

UNMASK THE FACTS

July 26 – August 1

July 27, 2021

CDC update: Vaccinated individuals in high-transmission areas must wear masks indoors

The CDC updated its mask guidance to encourage vaccinated people living in [areas with “substantial” and “high” transmission of COVID-19](#) to wear masks in public indoor spaces. The CDC also recommends that all individuals attending K-12 schools (staff, students, etc.) wear masks regardless of their vaccination status. This new guidance comes from [research](#) that suggests that vaccinated individuals, if infected with the Delta variant, may have a role in spreading the disease to unvaccinated populations.

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July 29, 2021

Biden administration launches new initiative to get more Americans vaccinated

President Biden announced new actions to get more Americans vaccinated and slow the spread of the Delta variant. These actions, which include strengthening safety protocols for federal employees and expanding paid leave to get families and kids vaccinated, [are listed in full here](#). As part of these actions, the President will call on states, territories, and local governments to do more to incentivize vaccination, including offering \$100 to those who get vaccinated.

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July 28, 2021

FDA extends the shelf life of the J&J COVID-19 vaccine to 6 months

The FDA authorized an extension of the shelf life for the J&J Janssen COVID-19 vaccine from 4.5 months to 6 months. The decision is based on data from ongoing studies, which have demonstrated that the vaccine is stable at 6 months when refrigerated at temperatures of 36 – 46°F (2 – 8°C). Vaccine providers should visit <https://vaxcheck.jni/> to confirm the latest expiration dates of vaccines, including those currently available for administration throughout the U.S.

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July 30, 2021

For U.S. teens, most adverse reactions to the Pfizer vaccine are nonserious

As of July 16, close to 9 million teens, aged 12 to 17, had received the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine. Among roughly 9,240 reported side effects, 91% were minor, but 9% were serious, with 4% developing heart inflammation known as myocarditis. While this might sound alarming, some [preliminary research](#) suggests that teens experience a significantly greater risk of myocarditis when they contract COVID-19 compared to when they receive a COVID-19 vaccination.

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July 29, 2021

CDC update: Fully vaccinated individuals must get tested after exposure to someone with COVID-19

If exposed to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19, CDC recommends fully vaccinated individuals to get tested 3-5 days after exposure or if they're experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. They should wear a mask in public indoor spaces for 14 days after exposure or until they receive a negative test result. They should also isolate if they've tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 10 days or are feeling symptoms.

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