

## Our numbers

### COVID-19 hospitalizations

Barnes-Jewish Hospital	24 inpatients confirmed
St. Louis Children's Hospital	4 inpatients confirmed

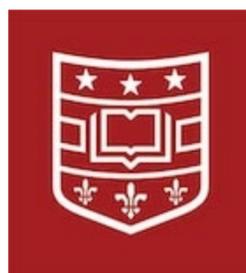
### WashU Med

Active cases	139 employees
	6 students

## Key announcements

### WashU Med returns to 7-day isolation for employees who test positive

In response to rising COVID-19 positivity in the region, WashU Med Occupational Health is readjusting guidance for employees who test positive for COVID-19. Effective Friday, May 20, COVID-19 positive employees once again will be removed from work duty for seven days (instead of 10 days) to help alleviate staffing shortages. Positive employees must be feeling better and be without fever for 48 hours before returning to work on or after day eight. Occupational Health reminds all employees to watch for potential COVID-19 symptoms, to stay home if not feeling well, and to call the Exposure/Illness Hotline at 314-362-5056 for assessment and testing guidance.



### Masking required in all non-clinical spaces on Medical Campus

WashU Med continues to monitor COVID-19 activity in the community and on the Medical Campus. With case numbers and positivity continuing to increase, WashU Med is reinstating masking requirements in non-clinical spaces as an added precaution, effective Monday, May 23. Standard PPE and medical masking requirements remain in effect in all patient care areas and health-care public spaces. You may continue to remove your mask while you are:

- alone in your office
- eating or drinking (please distance as much as possible)
- participating in outdoor activities

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

### Saliva-based test availability to end June 1

After more than two years of dedicated service fulfilling the COVID-19 testing needs of the WashU community, the McDonnell Genome Institute (MGI) lab will retire its saliva-based COVID-19 test on June 1 so that it can return to its regular research operations. Thank you to the MGI lab team, especially Rich Head and Julie Neidich, who have been remarkable in their support of our COVID-19 response.

### 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](#).

### Second booster dose available to eligible employees on Medical Campus

Vaccination remains the single most important defense against COVID-19. 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: Pandemic fuels use of alcohol, opioids](#) (WashU Med News, May 17, 2022)

WashU Med experts in psychiatry and emergency medicine join the podcast to discuss how the pandemic has exacerbated problems related to drugs and alcohol.



[As the virus evolves, COVID-19 reinfections are going to keep happening](#) (TIME, May 18, 2022)

Both COVID-19 vaccinations and prior disease provide some protection against future illnesses, but they're better at preventing severe disease than infection, says WashU Med's Rachel Presti, MD, PhD, adding, reinfections are likely to be mild, but they're also probably going to keep happening.

## 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](#)