



If you would like to share news or information with our readers, please send the unique stories, business

news organization events, and school news to us including your name and phone number in case more information is needed.

For news and information consideration, please send to News@scdaily.com or contact
John Robbins 281-965-6390
Jun Gai 281-498-4310

Publisher: Wea H. Lee
President: Catherine Lee
Editor: John Robbins

Address: 11122 Bellaire Blvd., Houston, TX 77072
E-mail: News@scdaily.com

Pandemic Cancels Texas African Business Summit



Inside C2

Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

Southern Daily News is published by Southern News Group Daily

Thursday, December 02 2020 | www.today-america.com | Southern News Group

As coronavirus soars, U.S. cheers Britain’s vaccine approval



FILE PHOTO: People line up for novel coronavirus tests in Los Angeles, California, U.S., December 1, 2020. REUTERS/Lucy Nicholson

NEW YORK (Reuters) - U.S. health experts on Wednesday welcomed British emergency approval of Pfizer Inc’s COVID-19 vaccine, a sign that U.S. regulators may soon follow suit in a bid to bring the surging pandemic under control. As U.S. coronavirus hospitalizations jumped to their highest since the onset of the global pandemic, Britain gave emergency use approval to the vaccine developed by Pfizer and German partner BioNTech SE, the first country to do so.

Britain said it would start inoculating high-risk people early next week, a move that could make Americans more confident about the prospect of an expected mass vaccination campaign reminiscent of the anti-polio campaigns of the 1950s and 1960s.

“This should be very reassuring. An independent regulatory authority in another country has found this vaccine to be safe and effective for use,” U.S. Health Secretary Alex Azar told Fox Business Network on Wednesday.

U.S. COVID-19 hospitalizations hit a record for a fourth consecutive

day on Tuesday, approaching 100,000, according to a Reuters tally. At the same time, exhausted healthcare professionals are short-staffed, with many of their colleagues falling sick.

Another 2,624 U.S. deaths were reported on Tuesday, the fifth-highest daily total on record, raising the cumulative death toll above 270,000 since the pandemic began. At least four states - Illinois, Kansas, Minnesota and Oklahoma - reported a record increase in deaths on Wednesday.

Although China and Russia also have moved ahead with inoculation campaigns with their own vaccines, Britain’s medical standards more closely align with those of the United States.

“It’s got major significance being that it’s the first Western country to approve the vaccine for a roll-out and start administering it to the public,” said Kirsten Hokeness, an immunology and virology expert and chair of Science and Technology at Bryant University in Smithfield, Rhode Island.

“It’s going to put a little pressure on us to rapidly evaluate the data,” Hokeness

said.

A U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) panel of outside advisers will meet on Dec. 10 to discuss whether to recommend emergency use authorization of the Pfizer vaccine. Moderna’s vaccine, which employs similar technology as Pfizer’s and was also nearly 95% effective in preventing illness in a pivotal clinical trial, is expected to be reviewed a week later.

Of particular interest is how Britain manages the Pfizer vaccine’s requirement to be stored at minus-70 degrees Celsius (-94 Fahrenheit). Moderna’s can be kept at more normal refrigerator temperatures.

But the British experience is unlikely to factor into U.S. regulatory approval, which instead will focus on the clinical trial data.

“THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT TOOL

While some U.S. health officials described a timeline that assumed FDA authorization would come within days of the Dec. 10 meeting, others have said it could take weeks.

“Surely we want a vaccine available as soon as it is deemed safe. We want to make sure that we can provide accurate information to the public,” said Dr. Lisa Costello, a professor of pediatrics at the West Virginia University School of Medicine who is helping advise West Virginia’s state government on vaccine distribution.

Virginia Governor Ralph Northam expressed confidence in the safety of the vaccines at a news conference on Wednesday.

“As a doctor, I am confident that all protocols have been followed and no corners have been cut,” he said.

Pfizer, Moderna and AstraZeneca Plc have already started manufacturing their vaccines and say distribution could begin almost immediately after approval. AstraZeneca, however, may have to conduct an additional trial to gain U.S. approval after a dosing error led to better results in recently released data than for its planned regimen.

Moderna, which has millions of doses ready to be shipped, expects its vaccine

could be approved for emergency use within 24 to 72 hours after the FDA advisory committee meeting on Dec. 17, Chief Executive Stéphane Bancel said on Wednesday. Beyond regulatory hurdles, vaccinations face opposition from significant numbers of Americans who reject medical science and fear vaccines as harmful.

Similarly, many Americans still refuse to follow basic public health guidance on wearing masks and avoiding crowds, even as the pandemic killed 10,000 people and infected 1.1 million last week alone in the United States.

“A vaccine will be the single most important tool we have to fight COVID, but it’s not going to turn things around overnight,” Dr. Tom Frieden, former director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, wrote on Twitter.

“We must do much better at knocking the virus down with nuanced, well-timed closures and measures such as rapid testing, isolation, and contact tracing.”

In hopes of increasing compliance, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on Wednesday added new guidelines for shorter quarantines after coronavirus exposure.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY / TIRZ No. 3 SOUTHERN DOWNTOWN PARK

The Downtown Redevelopment Authority (the “Authority”) / TIRZ No. 3 will receive sealed bids for the Southern Downtown Park project, located in Downtown Houston, 1515 Fannin Street bounded by Bell, Fannin, Leeland, and San Jacinto Streets. Hardcopy bids will be received until 11:00 AM, local time on Friday, January 15, 2021 by the Executive Director, Downtown Redevelopment Authority. Hardcopy bids received after this time will not be accepted. Hardcopy bids are to be delivered to 1313 Main Street, Houston, Texas, 77002.

Beginning 11:00 AM, Monday, December 14, 2020, Bidding Documents will be available at www.civcastusa.com. Any Addenda will be distributed through www.civcastusa.com. Bidding Documents may also be viewed online at isqft.com.

An ONLINE MANDATORY Pre-bid Conference will be held at 2:00 PM on Wednesday, December 16, 2020. All bidders (general contractors, sub-contractors and suppliers) are invited to attend.

Due to COVID-19 and the Authority’s work safe protocol, all potential bidders who intend to participate in the pre-bid conference and submit bids are required to register their intention by 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 15, 2020 by email to Lonnie Hoogeboom, Director of Planning & Design at lonnie@downtowntirz.com. Potential bidders are to provide Company Name, Address, and Phone plus (two maximum) Representative Names & Titles, Representative Emails, and Cell Phones. All bidders who register in advance of the pre-bid conference will receive a calendar invitation providing access to the online meeting venue. Bids will be ruled non-responsive if received from an individual who did not attend the pre-bid conference.

Bidders shall comply with City of Houston Code of Ordinances, Chapter 15, Articles II, V, VI, and XI and the Mayor’s Executive Orders No.1 7 Pay or Play (POP) Program for Houston Public Works for the public procurement procedures of the City of Houston Office for Business Opportunity (OBO) established in March 2008 and the entity responsible for the administration of the Small/ Minority/ Women-Owned (S/M/WBE), Persons with Disabilities Enterprises (PDBE), and Hire Houston First programs. The successful Bidder will be required to make good faith efforts to achieve an S/M/W/DBE participation goal of 20 percent.

Beginning December 3, 2020, the Authority’s procurement for the general contract for this capital improvement project is advertised in the Houston Business Journal, the Houston Defender, the Southern Chinese Daily News, and the Greater Houston Business Procurement Forum.

WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

12/02/2020

CORONAVIRUS DIARY

Wealee@scdaily.com

Barr Says No Evidence Of Fraud

U.S. Attorney General William Barr says the U.S. Justice Department hasn't uncovered fraud that could have tipped the election. His statement reaffirmed Biden's win despite President Trump's groundless claims that he was defrauded.

In the meantime, Georgia's election officials urged Trump to stop inspiring people to commit potential acts of violence.

Trump's lawyer, ex-mayor of New York City Rudy Giuliani reply to Barr's interview and said, "with the greatest respect to the attorney general, his opinion appears to be without any

knowledge or investigation of the substantial irregularities and evidence of systemic fraud," but sources indicated that he has also been discussing receiving a preemptive pardon from President Trump.

Today President-elect Biden introduced the economic team that he will rely on to help rebuild the American economy. He also called on Congress to pass a substantial relief package to help keep businesses, households and local governments afloat.

We regret that many of Trump's supporters include many Chinese and other Asian voters who are misleading the general public claiming the election is a fraud.

The United States of America is the land we all love and call home. We all need to build the model of a democratic government together.

After all, we are still very proud that our democratic system is working and working very well.



Southern News Group Chairman / CEO
Chairman of International Trade & Culture Center
Chairman of International District Houston Texas



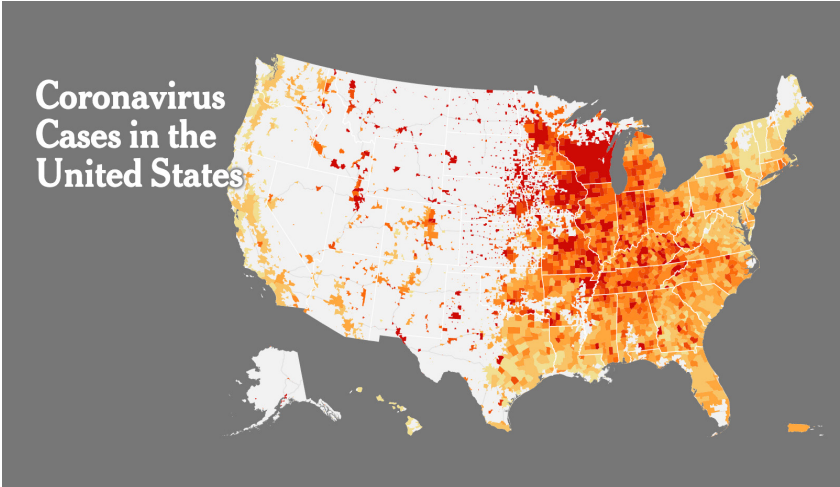
Publisher Southern Daily Wea H. Lee

Stay Home!

BUSINESS

Wear Mask!

U.S. Passes 13 Million COVID-19 Cases



The U.S. number of coronavirus infections reached another grim milestone the day after Thanksgiving, according to Johns Hopkins University data, with a total case count of 13 million.

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

WASHINGTON — More than 13 million cases of the coronavirus have now been reported in the United States, the third time the country has recorded a million infections in less than a week. For the third week in a row, it took six days for the U.S. to count another million cases of COVID-19. The country had 13,088,282 cases on Friday, according to Johns Hopkins University. The U.S. reached over 12 million cases Nov. 21. JHU's coronavirus tracker had hit 11 million on Nov. 15 and topped 10 million cases on Nov. 9. On Nov. 20, the U.S. added a record 195,542 cases, according to Johns Hopkins University data. With coronavirus cases rising across the country, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention had urged Americans not to travel for Thanksgiving. Federal health officials instead encouraged everyone to celebrate at home with those they live with. JHU had reported a high of more than 2 million tests a few days before Thanksgiving as people prepared to travel, but that number had dropped to less than 1.2 million tests reported on Thanksgiving Day. The latter number, as well as positive case numbers, which had dropped by about a

third Friday, could be adjusted as more test results are returned. The U.S. is still missing nearly eight coronavirus infections for every one counted. By the end of September, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention calculates that as many as 53 million Americans had been infected. That is just under eight times the confirmed cases reported at the time.



Black Friday shoppers wait in line to enter an store that opened at 6am at the Citadel Outlets in Commerce, Calif., Friday, Nov. 27, 2020. (Photo/AP/H.W. Chiu) Previously, the CDC estimated that one of every 10 infections were being missed. The latest CDC calculation is meant to give a more accurate picture of how many people actually have caught the virus since the pandemic began. Of the

53 million estimated infections, the CDC says about 45 million were sick at some point and about 2.4 million were hospitalized. A panel of CDC advisers will meet Tuesday to vote on how scarce, initial supplies of a COVID-19 vaccine will be given out once one has been approved. Experts have proposed giving the vaccine to health workers first. Los Angeles County announced a new stay-home three-week order amid a surge in coronavirus cases in the nation's most populous county taking effect Monday. COVID-19 deaths are also on the rise, though not at the record high numbers reached in the spring. The seven-day rolling average for daily new deaths was 1,441 as of Nov. 21, more than 33% higher than it was a week prior. The virus has now killed more than 264,000 people in the U.S., according to Johns Hopkins. Worldwide, more than 61 million coronavirus cases have been reported with more than 1.4 million deaths. The U.S. has about 4% of the world's population, but about a fifth of all reported cases. It took 312 days for the U.S. to hit the 13 million mark since the first case was diagnosed in Washington state on Jan. 20.



Hospital workers watch as medical workers try to resuscitate a patient who tested positive for coronavirus in the emergency room at Providence Holy Cross Medical Center in the Mission Hills section of Los Angeles, Nov. 19, 2020. (Photo/AP) The list below shows the pace at which the U.S. has reported each one-millionth case: **1st case** (Jan. 22); **1 million**: 97 days (April 28); **2 million**: 44 days (June 6); **3 million**: 27 days (July 8); **4 million**: 15 days (July 23); **6 million**: 22 days (Aug.

31); **7 million**: 25 days (Sept. 25); **8 million**: 21 days (Oct. 16); **9 million**: 14 days (Oct. 30); **10 million**: 10 days (Nov. 9); **11 million**: 6 days (Nov. 15); **12 million**: 6 days (Nov. 21); **13 million**: 6 days (Nov. 27). For most people, the new coronavirus causes mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever and cough that clear up in two to three weeks. But for some — especially older adults and people with existing health problems — it can cause more severe illness, including pneumonia, and death. The vast majority of people recover. Daily numbers of new U.S. cases are approaching 200,000, less than three weeks after hitting 100,000 for the first time. The record of 195,542 new cases on Nov. 20 was the latest of several recent daily highs. Deaths rates are getting closer to the dire numbers seen in the spring. The U.S. daily death toll exceeded 2,000 on Nov. 19, the first time since early May. On Nov. 20, 1,878 deaths were reported. The U.S. leads the world with more than 264,684 people dead from COVID-19. (Courtesy Los Angeles Times)

Related

COVID-19 Update From TheWorld Health Organization (WHO)

During the COVID-19 pandemic, risks of domestic violence increase!!

We Must END The Violence!

COVID-19// VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

During the #COVID19 pandemic, risks of violence increase due to:

- More time at home with abusers
- Rising stress
- Isolation from social support networks
- Limited access to critical services



Editor’s Choice



An Ethiopian refugee looks out of a bus window which transports her from the Hamdeyat refugee transit camp, which houses refugees fleeing the fighting in the Tigray region to the Um Rakuba refugees camp, in Sudan. REUTERS/Baz Ratner



Florence Bolton, 85, a coronavirus positive patient, lies in her intensive care bed as family members attempt to FaceTime her at Roseland Community Hospital on the South Side of Chicago, Illinois. REUTERS/Shannon Stapleton



Woman receiving supplemental oxygen reacts as rescuers evacuate her from a submerged village, as her supply was running low, following Typhoon Vamco, in Marikina, Metro Manila, Philippines. REUTERS/Eloisa Lopez



A demonstrator throws a wood stick toward a riot police vehicle during a protest against Chile’s President Sebastian Pinera and his government, during Pinera’s birthday, in Santiago, Chile. REUTERS/Ivan Alvarado



A patient suffering from the coronavirus is treated in the intensive care unit of the Maggiore di Lodi hospital, in Lodi, Italy, 2020. REUTERS/Flavio Lo Scalzo



A mother prays for children’s success in the college entrance examinations at a Buddhist temple in Seoul, South Korea. REUTERS/Kim Hong-Ji



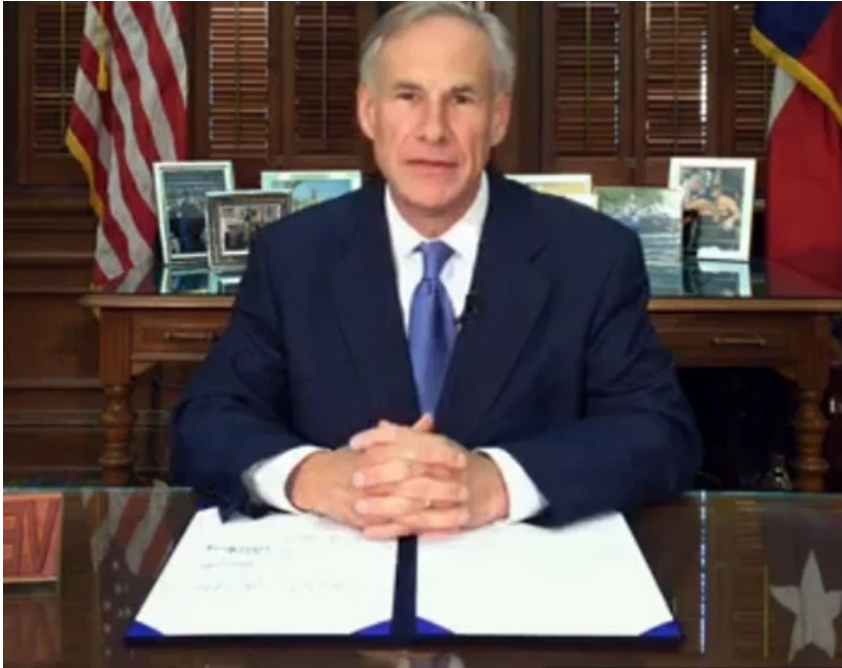
Medical personnel prepare in the emergency room of the Maggiore di Lodi hospital as a second wave of the coronavirus hits the country, in Lodi, Italy, 2020. REUTERS/Flavio Lo Scalzo



A doctor at Strasbourg’s university hospital is seen putting protective clothes on while attending training for new staff to reinforce ICU regular crews who face a second wave of patients suffering from the coronavirus in Strasbourg, France,

Vaccine Distribution Principles Developed By Expert Vaccine Allocation Panel

Governor Abbott, DSHS Announce
COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Plan



Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

(November 23, 2020 | Austin, Texas)
-Governor Greg Abbott and the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) today announced the guiding principles for Texas’ COVID-19 vaccine allocation process, which will serve as a foundation for the state’s initial distribution for COVID-19 vaccines expected as early as next month. These principles have been established by the Expert Vaccine Allocation Panel (EVAP), created by DSHS to make recommendations on vaccine allocation decisions, including identifying groups that should be vaccinated first to provide the most protection to vulnerable populations and critical state resources.
“These guiding principles established by the Expert Vaccine Allocation Panel will ensure that the State of Texas swiftly distributes the COVID-19 vaccine to Texans who voluntarily choose to be immunized,” said Governor Abbott. “This foundation for the allocation process will help us mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in our communities, protect the most vulnerable Texans,

and safeguard crucial state resources.”



Texas will initially allocate COVID-19 vaccines based on the following criteria:

- **Protecting health care workers** who fill a critical role in caring for and preserving the lives of COVID-19 patients and maintaining the health care infrastructure for all who need it.
- **Protecting frontline workers** who are at greater risk of contracting COVID-19 due to the nature of their work providing critical services and preserving the economy.
- **Protecting vulnerable populations** who are at greater risk of severe disease and death if they contract COVID-19.
- **Mitigating health inequities** due to

factors such as demographics, poverty, insurance status and geography.

- **Data-driven allocations** using the best available scientific evidence and epidemiology at the time, allowing for flexibility for local conditions.
- **Geographic diversity** through a balanced approach that considers access in urban and rural communities and in affected ZIP codes.
- **Transparency** through sharing allocations with the public and seeking public feedback.



EVAP has recommended, and the Commissioner of Health John Hellerstedt has approved, health care workers likely to provide direct care for COVID-19 patients and other vulnerable residents to be the first group to receive the vaccine. This includes staff at hospitals and long-term care facilities, emergency medical services and home health care workers. As part of its ongoing work, EVAP will make recommendations on how and when to roll out vaccine to other critical groups. (Courtesy <https://gov.texas.gov/>)

Related

Governor Abbott, TDEM Launch Bamlanivimab Infusion Wing At Alternate Care Site In El Paso
HHS To Supply 1,000 Doses Of Antibody Therapy As Part Of Pilot Program (November 24, 2020 | Austin, Texas)
-Governor Greg Abbott today announced that the Texas Division Of Emergency Management (TDEM) has established a bamlanivimab infusion wing at the state-run alternate care site (ACS) in El Paso to treat outpatient cases of COVID-19. The infusion wing, which began accepting patients today, has been provided with 1,000 doses of bamlanivimab through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The ACS infusion wing is part of a pilot program developed through a partnership between TDEM and HHS.



“The establishment of the bamlanivimab infusion wing at El Paso’s alternate care site is crucial to keeping hospitalizations down and protecting at-risk Texans in the community,” said Governor Abbott. “I thank HHS for supporting our efforts by supplying the State of Texas with this shipment of bamlanivimab for the pilot program. We will continue to ensure that this life-saving antibody therapy is available for Texans who need it most.” Bamlanivimab, the Eli Lilly & Company monoclonal antibody therapy, is for outpatient use in people who have tested positive for COVID-19 and are at increased risk of severe disease. It has been shown to prevent hospitalizations in some patients when used before they become very sick.

Related

Governor Abbott Announces Holiday Comfort Food Care Packages For Texas Youth And Families
Care packages also support local restaurants previously closed due to COVID-19
(November 23, 2020 | Austin, Texas)
-Governor Greg Abbott today announced the Holiday Comfort Food Care Package (CFCP) program, in partnership with the Texas Restaurant Association, to provide holiday meals for at-risk youth and families in communities across Texas, while also supporting local restaurants. The program, a reboot of the CFCP program that began in March 2020 to support restaurants that limited or closed services due to COVID-19, encourages Texans to purchase a holiday meal for a family in need while patronizing their favorite restaurant. Each care package contains enough food to feed a family of 5 to 6 and will be delivered to the recipients’ home. The program benefits children, youth, and families served by the Texas network of Family and Youth Success Programs (formerly called Services to At-Risk Youth),

select Boys and Girls Clubs, select CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) programs and agencies that serve child sex trafficking victims.



“The Holiday Comfort Food Care Package program will provide holiday meals for our most vulnerable youth and families, while giving Texans another way to support local restaurants and their fellow Texans experiencing hardships due to COVID-19,” said Governor Abbott. “Thank you to the generous Texans across the state for stepping up during this holiday season to provide meals to families in need.”
“This program continues to be a win for communities and restaurants across Texas,” said Emily Williams Knight, Ed.D., President and CEO of the Texas Restaurant Association. “By harnessing the generosity of Texans, customers can support their communities and their favorite restaurants at the same time. Holidays are difficult for some people, and by extending this program into and beyond the holiday season, we can ensure that our Texas communities will be taken care of.”
The Holiday Comfort Food Care Package program utilizes the following steps:
1. Participating restaurants list CFCPs on their online ordering system for customers to purchase on behalf of at-risk families and youth in the community.
2. Customers add CFCPs to their orders and purchase.
3. Participating service providers identify families and shelters who have the most need and work with participating restaurants to get the meals delivered.
Restaurants interested in participating in the program can sign up on the Texas Restaurant Association website. Families in need of food can find additional help online: <https://www.211texas.org/>

Kelsey-Seybold is now scheduling **VIRTUAL** and **IN-PERSON** appointments!



Alan Chang, M.D., F.A.C.O.G.
Obstetrics and Gynecology
Cantonese and Mandarin
• The Woodlands Clinic
• Kingwood Clinic



Amy En-Hui Chen, M.D.
Family Medicine
Mandarin
• Meyerland Plaza Clinic



Yee-Ru (Amy) Chen, D.O.
Family Medicine
Cantonese, Mandarin, and Taiwanese
• Downtown at The Shops at 4 Houston Center



Charlene Crockett, M.D.
Pediatric Ophthalmology
Mandarin
• Berthelsen Main Campus
• Tanglewood Clinic



Philip L. Ho, M.D.
Urology
Mandarin
• Clear Lake Clinic
• Berthelsen Main Campus
• Spring Medical and Diagnostic Center



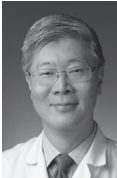
Joyce Holz, M.D.
Gynecology
Mandarin
• Berthelsen Main Campus



Guiying Hu, M.D.
Hematology/Oncology
Mandarin
• Berthelsen Main Campus
• Spring Medical and Diagnostic Center



Frank Hua, M.D.
Internal Medicine
Mandarin
• Spring Medical and Diagnostic Center



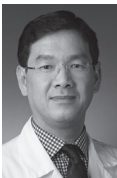
Kuangzoo Huang, M.D.
Family Medicine
Mandarin
• Meyerland Plaza Clinic



Jennifer Lai, M.D.
Pediatrics
Mandarin
• Tanglewood Clinic



Jia Lee, O.D.
Optometry
Mandarin
• Spring Medical and Diagnostic Center



Tri Lee, M.D.
Endocrinology
Cantonese
• Berthelsen Main Campus
• Kingwood Clinic
• Meyerland Plaza Clinic



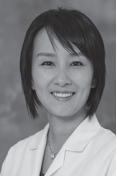
Jeanie Ling, M.D.
Ophthalmology
Ophthalmic Surgery
Glaucoma Specialist
Mandarin
• Berthelsen Main Campus
• Tanglewood Clinic



John Tam, M.D.
Internal Medicine
Cantonese and Mandarin
• Fort Bend Medical and Diagnostic Center



Wayne Tie, M.D.
Ophthalmology
Mandarin
• Berthelsen Main Campus
• Clear Lake Clinic



Eileen Wu, M.D.
Orthopedic Surgery
Mandarin
• Spring Medical and Diagnostic Center
• The Woodlands Clinic



Chen Xie, M.D.
Ear, Nose, and Throat
Mandarin
• Berthelsen Main Campus
• Clear Lake Clinic



Beth Yip, M.D., F.A.A.P.
Pediatrics
Cantonese and Mandarin
• Pearland Clinic

Whether you’re new to Kelsey-Seybold or a current patient, you have a choice of where you can safely get care. Call our **24/7** Contact Center at **713-442-0000** to schedule a same-day or next-day virtual **Video Visit** or, for non-respiratory illnesses, an **in-person appointment** at a Kelsey-Seybold Clinic near you.

