

UNMASK THE FACTS

May 23 – June 7

June 7, 2022

FDA advisers vote in favor of Novavax COVID-19 vaccine

An FDA review found that the vaccine is 90.4% effective overall against mild, moderate, and severe COVID-19. The Novavax COVID-19 vaccine is different from others authorized in the U.S. It works by delivering an exact replica of the spike protein into the bloodstream so the immune system can scope out its enemy in advance. It's the same approach used to immunize people against shingles and the flu. The FDA and CDC still need to greenlight the vaccine before it can be rolled out.

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June 1, 2022

Paxlovid use spiked in the last week of May

The use of Pfizer's Paxlovid, authorized to treat newly infected, at-risk people to prevent severe illness from COVID-19, has soared as infections have risen. More than 162,000 courses were dispensed in the last week of May, compared to an average of 33,000 courses per week since the drug launched late last year. Despite this spike, some physicians hesitate to prescribe Paxlovid for lower-risk patients, and many people are still uncertain as to how, when, and where they can access this medication.

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May 23, 2022

Pfizer vaccine shows strong immune response in children under 5 years old

Pfizer-BioNTech announced that three doses of its COVID-19 vaccine in children 6 months to under 5 years of age demonstrate strong immune response, high efficacy, and favorable safety. Vaccine efficacy of 80.3% was observed in the descriptive analysis of three doses during a time when Omicron was the predominant variant. The 3-µg dose level, which is one-tenth the dose for adults, was selected for children under 5 years of age based on its safety, tolerability, and strength.

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May 27, 2022

Pregnancy-related misinformation about the vaccines persists

Misinformation has hindered vaccine uptake among pregnant women. A recent poll found that one in seven adults (14%) have heard that pregnant women should not get the COVID-19 vaccine and believe it to be true, rising to nearly one in four (24%) among women who are pregnant or planning to become pregnant. Though the CDC recommends COVID-19 vaccines for pregnant people, about 30% of pregnant women in the United States remain unvaccinated.

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May 24, 2022

COVID-19 symptoms following a Paxlovid course do not require further treatment

The CDC issued an [advisory](#) for the potential of "COVID-19 rebound" after the completion of a Paxlovid course. COVID-19 rebound has been reported to occur between 2-8 days after initial recovery. It's characterized by a recurrence of COVID-19 symptoms or a new positive viral test after having tested negative. A brief return of symptoms may be part of the natural history of the virus in some people. There is currently no evidence that additional treatment for COVID-19 is needed for COVID-19 rebound.

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