California COVID-19 Testing Task Force
Elected Official Briefing

June 17, 2020
Agenda

- Introductions and logistics
- Objectives
- Approach
- Progress
- Next steps
- Questions
Participation by invitation only – please send participation requests to testing.taskforce@state.ca.gov

All of this is to facilitate a trusted, open dialogue in a highly fluid situation

A newsletter will follow this meeting and can be used to share with/update others in your community
Today’s speakers

• **Dr. Charity Dean**, Assistant Director, California Department of Public Health

• **Paul Markovich**, President and CEO, Blue Shield of California

• **Dr. Christina Kong**, Vice Chair and Medical Director of Pathology & Clinical Lab, Stanford University

List of Task Force leaders provided on Task Force website at testing.covid19.ca.gov
Roles in this public-private partnership

- Appropriate state officials *always* make decisions

- Individuals from the private sector are providing important support at a critical juncture and *do not* make decisions
Two types of COVID-19 tests mentioned in these materials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Detection of…</th>
<th>PCR (molecular diagnostic) and Antigen tests</th>
<th>Serological tests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Virus</td>
<td></td>
<td>Antibodies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common sample type</th>
<th>PCR is gold standard for diagnostic testing</th>
<th>Blood/plasma</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nose nasal or throat swab</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key considerations</th>
<th>Do not diagnose infection, but can be useful for antibody detection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
### Task Force goals and approach

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Our goals</th>
<th>Our approach</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increase total number of tests</td>
<td><strong>Access</strong>: Establish statewide collection sites for equitable access</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-hour turnaround</td>
<td><strong>Test processing</strong>: Maximize throughput and turnaround time of labs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90% accuracy</td>
<td><strong>Statewide distribution</strong>: Establish a smart distribution of scarce supplies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equitable and convenient access</td>
<td><strong>Facilitate innovation</strong>: Provide recommendations on new, promising tests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Data and analytics</strong>: Track and report results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Community-driven workforce needs</strong>: Maximize using members of the community for the work</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reaching our goals will require taking a range of actions.

**Current and expected number of COVID-19 tests in California**

Tests/day (PCR Tests)

- **End of March (actual)**: 2,000
- **Goal by 4/17**: 10,000
- **Goal by 4/30**: 25,000
- **Goal by 5/31**: 60,000

**Actions to increase test volumes:**

- Increase capacity for existing labs to process tests
- Increase number of specimens collected for processing
- Assess and deploy new tests (e.g., point of care, serology)

Current as of 06/15
Task Force is optimizing end-to-end testing workflows

**Providers**

Patient Referred for Testing

Work with local public health officials to provide guidance on expanded access to testing and prioritization

**Sample Collection sites**

Collection Site Collects Samples

Work to set up a state-wide network of new collection sites

Secure sufficient supplies for sample collection

**Sample Processing sites**

Network of Organizations Processing Tests

Optimize supply distribution for existing tests

Identify and scale promising new tests

**Test results captured and reported**

Track results and make them available in aggregate to the public.

---

CA Task Force Team
The network of testing sites is being expanded to provide equitable access across the state.

Criteria for recommendation of additional sites:

- Ensure access to testing in underserved communities
- Ensure a collection site within approx. 30 min driving time in urban areas and within approx. 60 min in rural areas
- Ensure there is sufficient capacity to meet state requirements for reopening (1.5 tests per 1,000 people)

Network of testing active sites in California:

- OptumServe sites: 82
- Verily sites: 29
- Other community sites (including drive-throughs, clinics, urgent care centers, and other sites): 340+

1. 24 fixed, 5 mobile rotating between rural locations
The Task Force has launched an integrated directory of testing sites

- Locations and working hours for all Verily, OptumServe, and other community testing sites
- Search by location (address, zip, county)
- Links and phone numbers to schedule appointments

https://covid19.ca.gov/
The Task Force is working to secure scarce supplies for sample collection and test processing.

**Sample collection supplies**
- The Task Force confirmed and operationalized supply distribution model in partnership with RDMHSs and MHOACs.
- Distribution completed for ~2.4M swabs and 1.5M units of viral transport media.
- 3M+ swabs expected to be delivered by end of June.
- All 59 operating areas have received swabs to date.

**Test processing supplies**
- The Task Force is in active collaboration with all major manufacturers to resolve supply shortages.
- The state purchased 1.5M Abbott serology kits and 250k testing kits for Abbott m2000 machines.

Current as of 06/15
The Testing Task Force has released a list of labs that met all criteria for readiness and can receive samples for RT-PCR COVID Testing.

Readiness criteria include:
- California clinical laboratory license and CLIA Certification
- Running an FDA EUA RT, PCR or other molecular, or antigen-based tests approved for clinical diagnostic use
- Registered with LFS for COVID-19 Testing
- Submitting data to CalREDIE

The list is updated frequently and is available at: https://testing.covid19.ca.gov/ under “COVID-19 Lab Resources”
We are tracking tests/day daily

Total testing volume in California, tests/day

Current as of 06/15
Assessment approach

**Serology tests**  
*details follow*  
Technical assessment that includes a comprehensive set of performance metrics and follows a systematic multi-step approach

**Rapid point of care tests**  
Focus on symptomatic cases in ER, ICU, or congregate settings, vulnerable populations, and first responders

**Specimen pooling**  
Assessment focused on feasibility and identification of low prevalence areas where pooling may be beneficial

https://testing.covid19.ca.gov/
The Task Force is monitoring new technologies that promise to increase access to testing

Infectious Disease Society of America (IDSA) Guidelines on the Diagnosis of COVID-19:

Suggests mid-turbinate (MT) or nasal swabs are acceptable alternatives to nasopharyngeal swabs in symptomatic individuals

Suggests that nasal and MT swabs may be collected by either patients (at home self-collection with appropriate training) or healthcare providers

Saliva collection: Insufficient data. Given significant interest, the panel anticipates additional studies to better inform on test performance

Tests with at home self collection kits now available: Current as of May 17, 2020

- Rutger’s Clinical Genomics Lab – Saliva
- Pixel by LabCore – Nasal swab
- Fulgent Therapeutics, LLC* – Nasal swab
- Assurance Scientific Laboratories* – Nasal swab

* Everlywell supplies COVID-19 nasal swab kit
Chan Zuckerberg Biohub, in partnership with the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, CDPH and California local health jurisdictions, is launching no-cost genome sequencing to support the pandemic response:

Specimen Type – Extracted RNA or swab in RNA Shield™ (Zymo Research)

Sequencing: Genome sequence data TAT within 10 business days of receipt; will support more rapid (<5 days) TAT for urgent sequencing needs

Analysis: Make data actionable for public health surveillance and response

Data Portal: A portal for visualization & investigation of data. LHJs may overlay epi and demographic data to better inform transmission chains and contact tracing

Training: CZ Biohub is committed to supporting local health jurisdiction capacity building

Step 1: Email covidtracker@czbiohub.org to express interest
Transition plan

State TTF

- Statewide testing guidance
- Oversight of local testing solutions and efforts
- Data consolidation, monitoring and state-level reporting
- Targeted state-led or state-funded solutions
- Maintain relationships and contracts with statewide partners

County-led testing efforts

- Design and setup of testing solutions for various population cohorts (including for contact tracing)
- Expansion and maintenance of testing sites to provide equitable access to testing
- Contracting with labs, site operators, and other partners
- Data sharing and reporting

Private partners

- Ongoing support and thought partnership for the TTF leadership
- Participation in working sessions on specific topics and approaches

Transition to be completed by 6/30
What we hope you take away from this session

• We have developed a comprehensive but highly manual picture of testing in CA
• Picture is dynamic, changing every day
• Task Force is working hard to help:
  • Optimize distribution of testing supplies and equipment where needed
  • Recommend when new tests should be put into widespread use
  • Propose resources needed to expand testing capacity
  • Ensure equitable and appropriate statewide access to testing
• Efforts are gaining traction as we have moved from ~2,000 tests per day when we started, to going past our 25,000 tests per day goal by end of April and currently to more than ~75K per day as our latest peak daily volume (6/11)
• We have a path to further increase tests per day and plenty of work left to do to achieve it
Next Steps

• Visit testing.covid19.ca.gov to learn more

• Please reach out to testing.taskforce@state.ca.gov if you have any questions about the Task Force efforts