Strategies for Safe Reopening During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Wednesday, July 8th
12:00 - 1:00pm

In light of the community concerns regarding COVID-19, this talk will be given as a webinar. The link will be provided on Tuesday, July 7th to those that have registered by 5:00 pm on Friday, July 3rd at uccs.ucdavis.edu.

In just a few months, the COVID-19 pandemic has killed nearly 5000 Californians and created massive economic shock waves. In the early months of the crisis, public health authorities strived to “flatten the curve” of new infections in order to prevent the health care system from being overwhelmed. These efforts successfully stemmed the rise in infections but also put serious economic pressure on individuals as well as the state budget. As state and local leaders consider how to safely re-open the economy, they will be looking to public health officials and academics for guidance. This webinar will focus on strategies for allowing more economic activity while keeping a lid on the pandemic. Topics to be considered include principles for safe re-opening of schools, universities, and businesses; contact tracing as a way of suppressing “hot spots” and controlling outbreaks; and perspectives of a County Health Officer charged with making on-the-ground decisions.

Brad Pollock, PhD, MPH is Professor, Chair, and Associate Dean of Public Health Sciences at UC Davis. He is Principal Investigator of the Children’s Oncology Group National Cancer Institute (NCI) Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP) Research Base, which supports almost all North American cancer treatment sites devoted exclusively to childhood and adolescent cancer research and control. An internationally renowned chronic disease epidemiologist, Dr. Pollock has been called into service on COVID-19 related tasks forces organized by UC Davis and by the University of California system.

Mike Reid, MD, MPH is Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine at UCSF. As part of his work with the Institute for Global Health Diplomacy and Delivery, he is involved with policy analyses, research, and agenda-setting activities related to infectious diseases in sub Saharan Africa. More recently he has been tasked with training up to 10,000 “contact tracers” to arrest the COVID-19 pandemic in California. He is also a clinical provider within the Positive Health Practice "Ward 86" at San Francisco General Hospital.

Aimee Sisson, MD, MPH, is the Health Officer and Public Health Director for Placer County. Among other duties, the health officer plans and directs county programs to protect and promote public health, as well as provides policy direction on health matters. Dr. Sisson took on this role in October 2019, when the main public health issue facing her office was public safety power shutoffs. But like all of California’s local health officers, her attention has been focused on coronavirus disease since February 2020. Prior to assuming her current position, Dr. Sisson served at the California Department of Public Health, where she addressed issues including chronic disease prevention, mental health disparities, and workforce development.

For questions contact Brooke Miller-Jacobs at (916) 445-5161 or bmillerjacobs@ucdavis.edu

The views and opinions expressed during this lecture are those of the speaker and do not necessarily represent the views of UCCS.