

Coronavirus Weekly Staff Digest | Webinar Agenda
July 10, 2020 (Week 18) | Last Meeting (July 24, 2020)

- I. Welcome [Monty]
- II. Case Update [Miquela]
 - a. 230,346 cases reported in Texas, across 246/254 counties; 2,603,903 tests; 2,918 deaths
 - b. For Texas case updates: [CASE DASHBOARD](#) from dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus
- III. DSHS Update [Miquela]
 - a. Testing Positivity rate in Texas continues to increase (15.5% on 7/8 compared to 8% nationally)
 - **Reminder:** High positivity rate indicates that the disease is in fact spreading and is not simply a function of increased testing.
 - b. Virus mutations: [Changes in the SARS-CoV-2 spike](#)
 - Implications for vaccines
 - c. Treatment updates
 - [Retraction and republication: cardiac toxicity of hydroxychloroquine in COVID-19](#) (The Lancet, July 9, 2020)
 - [Regeneron and NAIAD begin phase 3 trial](#) to assess a double antibody cocktail's ability to prevent and treat COVID-19 infection
 - **Reminder:** We should be optimistic when we hear about anecdotal treatment successes in the media, however carefully evaluated peer-reviewed studies are needed to show whether a treatment is safe and efficacious.
- IV. Agency Update [Angela, Blair]
- V. Evidence-Based Practice Update [Mark, Miquela]
 - a. Examining the Data
 - b. [CDC](#): expands list of people at risk of severe COVID-19 illness
 - **Age**
 - Not simply '65 years or older' alone, but highlight that risk increases as you age (likely due to underlying conditions)
 - **Underlying Conditions = *Certain Increased Risk***
 - [Chronic kidney disease](#)
 - [COPD \(chronic obstructive pulmonary disease\)](#)
 - [Immunocompromised state \(weakened immune system\) from organ transplant](#)
 - [Obesity \(body mass index \[BMI\] of 30 or higher\)](#)
 - [Serious heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, or cardiomyopathies](#)
 - [Sickle cell disease](#)
 - [Type 2 diabetes mellitus](#)
 - **Underlying Condition = *Possible Increased Risk*** (i.e., waiting on published data)
 - Asthma, high blood pressure (alone), liver disease, pregnancy, smoking, type 1 diabetes, cerebrovascular disease, etc. [[READ MORE](#)]
 - c. 'Risk Interdiction'
 - d. Applying what we know (A lesson from the [TMA graphic](#); see attached)

An example of a simple risk-stratification matrix to protect vulnerable (see [CDC who is at risk](#)).

		Age-Related Risk		
		Low (< 50 years)	Medium (50-64 years)	High (≥ 65 years)
Health-Related Risk	High Has high-risk underlying illness or condition	F	F	F
	Medium No high-risk condition; controlled/uncontrolled related risk factors	B	C	D
	Low Healthy; no underlying condition or risk factors	A	B	C

- VI. FDA [Miquela]
 - a. New EUA for an [influenza and SARS-CoV-2 multiplex assay](#)
- VII. Role Update [Miquela, Mark]
 - a. As an agency and as educators, our role and emphasis remain the same.
- VIII. Trainings/Development [Miquela]
 - a. July 13 - The Bush School of Government and Public Service - Dr. Christine Crudo Blackburn, Deputy Director of the Pandemic and Biosecurity Policy Program will discuss current research on COVID-19, virus updates, and local/global predictions [\[Facebook Live Link\]](#)
 - b. July 16 – Misconceptions: What is Safe? COVID-19 Conversations Live Speaker Series, Texas A&M School of Public Health [\[LINK\]](#)
- IX. DAR Updates/Medical Supply Delivery [Rachel Bauer]
- X. Resource Updates [Joyce]
- XI. Q&A, Discussion

[Coronavirus.gov](#) | [CDC Coronavirus](#) | [Texas DSHS](#) | [Texas EDEN](#)

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‘Coronavirus Communication and Resources for Employees’

