

## Weekly Update on COVID-19 in China

Week 21 of 2022

#### News Review

- Beijing speeds up action to control outbreak
- Beijing will accelerate its epidemiological investigations and complete centralized quarantine work swiftly to contain the spread of COVID-19 at the community level, Xu Hejian, spokesman for the city government, said at a news conference on Tuesday afternoon.
- "The epidemic situation is still severe and complicated in the city," he said. "The key industries such as delivery, logistics, sanitation, security and restaurants should raise the frequency of nucleic acid tests for employees to avoid risks of infection."
- He made the statement as COVID-19 cases have continued to be found in communities outside of the locked-down and controlled zones in the capital in the past few days.
- Beijing reported 35 new locally transmitted COVID-19 cases between 3 pm Monday and 3 pm on Tuesday, bringing the total number of infections to 1,591 since April 22. Sixteen districts are involved, according to Liu Xiaofeng, deputy director of the Beijing Center for Disease Prevention and Control, on Tuesday afternoon.
- "Of the new infections, 32 were reported in controlled zones and three were found from mass nucleic acid tests at the community level," he said.
- During an inspection tour in Beijing on Monday, Vice-Premier Sun Chunlan called for adhering to the dynamic zero-COVID policy and taking more thorough measures to cut off all COVID-19 transmission chains in communities.
- "The current epidemic situation in Beijing remains controllable overall but there have been sporadic cases in a few localities," said Sun
- She urged efforts to strengthen epidemiological investigations and tracing, transferring and quarantine, to ensure the health and safety of the people, as well as the normal order of production and life.
- She also called for efforts to move faster to handle clusters of cases and to properly organize nucleic acid testing to detect infections at an early date.

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- Beijing conducted nucleic acid tests for 15.21 million residents on Monday and the results of four tubes showed positive, involving three districts Xicheng, Fengtai and Shijingshan according to Wang Xiao'e, an official with the Beijing Health Commission.
- Shanghai authorities provide update on COVID-19 control measures
- Shanghai will complement its dynamic zero-COVID strategy with an effective emergency epidemic response system, Wu Huanyu, deputy director of the Shanghai Center for Disease Control and Prevention, said on Tuesday.
- Wu noted that the city- and district-level centers for disease control and prevention will work together to deal with reports of infections in a rapid, accurate, and standardized manner. He explained that whenever a testing agency logs a positive nucleic acid test sample, relevant departments will locate the individual, and his or her health QR code will turn red. The CDC will then arrange a second nucleic acid test immediately.
- If the individual tests positive in the second test, medical institutions will be responsible for transporting him or her to a designated hospital or makeshift hospital. CDC workers will also begin epidemiological investigations and locating close contacts simultaneously.
- Locations visited by the infected person may be classified as medium- or high-risk zones depending on the assessment by experts. Quarantine and control measures will be imposed on close contacts and secondary close contacts, and disinfection measures will be implemented on the environment, venues, and articles related to the infected case.
- Zhao Dandan, deputy director of the Shanghai Health Commission, reiterated that COVID-19 patients who have recovered and been discharged from hospitals must do self-health monitoring for seven days at home.
- "Such individuals do not need to participate in nucleic acid tests at residential communities for three months after they complete the self-health monitoring," he said.
- Shanghai registered 58 locally transmitted COVID-19 confirmed cases and 422 asymptomatic infections on Monday. All infections were found within quarantine and lockdown populations.
- Chinese inhalable COVID-19 booster vaccine safe and effective
- A clinical trial in China has shown that an inhalable COVID-19 booster vaccine is safe and effective in adults.

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- Scientists led by Chen Wei with the Academy of Military Medical Sciences in China developed an aerosolized adenovirus type-5 vector-based COVID-19 vaccine (Ad5-nCoV) administered via oral inhalation.
- Chen's group and the researchers from the Jiangsu Provincial Center for Disease Control and Prevention conducted a randomized, open-label, controlled trial to evaluate the vaccine's safety and immunogenicity as a booster jab in 420 Chinese adults who had previously received two doses of inactivated vaccine.
- Eligible participants were randomly assigned between Sept. 14 and 16 last year to receive either a low dose or a high dose inhalable vaccine, or the vaccine identical to their previous two intramuscular shots, as a control group, according to the study published recently in the journal Lancet Respiratory Medicine.
- The results showed that the low dose group had a concentration of serum neutralizing antibodies of 744.4 and the high dose group 714.1 14 days after the booster dose, significantly higher than that in the control group of 78.5.
- The vaccine-induced neutralizing antibodies can bind to the coronavirus and prevent it from infecting cells.
- Also, only 26 and 33 participants reported adverse reactions in the low dose group and the high dose group, respectively, within 14 days of the booster vaccination, significantly fewer than the 54 reported in the control group, according to the study.
- The researchers concluded that a heterologous booster immunization with an aerosolized Ad5-nCoV in previously vaccinated adults is safe and highly immunogenic.
- Now, they are planning a multicenter, randomized, double-blind, parallel-controlled efficacy trial of the inhaled vaccine as a booster dose following a primary series of immunization with Ad5-nCoV in Mexico.

### Statistical Data

- Foll data released by National Health Commission today (till Tuesday 24:00hrs, Mainland only):
- Existing number of confirmed cases under treatment 3,699
- Total number of reported confirmed cases 223,605
- Total number of recovered cases 214,682
- Total number of mortality 5,224



#### Quarantine Requirements

- Crew joining a vessel at foreign ports and arriving in China within 14 days from departure, or joining a vessel from last port before arriving China, must bear a valid nucleic acid test(negative) report issued by a competent testing institution as designated/recognized by local Chinese embassy or consulate within 3 days before boarding.
- Crew joining vessel at foreign ports in last 14 days before arrival will have nucleic acid tests upon berthing by customs, cargo operation won't be allowed until testing results turn out.
- Vessels scheduled to drydock in a Chinese shipyard after cargo operation must have all crew nucleic acid tested at 1<sup>st</sup> port of call in China.
- Please click on the bubble of each port to see the latest details of the quarantine requirements :
  - **Green bubble**: Indicates that the port is under normal conditions, vessels only need to follow the port lineup
  - Yellow bubble: Indicates that vessels will get berthed following a port lineup, PCR tests will be carried out after berthing, cargo operations will commence after negative test results
  - **Red bubble**: Indicates either that vessels need to have at least 14 days since departing from the last foreign port, prior to berthing ; or that the port is closed due to certain reason (full details given upon clicking on the bubble)





#### **Port Operations**

- Most ports maintain normal working status, though arrived vessels are subject to stricter and more complex quarantine procedure taking remarkable longer period of time prior to being allowed commencement of cargo work, such quarantine procedures vary quite frequently matching up the prevailing epidemic situation.
- Lockdown in Shanghai are expected to end by the beginning of June as announced by the municipal government and the city will return to normal condition gradually, However, port operation in Shanghai remains operational all the time during lockdown.
- Zhoushan announced 14 days quarantine ban coming into force recently, vessels which called high risk countries in the past 14 days will stay at anchor till 14 days before allowed to berth, counting from departure date from last high risk countries, bunkeirng and fumigation disposal at Singapore Roads can be exempted from this ban by the authorities if vessels scheduled to call Laotangshan terminal. Listed high risk countries include: South Korea, Japan, Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia, India, Singapore, Russia, Australia and Brazil. Vessels which had newly joined crew at foreigh ports within 14 days before arrival, will also be quarantined for 14 days, counting from date of departure of crew change port.
- Calls to Hong Kong for bunker replenishment only are resumed recently no matter where they come from. Crew changes are allowed if vessels come for cargo work in Hong Kong.
- Boarding a ship by shore staff including agents, port authorities, stevedores, etc. becomes more restrictive in many ports, non-contact means for routine port operation are prioritized options.
- To prevent from cross infection, crew shore leave temporarily suspended in all China ports, social security distance to be kept between ship's crew and port workers. In some ports, crew are obliged to stay in their living quarters, not allowed to go on deck unless necessary.
- Daily disinfection and taking of crew body temperature must be done and reported to port authorities 14 days prior to arrival and during whole port stay.
- Surveyors' attendance and superintendents' visit were limited to those of Chinese nationals only, boarding formalities become very complicated and



surveyors/superintendents are obliged to provide vaccination certificate and a valid nucleic acid test report issued within 2 days before attendance, 14-day medical isolation may be required after attendance in some ports. However, such attendance and visit are prohibited in more and more ports or terminals.

### **Crew Change**

- Foreign crew change are not resumed yet, though emergent repatriation and crew medical first-aid can be arranged in some ports.
- As for Chinese crew change, application will be evaluated by various authorities(customs, MSA, local municipal health commission, etc.) case by case before being approved.
- With effect from 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022, vessels performing international voyages arriving from overseas, intending to carry out crew change of Chinese nationals in China ports, must conduct Covid tests for all crew on board within 48 hours prior departing last foreign port, nucleic acid tests are prioritized while other alternative rapid testing methods such as antigen tests are acceptable, in case nucleic acid tests are not available. All these rapid testing agents/materials shall be of approved type by China or other nations' drug administration.
- All above crew shall have regular Covid tests on 1<sup>st</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>(as applicable) day of the passage enroute China port from last foreign port, records for such tests must be kept available on board and presented to port authorities when vessel going through entry formalities.
- All outgoing crew are to have nucleic acid tests upon berthing and 14-day quarantine/medical observation in designated hotels followed by 7 days self health observation at home.

- Joining crew must possess valid NAT negative reports issued within 72 hours before boarding.

- Crew change won't be permitted when vessels call a port where the city was classified middle or high risk zone.
- In view of different policies/practice in different ports, please consult Ocean Favor Shanghai office for detailed information of a specific port and updated regulations.



Oceanfavor has accomplished several owner's matter in various ports

All Ocean Favor offices stay on alert in front line and keep a sharp eye on the development of Covid-19 at key China ports.



Please contact us on below, in case you have inquires or need help from our end for specific issues, we are available on 24/7/365 basis.

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