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Joel R. Strasz
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

To: All Media

From: Joel Strasz, Public Health Officer – Bay County Health Department

Date: May 10, 2021

Re: **Bay County Updates COVID Guidance for Quarantines, Expands Clinic Times to Evenings**

BAY COUNTY, MICHIGAN – The Bay County Health Department has announced that it is changing the current quarantine timelines to 10 days to elicit better compliance and align with the majority of counties in Michigan who in the past week have opted to do so as well. This change, effective immediately, is retroactive, meaning that persons who are currently ordered under a 14 day quarantine may cut their time to 10 days, provided they are asymptomatic and not a household contact. Household contacts are subject to quarantine for the time period of the exposure, plus 10 days for subsequent quarantine.

With the high transmission rate of the variants, vaccination is more important than ever. Bay County residents should get vaccinated as soon as it is offered to them. With this in mind, BCHD is modifying its vaccination clinic schedules to include evening clinics at the Health Department on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM. It will continue to provide vaccines at its Delta College Drive Thru Clinic on Tuesday from 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM this week, and at the Bay County Community Center this coming Saturday from 9:00 AM – 12:00 NOON. Recent studies have demonstrated that the COVID-19 vaccines are effective against the variants.

A list of vaccine clinics taking place this month in Bay County can be found on our [Vaccine Clinic Information](#) page. While appointments are preferred, they are not required. Drop-in appointments will be welcome at every clinic going forward. Area partner providers are also administering vaccines to our residents; these include local pharmacies, hospital and primary care physician offices.

In addition to being vaccinated, actions to protect yourself and others from the variants include:

- Wearing a mask around others.
- Staying six feet apart from others.
- Washing hands often.
- Ventilating indoor spaces.

Please do your part and help minimize the spread of COVID-19. For the latest and most accurate information regarding the COVID-19 please go to the Bay County Health Department website at <https://www.baycounty-mi.gov/Health/COVID19/>.