

UNMASK THE FACTS

July 19 – 25

July 21, 2021

CDC updates interim public health recommendations for immunocompromised fully vaccinated

People who are immunocompromised can have a reduced immune response to COVID-19 vaccines. This guidance establishes that these individuals need to continue to follow non-pharmaceutical prevention measures. These include wearing a mask, staying 6 feet apart from others outside of their household, and avoiding crowds and poorly ventilated indoor spaces.

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July 21, 2021

Study shows the effectiveness of Pfizer and AstraZeneca against the Delta variant

Two shots of Pfizer or AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines are still effective against the Delta variant, which is the most dominant variant worldwide. This research reiterated that one shot of these vaccines is not enough for high protection. Both vaccines continue to be highly effective against the previously dominant Alpha variant.

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July 19, 2021

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends everyone to wear masks in school this fall

Last week, the organization launched a [COVID-19 Guidance for Safe Schools](#) that encourages all staff and all students over two years old to wear face masks at school. They suggest that masks are necessary because a significant portion of the student population is not eligible for vaccination, it would be difficult to monitor or enforce mask policies based on vaccination status, and COVID-19 variants continue to be a threat to public health. The guidance also recommends that all eligible individuals receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

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July 22, 2021

U.S. government will invest over \$1.6 billion to mitigate COVID-19 in vulnerable communities

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced it will invest more than \$1.6 billion from the American Rescue Plan to support testing and prevention measures in high-risk public settings to find and stop potential COVID-19 outbreaks. This funding will expand activities to detect, diagnose, trace, and monitor infections and lessen the spread of COVID-19 in homeless shelters, treatment and recovery facilities, domestic violence shelters, and federal, state, and local correctional facilities.

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July 19, 2021

Half of unvaccinated Americans are not concerned about Delta variant

According to a new [CBS/YouGov poll](#), only 48% of unvaccinated individuals are concerned about the contagious Delta variant as opposed to 72% of fully vaccinated individuals. Recent research suggests that doctors play a major role in increasing vaccine confidence; however, 74% of the unvaccinated group still rejected a COVID-19 vaccine even when their doctor recommended it for them.

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