

Our numbers

COVID-19 hospitalizations

Barnes-Jewish Hospital	47 inpatients confirmed
St. Louis Children's Hospital	5 inpatients confirmed

WashU Med

Active cases	13 employees
	1 student

Key announcements

WashU Med COVID-19 safety protocols changing March 7

WashU Med continues to closely monitor COVID-19 transmission in the community and on the Medical Campus. In response to a steep decline in case numbers, the following changes in safety protocols will take effect Monday, March 7:



- Masks continue to be required in all clinical spaces and in places where patients or patient visitors may be present including public spaces within clinical facilities, links between hospitals, and lobbies, elevators and waiting rooms in hospitals and clinics.
- Masks are optional in non-clinical spaces.
 - See above for exceptions.
 - Individuals should mask any time they have personal concerns, including but not limited to crowding, personal increased risk, or increased risk to loved ones or colleagues.
- No limits on gathering size or provision of food.
- Use the largest available space for large gatherings and avoid crowding especially for any activities that are required by work.
- No restrictions on campus visitors, including shadowing.
- Continue to stay home if you are sick. If you have symptoms of COVID-19, call the Exposure/Illness Hotline at 314-362-5056 for guidance.

These rules may change as disease activity changes and CDC guidelines and science advance, including potential return to more restricted guidance based on local conditions.



View recording: CDC director visits WashU Med to discuss pandemic

The director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Rochelle P. Walensky, MD, MPH, participated in [a conversation about the pandemic](#) today at WashU Med. Walensky, a WashU alumna, discussed the pandemic with William Powderly, MD, the J. William Campbell Professor of Medicine and co-director of the Division of Infectious Diseases. They were joined by Victoria Fraser, MD, the Adolphus Busch Professor and head of the Department of Medicine.

Reflecting on the role health equity has played in the pandemic, Walensky said, "We have spent a lot of time documenting a problem in health equity... I don't want to document the problem anymore. I want to implement things that will fix the problem."

A recording of the event is available on the [School of Medicine's YouTube channel](#) and the Department of Medicine's [Grand Rounds website](#).

Red Cross blood donation site available on Medical Campus Link

The Red Cross, which provides 40% of the nation's blood supply to hospitals, is experiencing the worst blood shortage in over a decade as it faces the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. This shortage poses a concerning risk to patient care. Your donation is desperately needed.

A Red Cross donation site is conveniently located on the Medical Campus at One Barnes Hospital Plaza (North South Link). You can [make an appointment online](#).

Take WashU's EMPOWER survey by March 31

The [latest version of WashU's EMPOWER survey](#) will help WashU design and deploy innovative solutions to address employee needs, particularly surrounding mental health. The brief (10-minute), anonymous survey focuses on the work and family stresses you have experienced due to the pandemic, along with WashU resources that would be helpful to you. All WashU staff, faculty and postdocs will have the opportunity to voluntarily take the survey through March 31.

Your COVID-19 questions

Thank you for continuing to send us your questions about vaccinations, testing, WashU Med COVID-19 policies and other ways the school is responding to the pandemic. Please keep in mind that we might not be able to answer all questions submitted. You must continue to call the COVID-19 Exposure/Illness Hotline at 314-362-5056 to report a positive test and get advice directly from Occupational Health. For questions about your personal medical situation, please consult your physician.

Is the booster recommended if you have had the one-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine?

Yes, a booster with either the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines is recommended if you have previously been fully immunized with the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

— *Eva Aagaard, MD, senior administrator for occupational health*

If you have a question for our WashU Med health experts, send it to covidqueries@wustl.edu. This mailbox is exclusively for WashU Med faculty, staff and students.

Visit the [WashU Med coronavirus website](#) for the latest policy information.

COVID-19 booster vaccination clinics on the Medical Campus

BJC and WashU Med employees can receive the Pfizer COVID-19 booster at the BJC Medical Group clinic located on the second floor of the BJC Institute of Health (IOH). Clinic hours are 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday and 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday. Walk-ins are accepted Monday through Friday until 2:30 p.m. Please bring your employee badge.

Additionally, the COVID-19 vaccination clinic at the Center for Advanced Medicine is accepting walk-ins from 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. in addition to [scheduled appointments](#) available from 8 a.m. – 3:15 p.m. Located on the third floor, the vaccine clinic is open Monday – Friday to employees and the general public ages 18+. BJC offers the Pfizer vaccine.

To find other locations, or a Moderna vaccine site, visit vaccinatestl.org, or vaccines.gov. You can also text your ZIP code to 438829 or call 1-800-232-0233 to find locations.

Other news

[Podcast: Can we communicate more effectively about vaccines?](#) (WashU Med News, March 2, 2022)

WashU Med infectious disease specialist Elvin Geng, MD, discusses the importance of addressing the concerns of patients unsure whether they want to be vaccinated.

[For vulnerable Missourians who fear loosening restrictions, experts offer ways to stay safe](#) (St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Feb. 28, 2022)

WashU Med infectious disease specialist William Powderly, MD, said it's important to remind older adults, as well as their family members, that getting COVID-19 vaccine boosters is the best protection against coronavirus.

Resources

- [MO/Notify](#) exposure notifications
- [Online screening tool](#)
- Exposure & illness hotline: [314-362-5056](tel:314-362-5056)
- Work-life support/Employee Assistance Program (24/7): [844-365-4587](tel:844-365-4587)
- [BJC COVID-19 policies & procedures](#)
- [Washington University Physicians COVID-19 policies & procedures](#)
- [Medical Campus policies & updates](#)
- COVID-19 questions: covidqueries@wustl.edu