

UNMASK THE FACTS

August 1 - 14

August 3, 2022

Federal reports on long COVID attempt to better understand these persistent symptoms

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released two new reports on Long COVID. [The National Research Action Plan on Long COVID](#) details advances in current research and charts a course for future study. [The Services and Supports for Longer-Term Impacts of COVID-19](#) report highlights resources for health care workers, and those effected by broader effects of COVID-19, including not only Long COVID but also effects on mental health and substance use, and loss of caregivers and loved ones.

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August 5, 2022

Children and adolescents are also at risk for certain post-COVID symptoms and conditions.

Compared to patients aged 0–17 years old who had not been infected by COVID-19, those who had previously been infected showed higher rates of rare or uncommon conditions. These conditions included acute pulmonary embolism, myocarditis and cardiomyopathy, venous thromboembolic event, acute and unspecified renal failure, and type 1 diabetes. COVID-19 vaccination for all persons 6 months old and older is critical to reducing the impact of post-COVID conditions among these age groups.

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August 11, 2022

FDA offers some new steps to follow with at-home COVID-19 tests

The FDA now advises people to take extra tests when they get a negative result on any at-home COVID-19 antigen test. If you have COVID-19 symptoms and test negative, the FDA recommends you test again 48 hours after the first negative test, for a total of at least two tests. If you do not have COVID-19 symptoms and believe you have been exposed to COVID-19, test again 48 hours after the first negative test, then 48 hours after the second negative test, for a total of at least three tests.

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August 11, 2022

CDC updates guidelines for quarantine following COVID-19 exposure

The CDC no longer recommends that people quarantine after exposure to COVID-19, regardless of their vaccination status. Instead, they should wear a high-quality mask for 10 days and get tested on day 5. If they test positive, they should begin to isolate. These changes are driven by a recognition that an estimated 95% of Americans 16 and older have acquired some level of immunity either from being infected, getting vaccinated, or both.

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August 15, 2022

People are divided on COVID-19 vaccine requirements for students

As U.S. students begin the 2022-2023 school year, Americans are mostly divided on whether students at all levels of education should be required to have COVID-19 vaccinations as a condition of in-person attendance. Between 48% and 54% believe students should be vaccinated to attend classes. According to the Gallup COVID-19 survey, fewer people are in favor of vaccination requirements than a year ago, and the parents of children under 18 are less supportive than nonparents.

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