

WashU Med COVID-19 Update

July 6, 2020

Information for School of Medicine faculty, staff and students

Today's COVID-19 stats from BJH

28 inpatients confirmed positive **17** admitted, awaiting test results

Stay vigilant as coronavirus cases ramp up



Although we are months into the pandemic, now is not the time to get complacent. Continue to be vigilant by taking the necessary steps to slow the virus. COVID-19 infections are climbing in 39 states, including Missouri, with 16 states now posting record daily case counts. Locally, cases are on the rise again in the immediate St. Louis area.

Keep fighting COVID-19 in the following ways: wash hands or use hand sanitizer, don't touch your face, cover coughs and sneezes, keep social distancing (at least 6 feet apart) and wear a mask. If you feel sick, stay home, call your medical provider and quarantine as instructed. In case of COVID-19 exposure or symptoms, employees should notify their supervisor and contact the BJC/WUSM employee hotline at 314-362-5056. Students should contact Student Health Services at 314-362-3523.

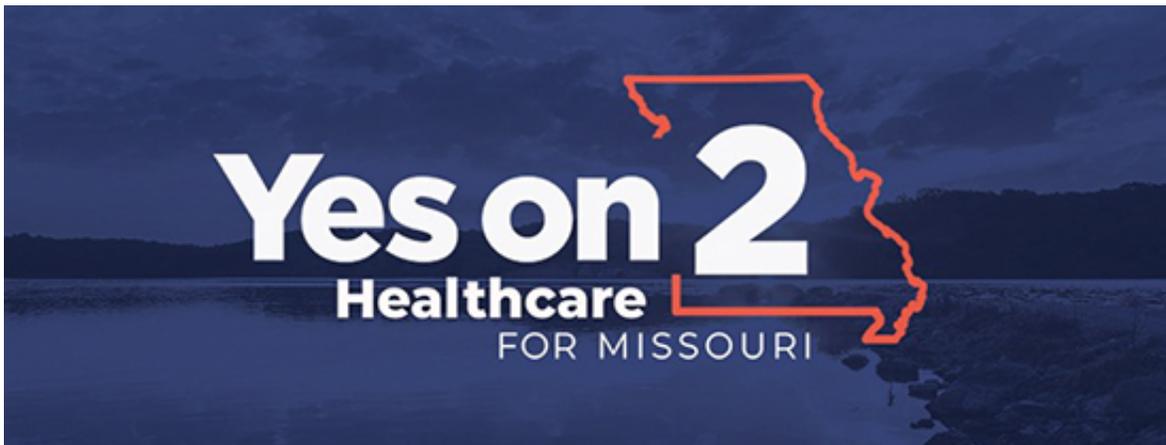
Face covering/mask requirements on Medical Campus

Public health and other data strongly supports that universal masking substantially reduces transmission of COVID-19. The main purpose of the mask is to prevent the wearer from expelling small virus-containing droplets of saliva or mucus into the air and infecting others. Wearing a mask reduces the likelihood that an infected individual could spread the virus to people around them (colleagues, co-workers, friends, etc). This is especially important for infected people who may be asymptomatic. It also protects the wearer. Therefore, to reduce the spread of the virus, and to protect the health of all our faculty, staff, and trainees, WashU School of Medicine requires universal masking.



[Learn more about these guidelines](#), including when you may remove the face covering (such as while eating or outdoors) and how to take care of your mask.

Vote YES on Amendment 2 to improve Missouri's health, economy



Even in normal times, Amendment 2 would be the right thing for Missouri — giving hard-working Missourians access to health care while bringing home from Washington \$1 billion of our tax dollars currently going to other states. In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, it's even more urgent.

Medicaid expansion will help workers hit hardest by COVID-19, including those

holding essential jobs. No Missourian should have to choose between paying for life-saving care and putting food on the table. Make a plan to vote [YES on Amendment 2](#) on Aug. 4.

The quest for a COVID vaccine faces hurdles



The first COVID-19 vaccines developed may not provide lasting immunity, protect older and more vulnerable people, yield massive quantities or ship throughout the world, according to experts in a recent [Bloomberg article](#). Michael Kinch, PhD, director of the Washington University Center for Drug Discovery, said more than one supplier will probably be needed to make the billions of doses required and some populations may not respond to an initial vaccine. Such a scenario may end up creating different classes of society, where some people have to stay home and others can go out, he said, noting that, “We haven’t even begun to put our arms and brains around what that would mean.”

Gearing up



Patrick Lyons, MD, instructor of medicine in the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care, puts on PPE before entering a COVID-19 patient room in the ICU at Barnes-Jewish Hospital.

Important numbers and links

- Call the BJC/WUSM employee hotline for COVID-19 exposure or illness: 314-362-5056
- Use this [online screening tool](#) before reporting to work
- Know your [screening stations](#)
- Review [inpatient protocol](#)
- Review [ambulatory protocol](#)
- Call the Well-Being Line for in-the-moment emotional support: 314-286-1700
- Contact the Employee Assistance Program for 24/7 work-life support: 844-365-4587
- Email inspirational stories to heroes@wustl.edu

For Medical Campus updates, visit coronavirus.med.wustl.edu »

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