

## **Press Conference Briefing by Governor Gavin Newsom and State Health Officials on Covid-19 Response and the Grand Princess Cruise Ship**

*Tuesday, March 10 at 1:45pm*

### Press Conference Overview

Governor Gavin Newsom and state health officials held a press conference to give an overview of the status of the virus in California and the state's efforts to combat it.

[Link](#) to press conference.

### Governor Gavin Newsom

- Latest Numbers
  - 157 tested positive
  - 24 more than yesterday 15% greater than yesterday
  - 2nd death in Santa Clara county
  
- Grand Princess
  - Still monitoring 1540, 12 have tested positive
  - They are now past 14 day period
  - 407 passengers came off of grand princess yesterday
  - Successful in moving 269 individuals off of grand princess 171 came to Travis
  - Continue to get the rest of Californians off the boat as quickly as possible
  - We have 54 countries represented on the boat and 24 states
  
- Protocols
  - Met yesterday with big 13 mayors, county supervisors, and school systems
  - Continue to work with the administration, CDC, and HHS and VP task force
  - Also working with other governors
  
- Testing
  - 1075 people tested as of this morning
  - We have 18 labs that are processing tests throughout the state 7675 tests that are available throughout that system
  - We have a 19th lab that has just received tests
  - We have first commercial testing in CA, Quest in San Juan Capistrano processed 100 tests yesterday
    - One of three quest labs operating in California
  - Once all open, through Quest we will be able to process in excess of 5,000 tests on a daily basis
  - Other two quest labs we anticipate being open in a few weeks, estimate March 24th
  - Two hospitals in the state system doing their own tests, we also anticipate academic facilities will also be conducting tests
  - Prospect of centralizing our community testing capacity

### Questions and Answers:

- **Crew of cruise ship, why are they being kept onboard?**

Many are from overseas, they are on board to make sure passengers are secure and the ship has the capacity to move and operate the boat back out to sea. The current order of

operations for passengers is first, those in medical need; second, CA residents; third, non-CA residents; fourth, cruise crew. For the people on the boat, the 14-day quarantine will start upon them disembarking the ship. The time on the boat does not factor in to the 14-days.

- **Is California using the National Guard in Santa Clara County?**

No, the state is not there yet. The Governor stressed that folks should first work local, then work with regional partners, then work with the state.

- **How is the state responding to the lack of emergency gear and status of supplies?**

California is amply supplied. For example, California has 21 million masks stored from previous pandemic plans. These masks have been made available to the health systems that need it the most. The masks have largely gone to hospitals. California has protective gear. They are considering centralizing some of the community testing to reduce the stress of personal protective equipment.

- **Is there a disconnect in the extreme steps certain areas are taking and less extreme steps taken in others places? For example the difference between measures in Santa Clara and Sacramento Counties.**

The Governor stressed it is incumbent on professional sports leagues and other event organizers and local health officials to access these situations and make these decisions.

- **Has the federal government been providing everything California has asked for?**

Collaboration has been working between the federal government and California. However, the testing kits do not include all the components to conduct the test. There is a lot of misinformation that the test is the test, but other components, such as reagents, are needed to perform the tests. Many test kits are like printers without ink. They do not include all the components to test and thus there is the disconnect. California is working to deal with this and currently have 180 tests that are backlogged right now. California is working with folks, like Quest, to get these completed.

- **For passengers on the cruise ship who are do not need hospitalization or are not showing symptoms, what hotels is the state using to house them? Are other guests staying there?**

No, they are secured locations and separate from the public. In addition, the Governor does not want to burden hospitals with patients who are not in acute condition.

- **What about schools?**

The Governor expressed his concerns about closure and impacts to low income students. Impact of food stamp decisions and access to food in light of school closure and how do you provide access to schools for those who need somewhere to go are options they are considering.

- **Impacts on vulnerable populations?**

The administration is coming out with protocols for homeless shelters, supportive housing, and drop in centers to mitigate the impacts of Covid-19.