

UNMASK THE FACTS

March 14 - 29

March 16, 2022

COVID-19 surges in Western Europe have the U.S. bracing for another wave

Western Europe is facing a surge in COVID-19 infections. About a dozen nations are seeing spikes in infections caused by BA.2, a subvariant of Omicron. Infectious disease experts are closely watching the subvariant, which appears to be more transmissible than the original strain, BA.1. In fact, 37% of wastewater sites monitored by the CDC in recent weeks [have seen an increase of 100% or more](#) in COVID-19 viral levels, which suggests that COVID-19 cases may soon rise again in the U.S.

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March 15, 2022

Public health organizations urge children to get vaccinated

Leading public health organizations released a joint statement urging that all children five years of age and older be vaccinated against COVID-19 to help protect them and their families from severe infections, hospitalizations, and even death and to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in the community. These organizations declared that the strong data about vaccine safety and effectiveness allows parents to know they are making the best choice for their children's health when they choose to get them vaccinated.

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March 29, 2022

CDC allows second boosters for some adults and immunocompromised people

People 50 and over who received a booster shot of the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccine more than four months ago can now get another booster shot. Some immunocompromised people can get a second booster of Moderna (if they are 18 or older) or of Pfizer (if they are 12 or older). Adults who received a primary vaccine and booster dose of the J&J vaccine at least 4 months ago may now receive a second booster dose using an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine.

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March 23, 2022

Moderna seeks authorization for their COVID-19 vaccine for children under 6 years old

Moderna aims to get its vaccine for children 6 months to under 6 years of age authorized by the U.S. FDA and other global regulators in the coming weeks. Their interim analysis showed a robust neutralizing antibody response and a favorable safety profile in this age group after a 25 µg two-dose primary series. The company has also requested that the FDA authorize its 50 µg two-dose primary series for 6 to 12-year-olds and its 100 µg series for adolescents ages 12 to under 18 years old.

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March 16, 2022

Despite waning precautions, the pandemic is not over

Suspension of pandemic precautions and misinformation about the pandemic imply that COVID-19 is "near the end." On the contrary, the WHO warned that these factors, combined with a more transmissible Omicron BA.2 variant, are causing an increase in COVID-19 cases globally. The virus has not 'settled down' into a purely seasonal or predictable pattern yet. In the past week, the agency has seen an 8 percent increase in the detection of COVID-19 cases, with more than 11 million positive test results.

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