

ALISO CANYON DISASTER HEALTH RESEARCH STUDY COMMUNITY MEETING #7 SUMMARY

MEETING PURPOSE

The University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) held its seventh Aliso Canyon Disaster Health Research Study (Health Study or Study) community meeting to share preliminary analysis results (listed below) and provide Study updates.

Preliminary results were presented to the community prior to submittal to a scientific journal for peer review and publication, as required by contract terms that govern the Study.

MEETING FORMAT, ATTENDANCE, AND AGENDA

The meeting was held on May 4th, 2026, 6:00-8:00 pm, in person and online via Zoom. The in-person meeting was held at The Vineyards at Porter Ranch Community Room, 20065 Rinaldi St, Northridge, CA.

The meeting agenda included:

- Preliminary Results:
 - Impact of the Blowout on Health: Primary and Specialty Care Utilization – Outpatient Visits
- Study Updates

UCLA presented each topic, followed by questions and answers.

Fifty-one community members attended the meeting (22 in-person and 29 online). Following the meeting, a recording and the PowerPoint presentation were posted to the Study website meeting page at: <https://alisostudy.ucla.edu/events/meeting-7/>.

MEETING CONTENT AND COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

A summary of materials presented during the meeting and community questions and feedback are included below.

PRELIMINARY RESULTS: PRIMARY AND SPECIALTY CARE VISITS

Dr. Nadereh Pourat presented preliminary results of an analysis of potential health impacts based on primary and specialty care outpatient visits.

Community members asked questions about whether the outpatient visit data and results related to neoplasms had been examined considering leaks that have been occurring at the gas facility for years prior to the blowout. Other questions included whether the analyses would address causation of health impacts attributable to toxic components in gas, and whether data from healthcare providers other than UCLA was used in the analysis. Suggestions were made to conduct a sensitivity analysis for comparison area zip codes further from the affected area, address latency issues by looking at additional years of data and consider how the data and

analysis are affected by the Los Angeles County Department of Health letter that was sent to physicians following the blowout.

STUDY UPDATES

Dr. Michael Jerrett and Dr. Honghu Liu, UCLA Principal Investigators, updated the community on the status of various study components. Key progress and updates included:

1. UCLA submitted its 3-year progress report to the Scientific Oversight Committee (SOC). SOC has completed its review of the report and recommended continuation of the Study.
2. Exposure Analyses
 - UCLA is refining the Chemical Transport Model (CTM) (presented at [Community Mtg 4](#)) based on comparison with South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) measurements. The team is also further validating the model using methane remote sensing data.
 - UCLA is evaluating various components of the exposure analysis in combination - benzene levels based on gas line monitoring, indoor/outdoor air monitoring, and indoor air quality modeling (COMTAM, preliminary results presented at [Community Mtg 6](#)).
3. Health Data Collection and Analyses
 - Cancer Registry Data
 - UCLA is procuring additional years of State Cancer Registry data for analysis, in response to the SOC's recommendation and to account for cancers with a longer latency. Significant progress has been made in the process and the new data is expected to arrive soon.
 - [Resident Health Survey](#) and [Clinical Assessments](#)
 - Recruitment letters for the Resident Health Survey have and continue to be sent out in waves.
 - 38,800 letters and postcards were sent out between November 2025 and March 2026.
 - 19,900 letters were mailed out during the week prior to this community meeting.
 - More than 860 participants have completed the survey.
 - Over 33.6% of survey participants opted to participate, were eligible, and signed consent forms for the Clinical Assessment.
 - 143 Clinical Assessments were completed as of the meeting date.
 - Based on anticipated future waves of invitation mailings and the responses received to date, UCLA anticipates being able to meet the goal of 2,000 participants for the survey and 600 Clinical Assessment participants.

- State Lab Blood Spots for [Metabolomics Analysis](#)
 - After a long process, the State biobank has begun pulling 2,600 blood spots from storage and the Study team is expecting to receive them by the end of May. The blood spots are from babies born to mothers living in the affected community and the comparison communities before, during, and after the blowout. With these data, the metabolomics analysis will identify markers of exposure to the blowout present in blood samples and associated health risks of these exposures.
 - Symptom and Odor Reporting
 - UCLA has secured symptom and odor reporting data collected by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health during the disaster. The team has completed extensive preparation of the data so that it can be geocoded and used for analysis. We are comparing this data to methane levels to identify the correlation between the two and are also examining potential correlations with other contaminants.
4. Study Publications - Submissions Update

The following studies will be submitted soon:

- Methods for exposure risk assessment (preliminary results presented at [Community Mtg 4](#))
- Changes in emergency department visits as an indicator of health impacts (preliminary results presented at [Community Mtg 5](#))
- Impact of the Blowout on Health: Primary and Specialty Care Visits (preliminary results presented at [Community Mtg 7](#))
- Expanded Birth records analysis (preliminary results presented at [Community Mtg 3](#))

COMMUNITY QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Community members requested information about what they can do to improve their health and counteract the effects of their exposures. They asked whether the study examines the effects of the blowout on people who worked in the community and on outdoor pets, as well as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) effects. They also asked whether data through 2021 will be used for the final cancer analysis if Cancer Registry data beyond that is unavailable.