVID-19 UPDATE

As of 12/09:

- San Francisco's 7-day rolling average of COVID test positivity is 0.9%.
- Twenty percent of SF residents are fully up to date on their COVID vaccinations and have received the updated vaccine.