

Outbreak Breakdown

September 18, 2020

This weekly report is provided as an informal information resource for certain AdvaMed member work groups. Content is provided by staff and is not to be construed as conveying AdvaMed viewpoints or endorsement. Newsletter Editors: [Andy Fish](#), Chief Strategy Officer and [Kristina Shultz](#), Manager, Strategy & Policy. Inquiries about AdvaMed's COVID-19 response can be directed to [Chris White](#), AdvaMed COVID Action Team Leader, COO & General Counsel.

AdvaMed Notes

COVID-19 Molecular Tests Milestone: AdvaMed announced yesterday that total U.S. shipments of COVID-19 molecular diagnostic tests have reached more than 150 million, based on the latest data from the association's COVID-19 testing supply registry. In addition, at least 100 million antigen tests are expected to be shipped by the end of the fall. Read AdvaMed's press release [here](#).

MedTech Conference: AdvaMed's MedTech Conference is going on now, with on-demand programming and partnering opportunities available now through the end of October. Live keynote addresses, panel sessions, and networking events will be held October 5-9, 2020. Check out the conference agenda [here](#). For additional information and to register, please visit the conference [website](#).

AdvaMed Resources:

[COVID Testing Supply Registry](#)

[PPE Sourcing Program](#)

[MedTech Responds](#)

Something Completely Different

We loved [The Martian](#) (also [Marvin](#)) but now it's [bugging](#) us that, as far as we can recall, his inventory did not include [chitin](#), whose applications are well known to the [medical device industry and others](#) but also may be getting a [fresh look](#) as an [essential ingredient for Mars settlement](#).

Pandemic Snapshot

Global: Current Cases: [30,238,000](#) Deaths: [946,911](#)

- Israel, Bahrain, Montenegro, and Costa Rica are reporting rapidly increasing daily new cases. Israel announced last weekend that it will impose a [second nationwide lockdown](#) lasting at least three weeks.
- India's epidemic continues to accelerate, nearing 100,000 new cases recorded per day.

United States: Current Cases: [6,709,600](#) Deaths: [197,736](#)

- Cases continue to rise in the Midwest, and although testing is also increasing in many of those states, there are a few where new cases are outpacing new testing (including Wisconsin, whose cases increased by 65% this week).
- Hospitalizations continue to decrease in the West and South.
- It will take a few weeks to see if the wildfires in Oregon and California have had any impact on COVID-19 transmission.

News & Insights

Rapid Tests: A [survey by Kaiser Health News](#) found that over 20 states aren't including all results from rapid antigen tests in their case numbers, creating a blind spot in national data. Twenty-one states and the District of Columbia do not report all antigen test results, and 15 states and the District of Columbia do not report any positive results from antigen tests. This means that positive case counts may be artificially low in those states. Part of the issue is that CDC guidance defines positive results from PCR testing as "confirmed" cases and positive results from antigen tests as "probable" cases – which is why some states leave them out of their confirmed case numbers. As states adopt more rapid antigen testing, confirmed (PCR) cases may decrease, falsely implying that new cases are truly decreasing in that state.

COVID-19 Youth Deaths: This week's CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report includes an [analysis examining 121 SARS-CoV-2-associated deaths](#) among persons under 21 years of age. Researchers found that many of the same factors associated with death in older populations were also true for younger populations. There was a disproportionate burden of death among children and young adults with underlying health conditions and those who were Black, Hispanic, or American Indian/Alaska Native.

Operation Warp Speed Vaccine Distribution Strategy: HHS and DoD [released several documents](#) this week outlining Operation Warp Speed's strategy for distributing a SARS-CoV-2 vaccine. Following authorization or approval of a vaccine, allocation will be based on CDC prioritization models, which will be developed by an independent advisory board with input from the National Academies of Sciences. See the plan documents below:

[Strategy for Distributing a COVID-19 Vaccine](#)
[Playbook for States, Territorial, and Local Public Health Departments](#)
[Vaccine Distribution Infographic](#)

Monoclonal Antibodies: Eli Lilly reported encouraging [interim results](#) from a placebo-controlled trial of a monoclonal antibody treatment that showed a 72% reduced risk of being hospitalized for patients with mild or moderate COVID-19 who [received the antibody](#) versus those who received the placebo. The drug also reduced the level of SARS-CoV-2 in the body faster in patients who received the antibody. Monoclonal antibodies are laboratory-produced proteins designed to act like human antibodies against specific pathogens in the immune system. Multiple companies are reportedly developing [monoclonal antibody treatments](#) for COVID-19, but Eli Lilly is the first to release preliminary results. The trial is not complete and full results will need to be vetted through the peer review process, but the initial results are promising for this type of treatment.

[CDC Updates, Again, Guidelines on Testing People Without Coronavirus Symptoms](#) | CNN, September 18
[Why the Number of People Getting Tested for COVID-19 Has Dropped in the US](#) | Vox, September 18
[America Needs to Lock Down Again](#) | Foreign Affairs, September 16
[Who Pays for COVID-19 Medical Care? That Depends on How \(or If\) You Are Insured](#) | Wall Street Journal, September 14
[New Report Says COVID-19 Pandemic Has Caused Historic Setbacks in Global Health](#) | STAT News, September 14

[For Prisoners in the West, the Virus and the Wildfires Are Colliding Threats](#) | New York Times, September 14

[AstraZeneca Resumes Its COVID-19 Vaccine Trials in the U.K.](#) | NPR, September 12

[Seeking the Causes of Post-COVID Symptoms, Researchers Dust Off Data on College Students with Mononucleosis](#) | STAT News, September 11

[Kids Caught the Coronavirus at Child Care Centers and Infected Family Members, CDC Report Says](#) | CNBC, September 11

[The Other Way COVID Will Kill: Hunger](#) | New York Times, September 11

[Trump Officials Interfered With CDC Reports on COVID-19](#) | Politico, September 11

More News

[MIT Technology Review Coronavirus Coverage](#)

[Tulane Outbreak Daily](#)

[Prevent Epidemics Weekly Science Review](#)

[Helio COVID-19 Resource Center](#)

[Johns Hopkins Novel Coronavirus Research Compendium](#)