



# South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs

Emergency Operations Center (EOC): [EOC@DDSN.SC.GOV](mailto:EOC@DDSN.SC.GOV); 803-898-9754

**SITUATIONAL REPORT NO. 45, DATE: APRIL 29, 2021**

**EVENT COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

## **I. CDC ISSUES NEW MASK GUIDANCE FOR OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES AND NEW GUIDANCE FOR HEALTHCARE SETTINGS**

On Tuesday, April 27, the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) issued new guidance related to masks in outdoor situations. Vaccinated individuals now do not need to wear masks in outdoor activities involving small groups such as outdoor dining or exercise. Masks still must be worn by all at large outdoor gatherings such as concerts and sporting events. The CDC also updated guidance for healthcare settings to include reiterating recent Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) visitation guidelines and updating testing and quarantine requirements. You can find the updated CDC guidance [here](#).

## **II. PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY EXTENDED**

On April 15, HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra extended the date for the end of the declared COVID-19 Public Health Emergency to July 20, 2021. The previous PHE extension was set to expire on April 20, 2021. Currently the PHE is expected to be renewed every 90 days and last through the end of 2021. See the renewal notice [here](#).

## **III. CDC AND FDA APPROVE CONTINUED USE OF J&J VACCINE**

On Friday April 23, the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) held a day-long meeting to discuss the future of the Johnson and Johnson one shot vaccine in the US. The ACIP advised that use of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine can continue. The ACIP has agreed to place a warning label on the vaccine about TTS, a rare but potentially dangerous blood clotting issue that may occur in women under the age of 50. The FDA met and then followed the CDC recommendation and reauthorized use of the J&J Vaccine. The joint statement from the CDC and FDA can be found [here](#).

## **IV. SCSHEM, DHEC, AND SOLVENT NETWORKS PRESENT 2021 HOSPITAL PREPAREDNESS SUMMIT**

The South Carolina Society of Healthcare Emergency Managers, DHEC and Solvent Networks are presenting a 2 day preparedness summit for healthcare administrators on ideas and lesson learned from the COVID-19 Pandemic. There is no cost to attend, but registration is required. The agenda for the Solvent Networks Healthcare Summit can be found [here](#). Registration information can be found [here](#).

**V. COVID-19 VACCINATION UPDATE**

As of April 26, 30.2 percent of all South Carolinians have completed full vaccination. Additionally, 41.2 percent of all South Carolinians are now at least partially vaccinated. South Carolina has received over 4.3 million doses of vaccines of which 94.3 percent have been administered. You can view the DHEC vaccine dashboard [here](#).

The Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) COVID-19 Epidemiology Intelligence Project is tracking estimated immunity levels in South Carolina. If you would like to view the statistics on estimated immunity levels in the state, you can find the information [here](#).