

Clinical Bulletin #159: COVID-19

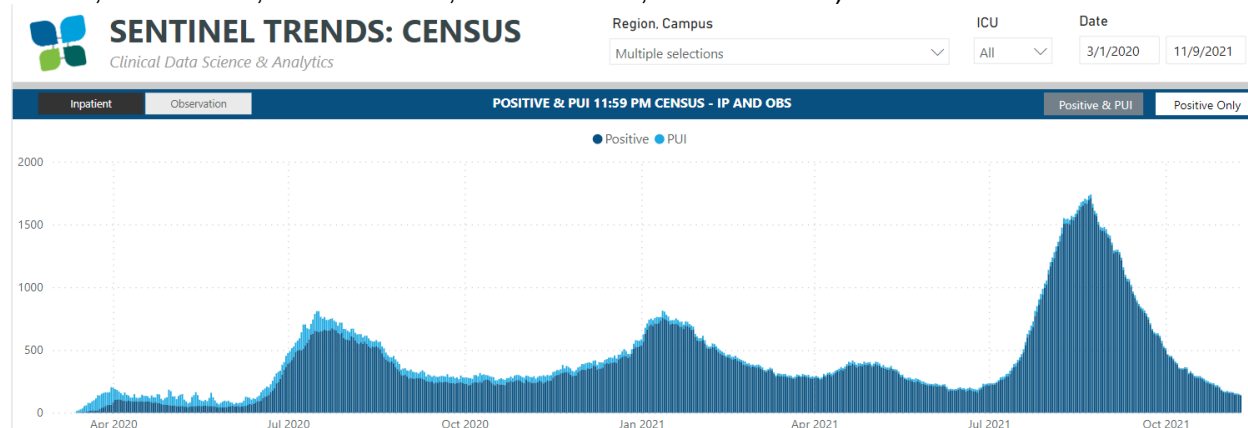
AdventHealth Central Florida Division

DAILY BRIEFING Thursday, Nov. 11, 2021

The Central Florida Division remains at **Green Status**. See [this letter](#) for more details.

AdventHealth Central Florida Division:

Inpatients: 131 (9 Altamonte, 6 Apopka, 9 Celebration, 3 Children's, 21 Daytona Beach, 11 DeLand, 9 East, 7 Fish Memorial, 6 Heart of Florida, 6 Kissimmee, 2 Lake Wales, 4 New Smyrna Beach, 17 Orlando, 2 Palm Coast, 14 Waterman, 5 Winter Park)



AdventHealth Centra Care:

- The COVID-19 positivity rate statewide is 4.7%, as of Nov. 8. See the [full report](#).
 - Pediatric antigen positivity rates have declined to 2.6%.
- AdventHealth Centra Care reported an increase in positive flu tests statewide.
 - While flu activity typically spikes between December and February, Dr. Tim Hendrix [explains that cases are increasing now](#).

Vaccine Updates

US Federal Vaccine Mandate:

- The [federal government has issued a mandate](#) that workers at companies with at least 100 employees be vaccinated against COVID-19 or be tested weekly starting Jan. 4.
 - A federal appeals court has [temporarily halted](#) the requirement.
- AdventHealth intends to comply with the federal mandate and is closely monitoring legal challenges in the states we serve that may impact our compliance.

Pfizer Asks FDA To OK COVID-19 Booster Shots for All Adults:

- Pfizer asked U.S. regulators to [allow its boosters to anyone 18 & older](#) after submitting [early results of a study](#) that concluded a booster could restore protection against symptomatic infection to about 95%.

- If the FDA authorizes Pfizer’s request for expanded boosters, the CDC will then make recommendations for how to use them.

Treatment Updates

Smoking & Substance Use Is Tied to Worse COVID-19 Outcomes:

- Smoking and [substance use disorders](#) (such as alcohol, opioid or cocaine use) are on the CDC’s [list of underlying medical conditions](#) associated with high risk for severe COVID-19 illness, making these patients eligible for boosters.
- [See the FAQs](#) on COVID-19 & substance use from the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

Treatment on the Horizon, Seeking Federal Authorization:

Oral COVID-19 Antiviral Pills Reduce Risk of Hospitalization & Death:

- Pfizer [released the first phase 2/3 clinical trial data](#) on Paxlovid.
 - This oral COVID-19 antiviral treatment candidate yielded an 89% reduction in deaths or hospitalizations and will be submitted to the FDA for an EUA.
- [Merck’s experimental COVID-19 pill](#), molnupiravir, is the world’s first approved COVID-19 antiviral pill and is authorized for use in the United Kingdom.
 - On Nov. 30, the [FDA advisory committee will discuss](#) the available data supporting the use of molnupiravir. Dr. Vincent Hsu [explains more here](#).

Studies & Research

Study Suggests Anti-Nausea Drug Could Help Ventilated COVID-19 Patients:

- [AdventHealth Research Institute analyzed](#) nearly 16,300 Central Florida COVID-19 patients and found that those who took Zofran before being put on a ventilator died less often than those who didn’t, according to [this study on MedRxiv.org](#).
- The AdventHealth study replicates the results of an unrelated [July 2021 study](#) which also found that Zofran was linked to the survival of hospitalized COVID-19 patients.

EMR Update: The Transition to Epic

Epic Workflow Demos Now Available:

- Review [these Epic demos](#) to learn how workflows integrate in the patient experience.
- Top takeaways from these demos are [summarized here](#).

Other News for Clinicians

Human Trafficking Symposium:

- [Register](#) for AdventHealth’s virtual Human Trafficking Symposium on Jan. 13.
- Florida is third in the nation for reported cases of human trafficking. [Learn more here](#).

Highlight of the Day

Physicians Serving in Excellence: Pin & Recognition Program:

Dr. Kara Gowan (right), hospitalist at AdventHealth Celebration, was recognized by chief of staff Dr. Harrinarine Madhosingh (left) for displaying the highest standard of care for patients. In her nomination, team members wrote, “Dr. Gowan probably doesn’t know me by name, but I definitely know her. My fellow floor nurses and myself are always delighted when we find out she is the doctor on call during our shift,” and “I know beyond the shadow of a doubt that when she is on duty, my patients are safe.” Anyone can nominate a [physician for serving in excellence](#). The program is open to all CFD employed & independent physicians. [Click here](#) to nominate someone.



To view past editions, see the communication archives on the [CFD Provider Resource page](#).

Email any COVID-19 questions to CFDCoronavirusQuestions@AdventHealth.com or call the free AdventHealth Coronavirus Information Line at 877-VIRUS-HQ (877-847-8747).