



Health

28

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Americas Tactical: Emergency declared in in Medellin, Colombia as COVID-19 cases continue to be reported in region on August 28; remain cognizant of authorities updates

Please be advised

- In **Canada**, Health Canada authorized the use of the Moderna vaccine for minors aged 12-17 as of August 27.
- Effective August 28, several communes in **Chile** will move to Phase 4 of deconfinement. Restrictions in Santiago will be relaxed as the capital will be among the communes moving to Phase 4. Additionally, the Pelarco commune in Maule will move to Phase 3 of deconfinement. Between August 30-September 3, booster shots will be available for individuals aged 55 and above, with different age groups eligible to receive the shot on different days.
- In **Colombia**, Medellin Mayor Daniel Quintero declared an emergency due to a shortage of vaccines as of August 27.
- **Ecuador's** Deputy Minister for Public Health Jose Ruales announced that vaccines would be administered to minors aged 12-15 from September 13. Effective September 1, foreigners aged 16 and above who are not Ecuadorian residents will be required to present any one of the following documents to enter the Galapagos Islands: a negative PCT test taken within 72 hours prior to travel, vaccination card showing of receiving complete vaccination at least 14 days prior to travel, or a "transit control card" issued by the Galapagos government. Foreigners aged between 2-16 and residents of Ecuador aged 2 years and above are required to present either a negative PCR test taken a maximum of 72 hours before travel or a "transit control card" to enter the Galapagos.
- In the **USA**, the number of COVID-19 patients in hospitals nationwide reached 100,000 as of August 27.

Recommendations

1. Those operating or residing in the Americas on August 28 and the coming days are advised to remain cognizant of authorities' instructions regarding quarantines and health procedures.
2. Those intending to travel within the region are advised to reconfirm their itineraries with the airline or service provider.
3. Maintain vigilance for possible localized unrest due to panic buying of goods.
4. Take precautions and familiarize yourself with the symptoms and ways to reduce the chances of contracting COVID-19.