

UNMASK THE FACTS

February 14-27

February 18, 2022

COVID-19 vaccine in pregnancy helps protect babies

COVID-19 vaccination is recommended during pregnancy, but a new CDC report says it can also help protect babies from hospitalization for up to six months. Results from a study show that mRNA vaccines pass on antibodies from mothers to infants. The new study found that 84% of babies who ended up in the hospital for COVID-19 infections were born to mothers who had not been vaccinated. Effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccination during pregnancy against COVID-19 hospitalization among infants aged <6 months was 61%.

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February 17, 2022

Vaccination can protect against long COVID-19

The UK Health Security Agency published a briefing about the effectiveness of vaccination against long COVID-19 symptoms. The results suggested that vaccinated cases (1 or 2 doses) were less likely to develop symptoms of long COVID-19 following infection. Vaccination also improved long COVID-19 symptoms. Other results show that people with long COVID-19 were less likely to report long COVID-19 symptoms after vaccination than those who were not subsequently vaccinated.

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February 25, 2022

CDC updates their mask guidance

CDC now measures community risk with "COVID-19 Community Levels." These levels consider the number of hospital beds being used, hospital admissions, and new COVID-19 cases in an [area](#). In areas with "high" levels, the CDC advises wearing a mask in public indoor settings. In areas with "medium" levels, the CDC advises those at increased risk of COVID-19 to talk to their doctor about wearing a mask indoors. In areas with "low" levels, people can choose to wear a mask indoors, but the CDC does not officially recommend indoor masking.

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February 23, 2022

CDC adds time between shots to reduce risk of myocarditis

CDC's [interim clinical considerations](#) now claim that some people 12 years old and older can benefit from a longer wait time (8 weeks) between their first and second dose of an mRNA vaccine. Some [studies](#) have shown that the small risk of myocarditis from mRNA vaccines might be reduced—and vaccine effectiveness might be increased—with an interval longer than 4 weeks between the first two doses. Therefore, an 8-week interval may be optimal for some people ages 12 years and older, especially for males 12–39 years old.

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February 18, 2022

Long COVID-19 and its treatments are a major long-term issue for public health

The post-acute sequelae of coronavirus disease 2019 or "long COVID-19" is anticipated to substantially alter the lives of millions of people globally. COVID-19 is predicted to alter the long-term trajectory of many chronic cardiac diseases which are abundant in those at risk of severe disease. A new study proposes a possible model for referral of post-COVID-19 patients to cardiac services and discusses future directions for research

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