

Clinical Laboratory COVID-19 Response Call

Monday, August 23, 2021, at 3:00 PM EDT

- **Welcome**

- Jasmine Chaitram, CDC Division of Laboratory Systems (DLS)

- **SARS-CoV-2 Variants Update**

- John Barnes, CDC Laboratory and Testing Task Force for the COVID-19 Response

- **Testing and Diagnostics Working Group**

- Dean Winslow, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Testing and Diagnostics Working Group (TDWG)

- **FDA Update**

- Tim Stenzel, U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

Division of Laboratory Systems (DLS)

Vision

Exemplary laboratory science and practice advance clinical care, public health, and health equity.

Mission

Improve public health, patient outcomes, and health equity by advancing clinical and public health laboratory quality and safety, data and biorepository science, and workforce competency.

Four Goal Areas of DLS



Quality Laboratory Science

Improve the quality and value of laboratory medicine and biorepository science for better health outcomes and public health surveillance

Highly Competent Laboratory Workforce

Strengthen the laboratory workforce to support clinical and public health laboratory practice

Safe and Prepared Laboratories

Enhance the safety and response capabilities of clinical and public health laboratories

Accessible and Usable Laboratory Data

Increase access and use of laboratory data to support response, surveillance, and patient care

CDC Preparedness Portal

<https://www.cdc.gov/csels/dls/preparedlabs/covid-19-clinical-calls.html>

Find CLCR call information,
transcripts, and audio recordings on
the CDC Preparedness Portal

The screenshot shows the 'Prepared Laboratories' section of the CDC website. The main heading is 'Clinical Laboratory COVID-19 Response Calls'. Below the heading is a CDC logo and a large image of a coronavirus particle. The text describes the calls as regular meetings convened by the Division of Laboratory Systems (DLS) to discuss the nation's clinical laboratory response to COVID-19. It states that calls occur every other Monday at 3:00 PM Eastern time. A paragraph explains that questions can be submitted via email (DLSinquiries@cdc.gov) or through a Zoom Q&A function. A final line indicates that the information is for PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, or Android devices.

Prepared Laboratories

Prepared Laboratories > Outbreak & Response

Prepared Laboratories

Preparedness Initiatives

Outbreak & Response

COVID-19

Clinical Laboratory COVID-19 Response Calls

July 2021

June 2021

May 2021

April 2021

March 2021

February 2021

January 2021

Clinical Laboratory COVID-19 Response Calls

CDC's Division of Laboratory Systems (DLS) convenes regular calls with clinical laboratories to discuss the nation's clinical laboratory response to coronavirus disease (COVID-19). These Clinical Laboratory COVID-19 Response Calls take place every other Monday at 3:00 PM Eastern time. Audio and transcripts are posted online after each call.

To submit questions for consideration, email DLSinquiries@cdc.gov in advance or use the question and answer (Q&A) function in Zoom during the call. Because we anticipate a large number of participants on this call, and many questions, we may not be able to directly and immediately address every issue. However, we will note your questions and feedback and tailor the content of future calls accordingly. We want this call to be useful and relevant to your COVID-19 response activities – we are all in this together.

To Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device:

Schedule for Clinical Laboratory COVID-19 Response Calls

The next call will be on **Monday, September 20**
from **3:00 PM to 4:00 PM EDT**



We Want to Hear from You!

Training and Workforce Development

Questions about education and training?

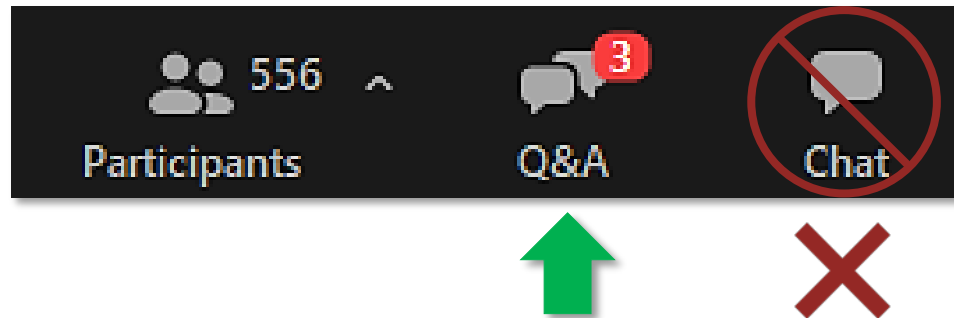
Contact LabTrainingNeeds@cdc.gov




How to Ask a Question

- **Using the Zoom Webinar System**

- Click the **Q&A** button in the Zoom webinar system
- Type your question in the **Q&A** box and submit it
- **Please do not submit a question using the chat button**



- For media questions, please contact CDC Media Relations at media@cdc.gov
- If you are a patient, please direct any questions to your healthcare provider



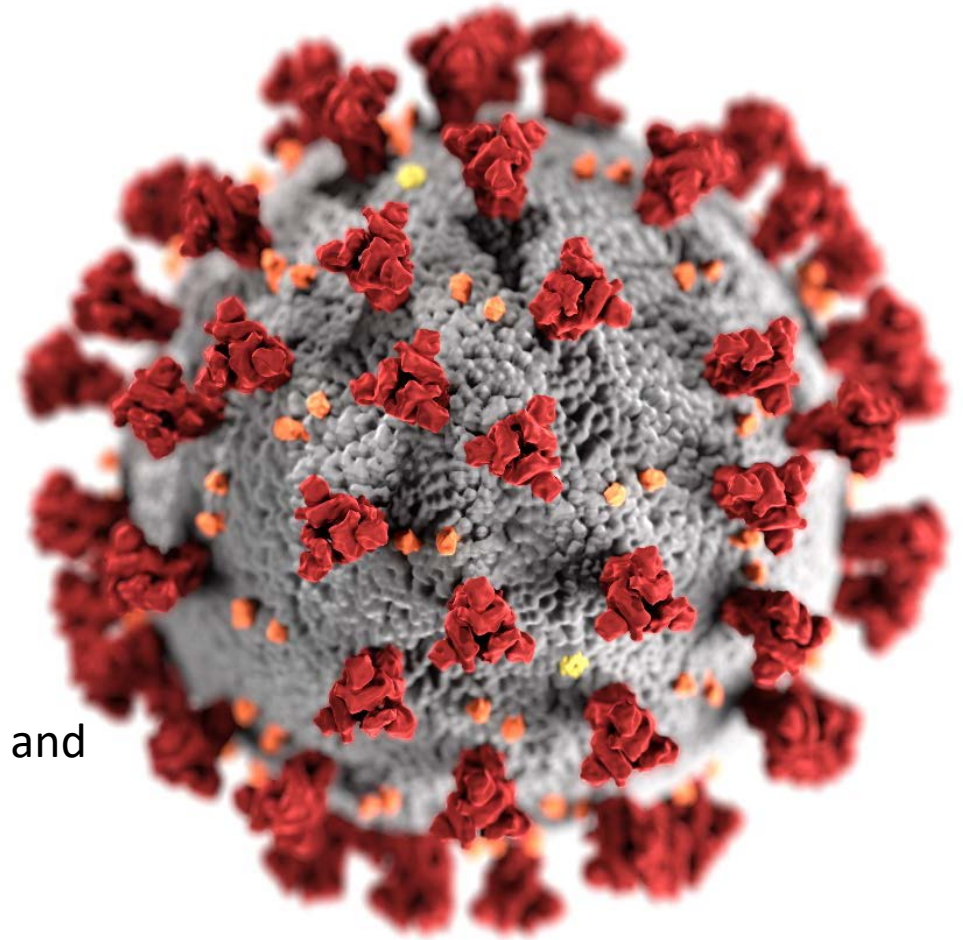
Slide decks may contain presentation material from panelists who are not affiliated with CDC. Presentation content from external panelists may not necessarily reflect CDC's official position on the topic(s) covered.

SSEV Update

John R. Barnes, Ph.D.

SSEV Deputy Lead, COVID-19 Laboratory Task Force

Use of trade names and commercial sources is for identification only and does not imply endorsement by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

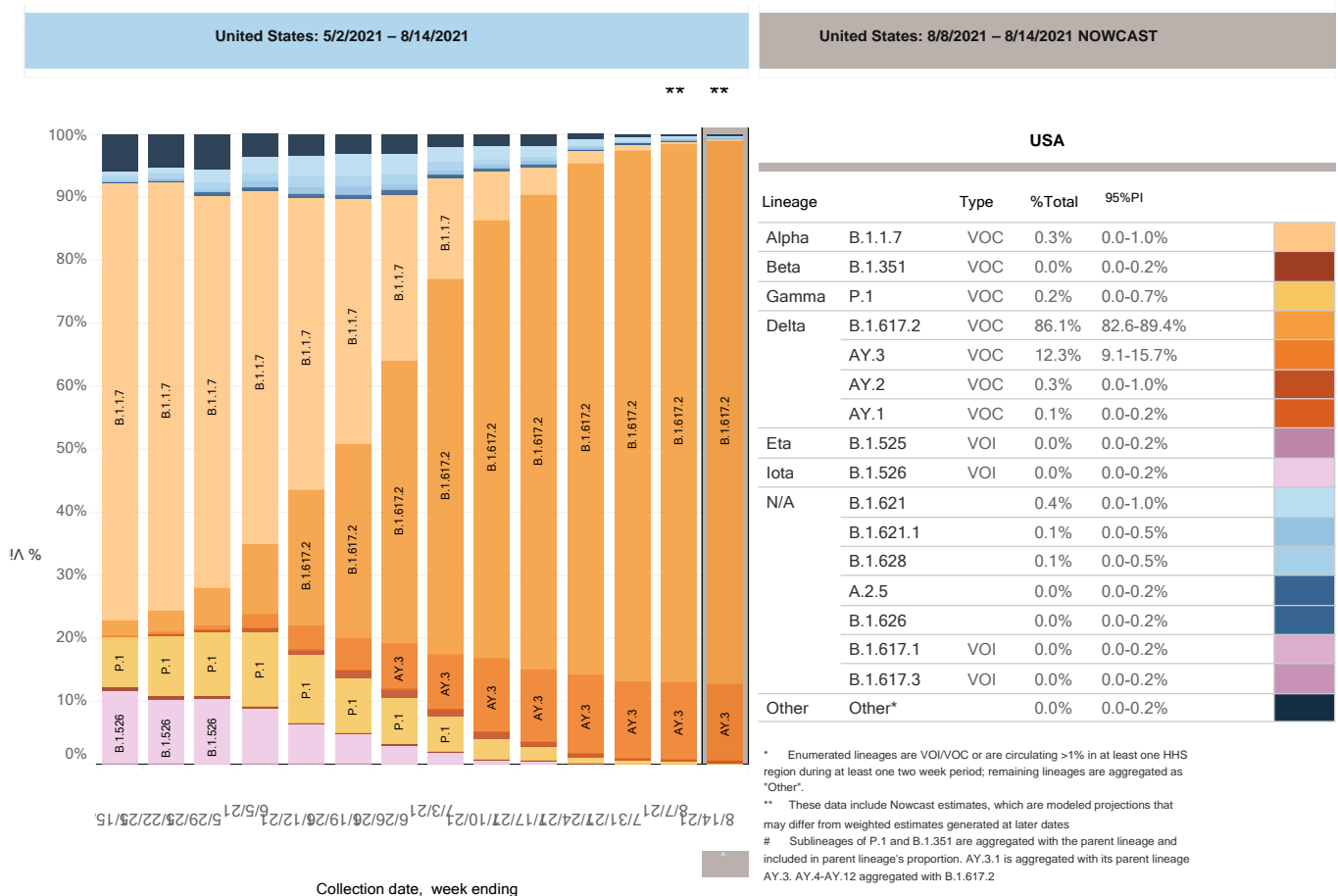


cdc.gov/coronavirus

National Nowcast Estimates of SARS-CoV-2 Lineages



- Delta (including sublineages) increased¹
 - From 94% to 99%
 - B.1.617.2 (86%)
 - AY.3 (12%), AY.2 (0.3%), AY.1 (0.1%)
- Alpha (B.1.1.7) decreased
 - from 2.4% to 0.3%
- Gamma (P.1) decreased
 - from 1% to 0.2%
- B.1.427 and B.1.429
 - no longer considered VOI
 - Less than 0.1% nationally

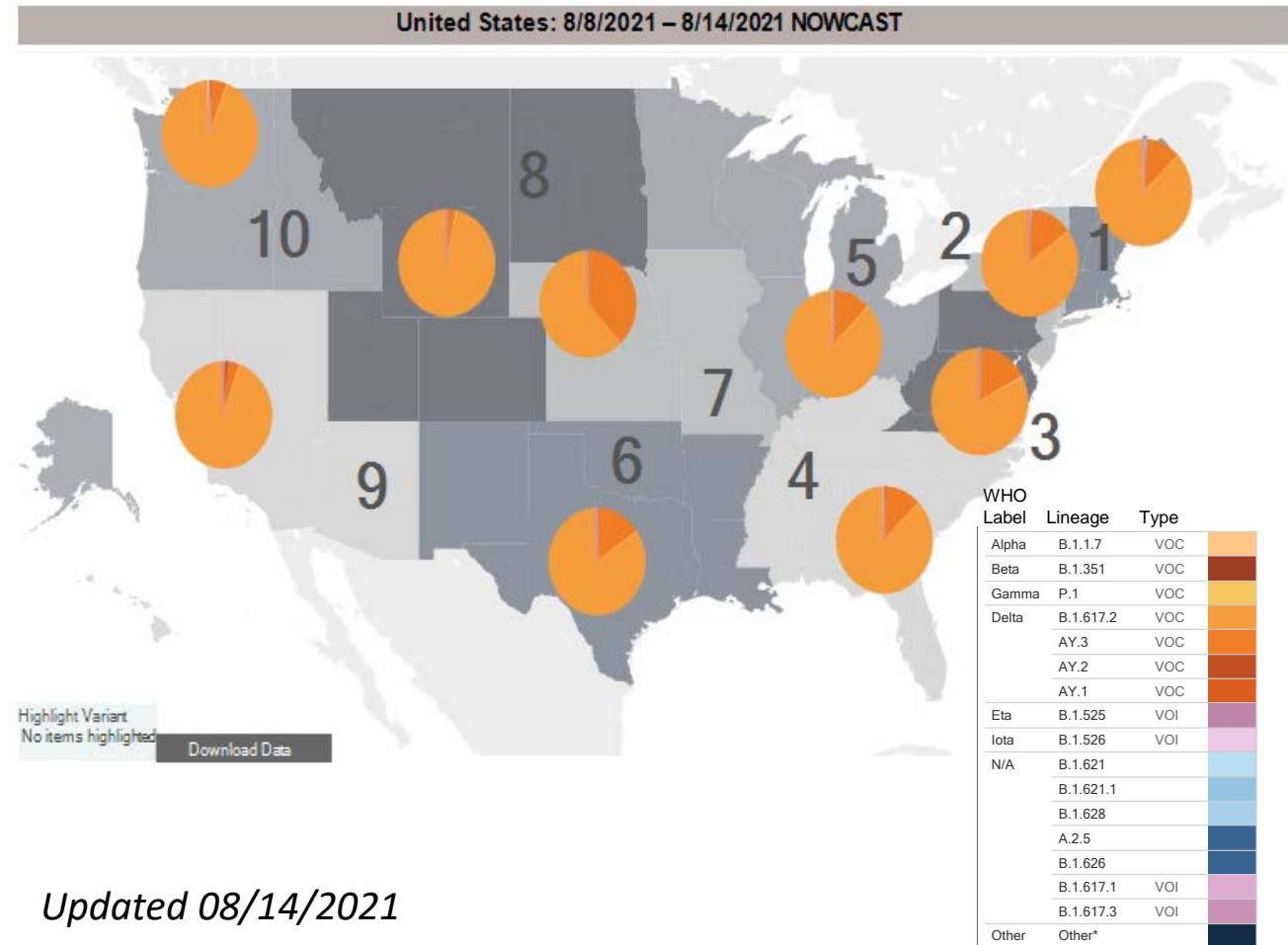


¹Weighted estimates from period ending 07/24/2021 (as of 7/31/2021) used for comparison with Nowcast (as of 08/14/2021)

Regional Nowcast Proportion of SARS-CoV-2 Lineages

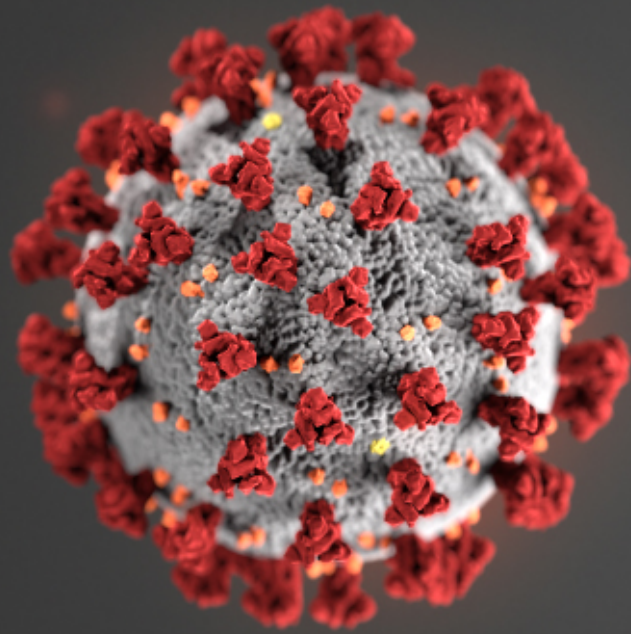


- Delta (B.1.617.2) predominates in all HHS Regions
 - AY.3 is highest in Region 7 (38%)
 - AY.1 and AY.2 are less than 1% for all HHS Regions and nationally
 - Alpha (B.1.1.7) decreasing in all Regions
 - Less than 1% in each Region
- Gamma (P.1)
 - Decreasing in all HHS Regions
 - Less than 1% in each Region



Updated 08/14/2021

<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#variant-proportions>



For more information, contact CDC
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 www.cdc.gov

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



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INFORMATION NOT RELEASABLE TO THE PUBLIC UNLESS AUTHORIZED BY LAW:

This information has not been publicly disclosed and may be a privileged, confidential, deliberative, and/or pre-decisional communication. It is for internal government use only and must not be disseminated, distributed, or copied to persons not authorized to receive the information. Unauthorized disclosure may result in prosecution to the full extent of the law.

HHS Testing & Diagnostics Working Group (TDWG)

Discussion with Jasmine Chaitram & Clinical Laboratories

AUGUST 23, 2021

Agenda

- 1. Overview of HHS TDWG
- 2. Short-term: supply readiness approach
- 3. Short-term: surge response capabilities
- 4. Long-term: future preparedness strategies

During the course of COVID-19 pandemic, USG has adapted its investment and support strategies to expand testing capacity



Support test development

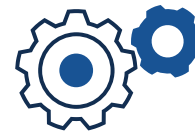
Invested in testing technology

Focus of innovation has shifted overtime as technologies authorized



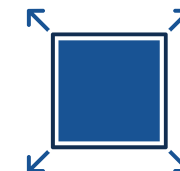
Scale up manufacturing

Funded industrial base expansion to provide capital and physical infrastructure to increase production capacity



Respond to new market signals

Monitored supply chain and demand signals and solved crucial issues through various USG levers (e.g., Supply Chain Areas of Interest)



Broaden testing access

Support programs to expand access to testing for in-need populations

The Testing & Diagnostics Working Group (TDWG) provides support for all aspects of testing strategies

TDWG's Mission:

Accelerate and support
U.S. testing capacity
through three broad
efforts

Understand testing supply and demand

- Engage with industry, states, and various end users to understand supply & demand of current and future testing landscape

Manage USG efforts to expand testing capacity & access

- Purchase constrained testing supplies & services, make strategic investments, and increase testing access across the country

Communicate objectives, policies, and progress

- Manage communications to federal partners, industry contacts, and recipients to support USG testing initiatives

Agenda

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TDWG's Industry Engagement emerged as a critical function during COVID-19 to serve as USG's main lever to engage industry and project supply

TDWG active engagement with industry...



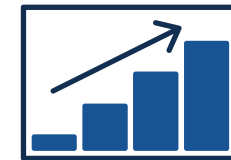
- Manufacturers share data with TDWG monthly
- Monthly engagement with ~20 manufacturers and ad-hoc engagement with 20+ manufacturers



- Monthly engagement with 50% of commercial labs in addition to ad hoc
- Weekly engagement with APHL¹ to engage public health labs

... allows TDWG to monitor testing supply chain

Supply projections



Inventory level projections



Data enables risk monitoring, roadblock removal, and capacity investments if needed

1. The Association of Public Health Laboratories

Agenda

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In addition to supply readiness, TDWG directly supports states and jurisdictions on surge testing needs

Testing Programs

Increasing Community Access to Testing (ICATT):

- Provides no-cost testing to underserved populations
- Operates in pharmacies, schools, surge & pop-up sites, hot spots, and priority surveillance locations

Operation Expanded Testing (Op ET):

- Expands testing capacity in K-8 schools and underserved congregate settings
- Manages testing through regional "testing hubs"

Procurement & Distribution

Provision of Testing Supplies

- Purchases and stores constrained (BinaxNOW™) or novel (Cue & Ellume) supplies and distributes to target groups

Federal Supply Schedule (FSS):

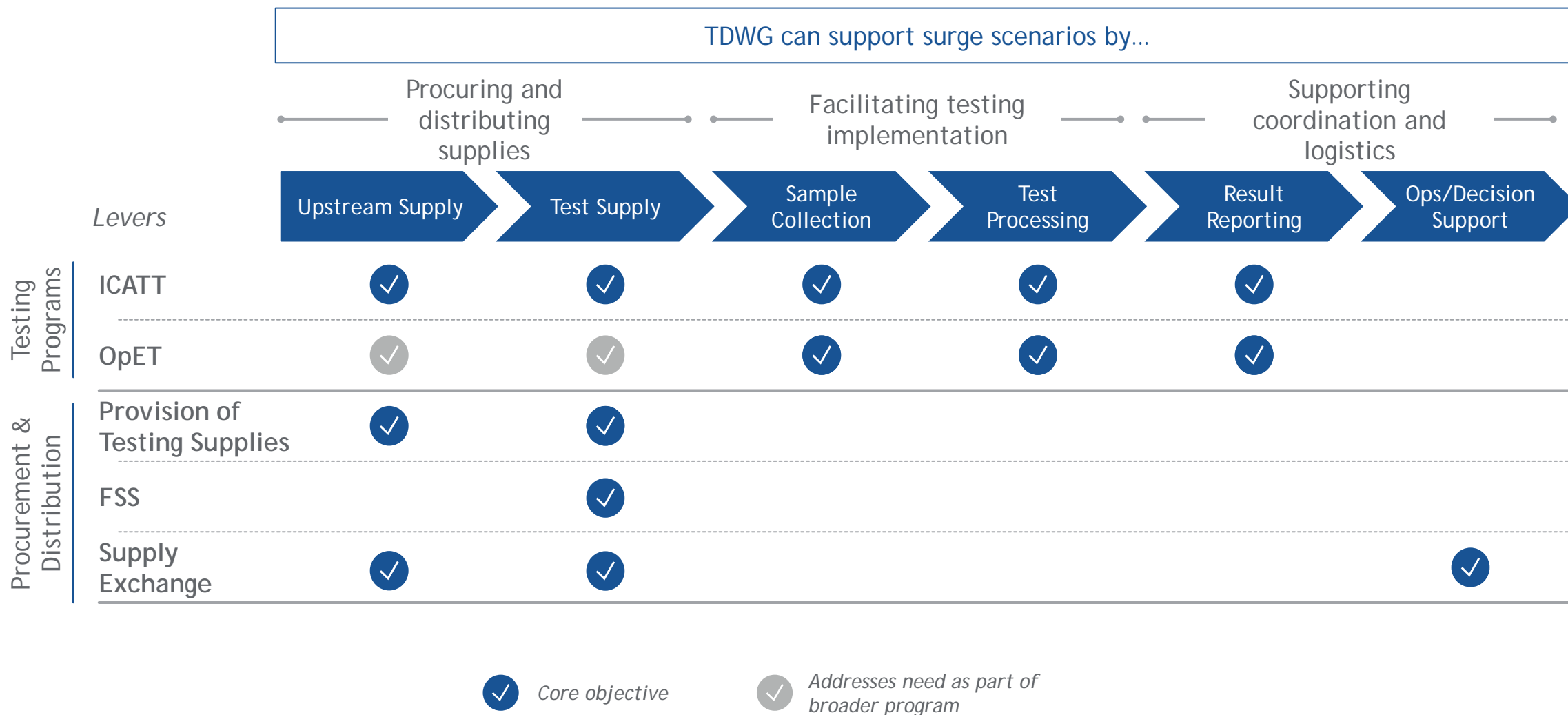
- Supports the addition of tests to the FSS

Supply Exchange:

- Offers a forum for organizations to ask for or offer up testing supplies



TDWG surge levers support response across testing value chain



TDWG supporting more than 12 states in surge testing response

State	ICATT: New pharmacy sites	ICATT: Pharmacy sites adding POC capability	ICATT: Pharmacy sites expanding hours	Op ET enrollment ²	Purchase of BinaxNOW from FSS	Cue Procurement
Arizona	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Arkansas	✓	✓	✓	✓		
California				✓	✓	✓
Colorado						✓
Florida	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Georgia ¹	✓ ²					
Louisiana	✓	✓				✓
Missouri	✓	✓		✓		
Nevada	✓	✓	✓	✓		
New Mexico		✓				
Oklahoma	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Texas	✓					

1. Support in Atlanta 2. Community testing sites through CVS

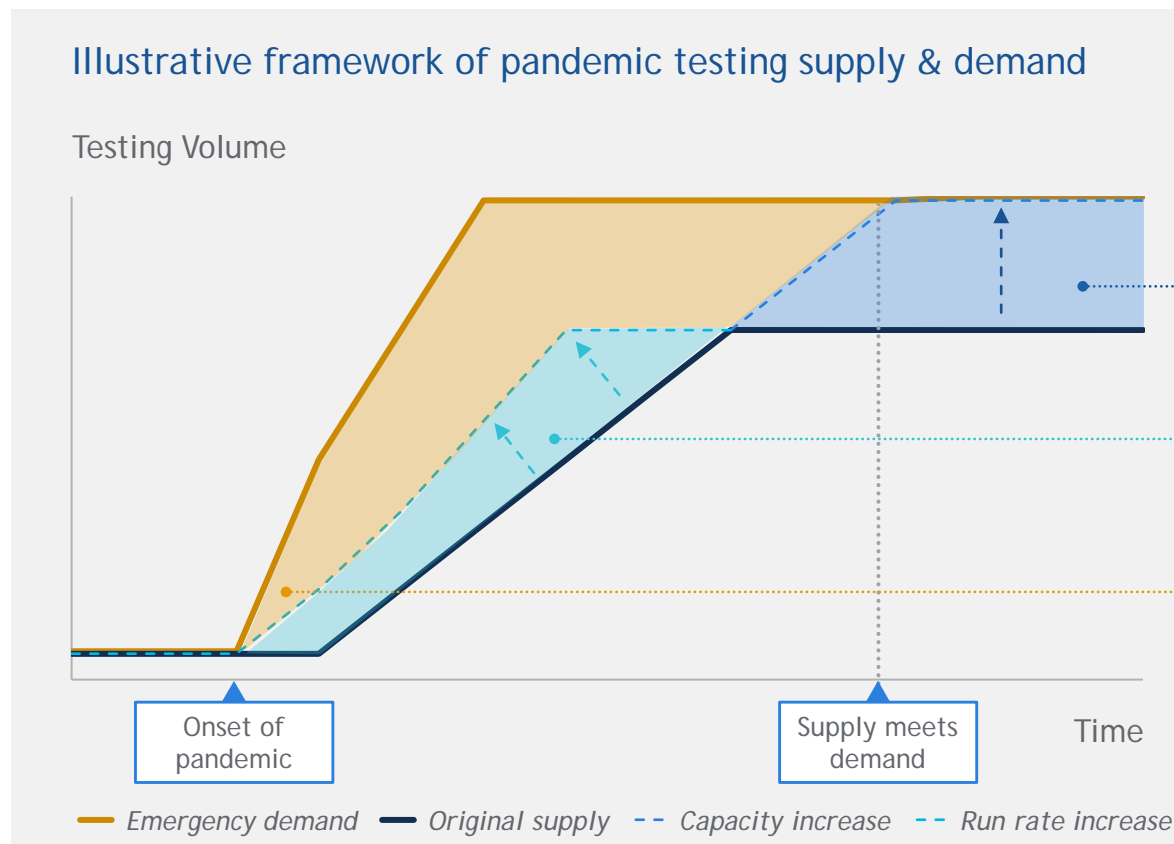
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Major levers of future preparedness include long-term capacity increase, run-rate increase, and inventory coverage

Framework
to map
supply,
demand,
and levers



Supply levers for future preparedness

- A** Long-term capacity increase
Based on investments into industry capacity (eg, IBx)
- B** Run rate increase
Generated by production throughput that can be mobilized rapidly (eg, warm base)
- C** Immediate inventory coverage
Enabled by immediate availability of stock (eg, stockpiling)



Definitions of future preparedness levers

A

Long-term capacity increase

Industrial Base Expansion (IBx)

Government-funded investments to expand manufacturing capacity, reduce bottlenecks and reduce offshore manufacturing for supplies

e.g. USG funds new facility for swab manufacturer in order to grow domestic supply

B

Run rate increase

Warm base manufacturing Government purchases assurance of future capacity through support of facilities that enable rapid scale-up of production

e.g. USG pays pipette tip manufacturer to maintain personnel and facilities to ensure readiness for immediate scale-up

C

Immediate inventory coverage

Stockpiling Building reserves of critical supplies for future use, including both raw materials (e.g., resin, plastics, reagents) and finished goods (e.g., media, swabs, pipette tips, tests, instruments)

e.g. USG owns reserves of test kits in case of a surge in demand, either stored by the USG or by a manufacturer (vendor-managed inventory)

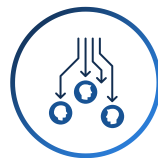


Current issues impacting testing supply and demand



SUPPLY

While no imminent supply chain risks, monitoring signals on specific materials (eg, semiconductors) and their potential impact on testing supply



DEMAND

Demand increasing due to variant surge; issues related to test type preferences (eg, POC tests) and access (eg, coverage model)

FDA Update

Tim Stenzel

U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)



U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention

CDC Social Media

<https://www.facebook.com/CDC>



<https://twitter.com/cdcgov>

<https://www.instagram.com/cdcgov>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/cdc>

Thank You For Your Time!

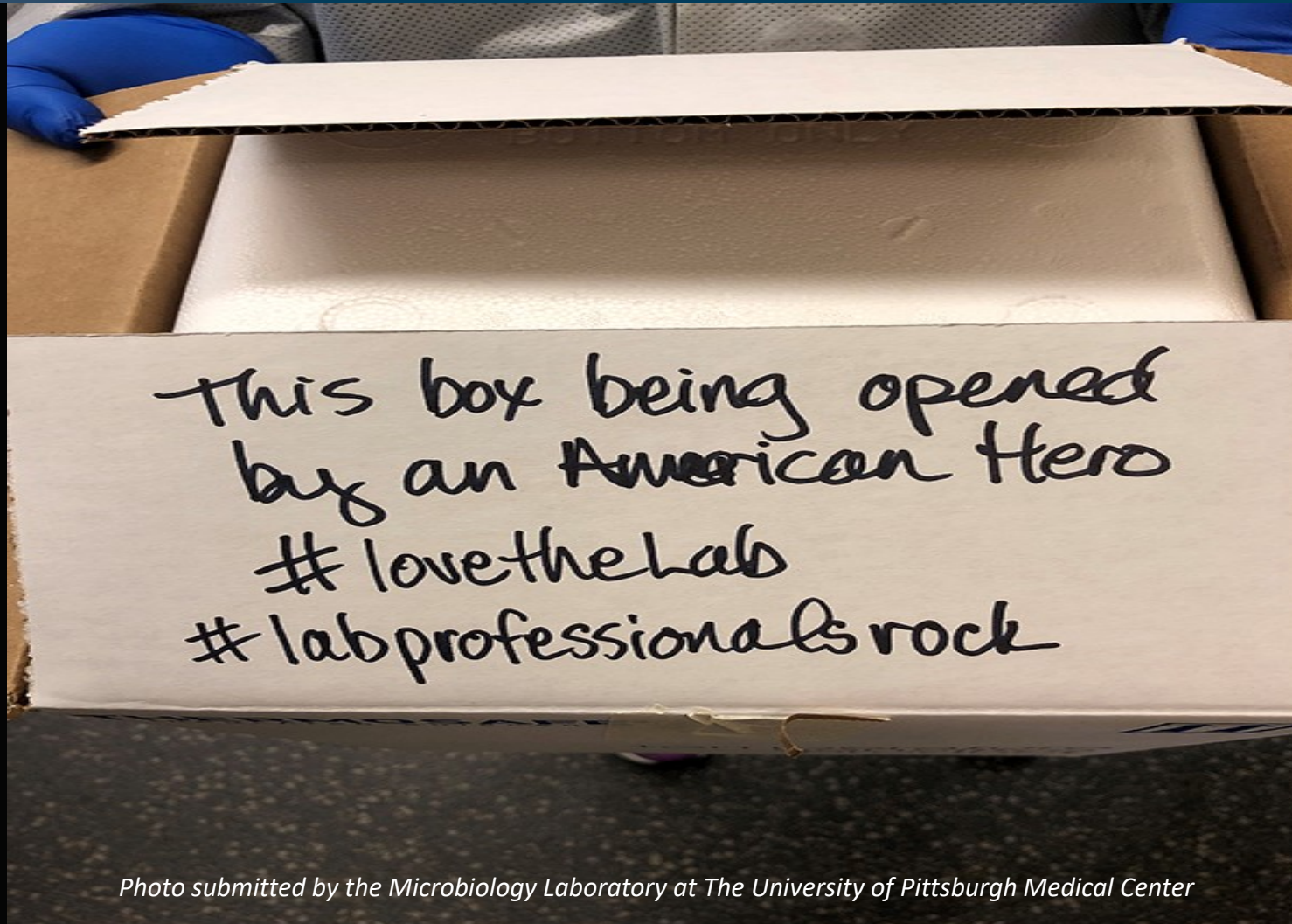


Photo submitted by the Microbiology Laboratory at The University of Pittsburgh Medical Center