

Our numbers

COVID-19 hospitalizations

Barnes-Jewish Hospital	51 inpatients confirmed
St. Louis Children's Hospital	7 inpatients confirmed

WashU Med

Active cases	52 employees
	12 students

Key announcements



COVID-19 vaccine appointments available for children ages 6 months and up

Following the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) decision](#) to recommend COVID-19 vaccines for young children, St. Louis Children's Hospital and Washington University Physicians now offer the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine to kids 6 months – 4 years.

Schedule an appointment [online](#) or by calling 314-273-1252. Hours vary by location. A parent or legal guardian must accompany the child to the appointment to provide proper consent.

Pediatric vaccinations for younger children are also available at thousands of pediatric practices, pharmacies, Federally Qualified Health Centers, local health departments, clinics and other locations. Children in this age group can be vaccinated with the Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech vaccines.

Jason Newland, MD, WashU Med infectious disease pediatrician at St. Louis Children's Hospital, discussed the vaccine's safety and efficacy in young children with [KSDK](#), [KMOV](#), [Fox 2](#), and the [St. Louis Post-Dispatch](#).

Booster doses available to eligible employees on Medical Campus

BJC HealthCare 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.

At-home COVID-19 tests covered by insurance under federal requirement

A [federal policy](#) now requires private insurers provide coverage or reimbursement for over-the-counter/at-home COVID-19 tests. Under the new policy:

- At-home COVID-19 tests purchased at [participating in-network pharmacies](#) are covered by the Washington University pharmacy benefit. Employees should present their [Express Scripts](#) member ID card when checking out at the pharmacy counter so your test automatically rings up at no cost to you.
- If you happen to purchase your test at an out-of-network pharmacy or are accidentally charged, you can submit your receipt for reimbursement up to \$12 a test. Please follow the instructions on the [Express Scripts Claim Form \(PDF\)](#) to submit for reimbursement.
- The plan will cover up to eight tests per member, per month. As an example, a household of one covered employee, a spouse, and two covered dependents can purchase up to 32 tests per month. If a test is sold in packaging containing more than one test, each test is counted separately (i.e., one box = two tests).

For questions, please contact Express Scripts Customer Services at 1-877-880-1877 or visit the [Express Scripts COVID-19 Resource Center](#).



Understanding your rapid test results

Although positive results from rapid antigen tests are highly reliable, false negative results can occur if someone has a lower viral load — common early in the course of an infection. Rapid antigen tests are most reliable in the first week after symptoms start. However, if you have symptoms and test negative using a rapid test, you should not rule out COVID-19 infection. Taking a lab-based PCR test — which is able to detect smaller quantities of the virus and detect them sooner — can confirm your result and is necessary prior to coming to work if you have [symptoms](#).

Every home in the U.S. is eligible to [order four free at-home COVID-19 tests](#). They are also available at retail pharmacies. [Community-based testing sites](#) offer both rapid and lab-based tests, depending on the location. The [CDC website](#) provides additional details on COVID-19 diagnostic testing.

If you test positive or you have symptoms, call the Exposure/Illness Hotline at 314-362-5056. For more information, visit the [Exposure & Illness Procedures](#) page on the WashU Med coronavirus website.

Other news

Podcast: Long COVID-19 a lasting battle for many

(WashU Med News, June 22, 2022)

WashU Med physicians on the front lines of treating patients with COVID-19 join the podcast to discuss the complications many continue to have in the weeks and months after their infections — and what's being done to help them.



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](#)
- COVID-19 questions: covidqueries@wustl.edu