

WashU Med COVID-19 Update

May 5, 2022

Information for School of Medicine faculty, staff and students

Our numbers

COVID-19 hospitalizations

Barnes-Jewish Hospital	17 inpatients confirmed
St. Louis Children's Hospital	2 inpatients confirmed

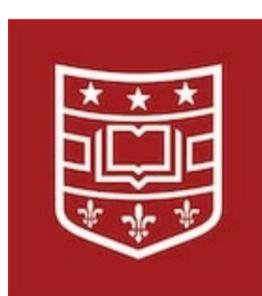
WashU Med

Active cases	73 employees
	8 students

Key announcements

WashU Med strongly encourages masking in all indoor spaces on Medical Campus

WashU Med continues to closely monitor COVID-19 transmission in the community and on the Medical Campus. In response to a steady rise in case numbers, WashU Med strongly recommends masking in all indoor, non-private spaces on the Medical Campus, regardless of vaccination status. Masking continues to be required in all clinical settings.



You may continue to remove your mask while you are:

- alone in your office
- eating or drinking
- participating in outdoor activities

For additional details, please visit the [Campus Safety Procedures page](#) on the WashU Med coronavirus website.

Masking required when cluster of COVID-19 infections is identified

WashU Med is resuming some limited masking precautions in non-clinical areas as a result of an uptick in COVID-19 cases in our community. If a cluster of COVID-19 infections is identified in a non-clinical area where masking is not currently required but strongly encouraged, all employees in that work area or team will be required to mask until the cluster is resolved. Communication to managers and work areas will come from Occupational Health. Masking remains mandatory in all clinical and public settings, where patients or visitors might be encountered. Please be sure to monitor your health for signs of illness, stay home if you are sick and call the Exposure/Illness Hotline at 314-362-5056 for guidance. We are watching case numbers closely and may need to reinstate masking at all times in non-clinical areas.

Second booster dose available to eligible employees on Medical Campus

The CDC [has expanded eligibility for an additional booster dose](#) for certain individuals who may be at higher risk of severe outcomes from COVID-19. People over the age of 50 can now get an additional booster four months after their prior dose to increase their protection further.

BJC and WashU Med employees can receive the Pfizer COVID-19 booster at the BJC Medical Group Walk-In Clinic located on the second floor of the BJC Institute of Health (IOH), Suite 2710. Vaccine 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 during these hours. Please bring your employee badge and vaccine card.

Additionally, the COVID-19 vaccination clinic at the Center for Advanced Medicine is accepting walk-ins, when space and capacity allow, from 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. in addition to [scheduled appointments](#) available from 8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Located on the third floor, the vaccine clinic is open Monday – Friday to employees and the general public ages 12 and up.

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: As 'Show Me the Science' turns 2, we look back at 2 years of a pandemic](#) (WashU Med News, April 26, 2022)

WashU Med infectious diseases specialist Steven J. Lawrence, MD, looks back and forward, detailing some of the frustrations, surprises and successes of the past two years as we begin a third year of life in a pandemic.



[COVID shots still work but researchers hunt new improvements](#) (Associated Press, April 24, 2022)

As the coronavirus continues to mutate, companies are testing in clinical trials several new vaccine approaches, including a nasal vaccine that WashU Med's Michael Diamond, MD, PhD, helped to create and that is licensed to Bharat Biotech in India. "I certainly do not want to abandon the success we have had ... but we're going to have a difficult time stopping transmission with the current systemic vaccines," he said.

Resources

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