



Development of a COVID-19 Biweekly Digest

Michelle Thomas MSIV¹, Tony Kuo MD, MSHS²

Charles R. Drew University/David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA¹, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health²



BACKGROUND

- Coronavirus disease 2019 first identified in Wuhan, China in December 2019.
- Declared a worldwide pandemic on March 2020 by the World Health Organization (WHO).
- COVID-19 in the **United States**
 - Total cases: ~ 29M
 - Total deaths: ~ 530K
- Top three states with highest cases:
 - California (12% of all US cases)
 - Texas (9.3% of all US cases)
 - Florida (6.6% of all US cases)
- COVID-19 in **Los Angeles County**
 - Total cases: ~ 1.1M
 - Total deaths: ~ 22K
- Within LA County, disparities exist.
- **Service Planning Area (SPA) 6** has the highest adjusted case rate.

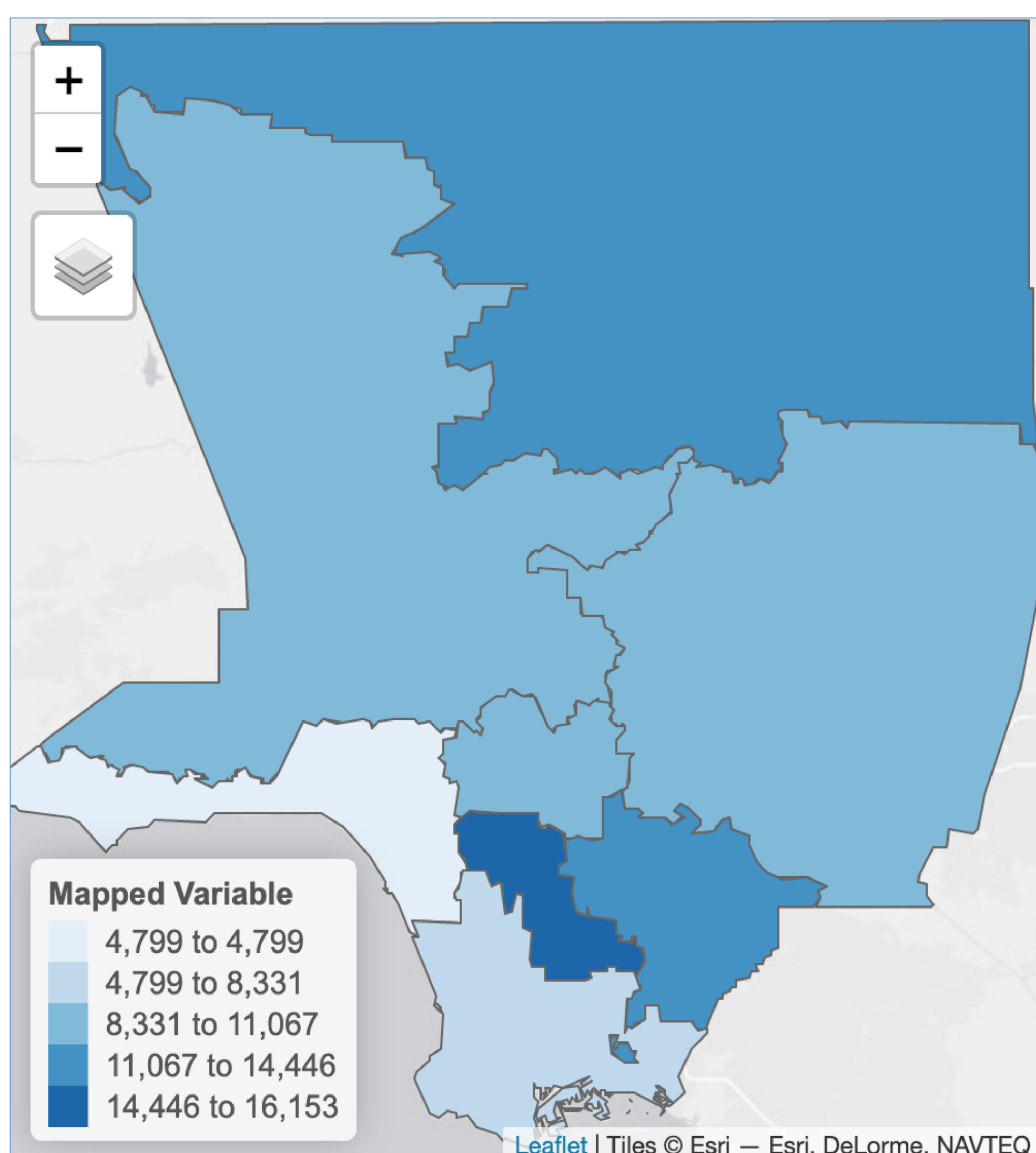


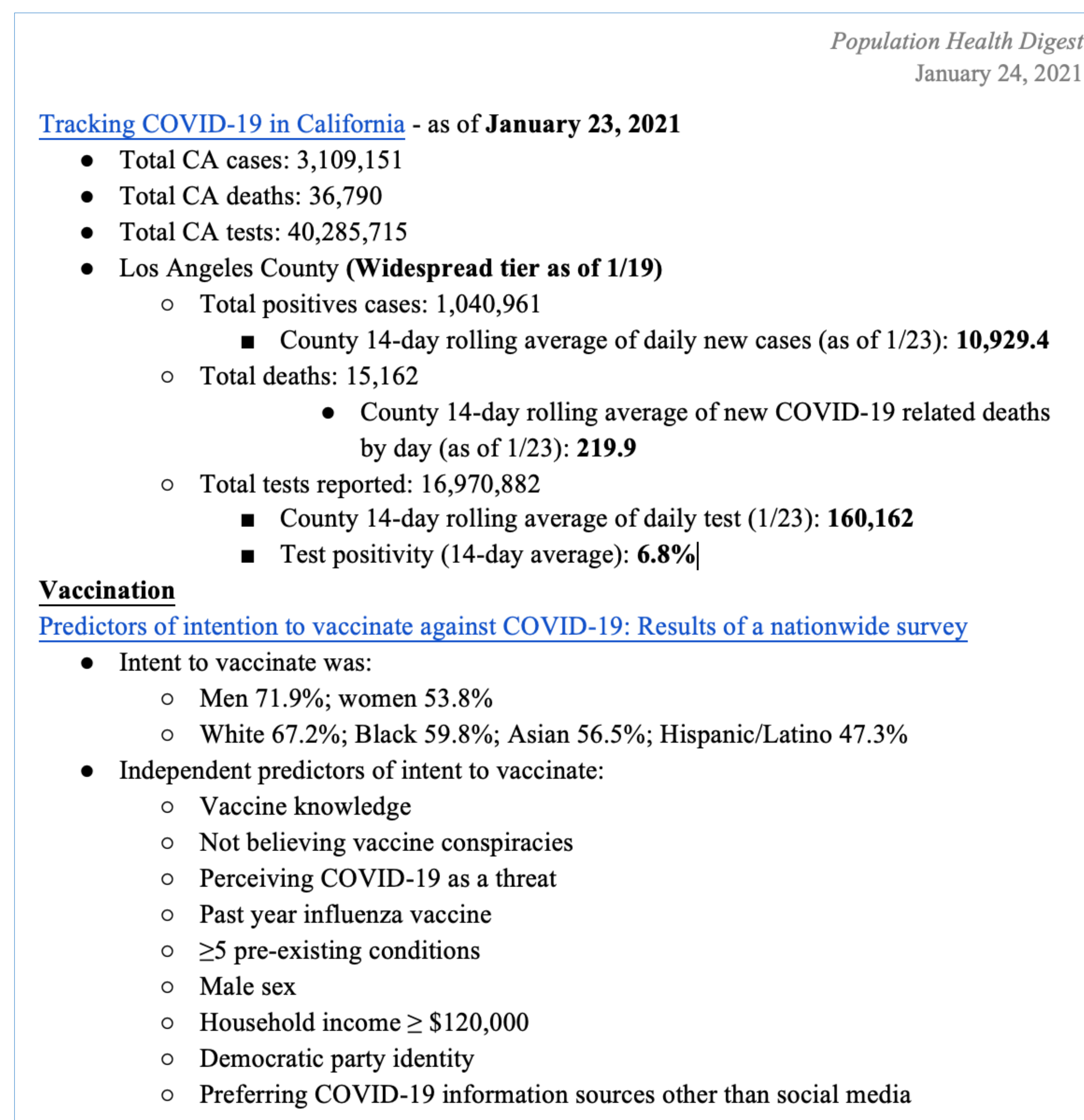
Figure 1. Map of Adjusted Rates for Cases by LA County SPA (Source: LACDPH).

OBJECTIVES

- To develop a series of biweekly COVID-19 digests.
 - To inform County strategies and prioritized response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - To keep its disaster service workers (e.g., physicians, nurses, public health investigators) up to date on the science of and practice to manage COVID-19.
 - To facilitate culturally-sensitive planning and responses to outbreak investigation and management.

STRUCTURE OF DIGEST

Figure 2. Sample of past issue of Population Health Digest.



METHODS/STEPS

- Literature reviews (9/28/20 to ongoing).
- Use key terms such as transmission, testing, vaccination, health disparities, health equity, COVID-19.
- Database sources: PubMed, CDC, NIH, LA County DPH, California DPH.
- Excluded less reliable sources.
- Peer Review.
- Dissemination:
 - By Data Science Team in the COVID-19 Outbreak Management Branch at LACDPH.
 - Biweekly via Microsoft Teams.
 - To outbreak investigators and team staff at LACDPH.

IMPLICATIONS/FUTURE DIRECTION

- Responding appropriately to the COVID-19 pandemic requires a multifaceted and multidisciplinary approach.
- Accurate and trustworthy information coming from trusted culturally-competent and/or racially-concordant messengers could have beneficial impact on community testing and vaccine hesitation.
- Future direction:
 - Version for consumers/patients.
 - Q&A section driven by consumers/patients.

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