

Banner Health leader provides update on COVID-19 surge, hospital staffing, vaccines

Chief Clinical Officer Marjorie Bessel, MD, gives weekly update on Banner's response to the pandemic



PHOENIX (Feb. 3, 2021) – Today, Marjorie Bessel, MD, chief clinical officer at Banner Health addressed COVID-19 topics during a virtual press conference. Topics included: hospital capacity and staffing, resumption of elective surgeries and the need to maintain masking and social distancing.

VIDEO: [Feb. 3, 2021 press conference](#) (Scroll down for transcripts of opening remarks and QA)

Please email media@bannerhealth.com for additional questions. As our medical experts are focused on patient care and the pandemic response, Dr. Bessel will not be available for additional interviews.

VIDEO: [B-roll of Banner COVID-ICU](#)

VIDEO: [B-roll of vaccinations at Arizona State Fairgrounds](#)


“ At Banner Health, our ICUs remain very busy. ICU occupancy is still 10% higher than it was during the peak of the summer surge. ”

 **[TRANSCRIPT: Dr. Bessel's opening remarks Feb. 3](#)**

(101 KB)

 **[Q&A Feb. 3, 2021 press conference](#)**

(45 KB)

Additional assets available online:  [Photos \(5\)](#)

<https://stage.mediaroom.com/bannerhealth/bannerpressconference02-03>