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COVID-19 Newsletter (vol. 79)

Center for Disaster Medicine, New York Medical College

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NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE

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Center for Disaster Medicine



Tuesday, July 6, 2021

During this COVID-19 pandemic and other future events, the CDM has been and will continue to be a source of reliable information, education and models for mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. We hope this informational document has helped provide you filtered and actionable information. As the pace of new information and changes occur, we will evaluate the current once per week to determine if this information should be provided on a more frequent basis.

David Markenson, M.D., M.B.A.

Director

Center for Disaster Medicine

COVID-19 Statistics

	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Total Vaccine Doses Admin.	Total Tested
Worldwide	184,282,349	3,986,973	3,245,765,453	Not Available
United States	33,724,002	605,570	329,606,650	486,780,234
New Jersey	1,024,311	26,477	10,030,274	14,588,489
New York	2,116,888	53,705	21,991,612	59,180,891
Connecticut	349,476	8,279	4,435,747	8,812,870

Information as of 7/6/21 at 1000 EDT. Source: <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>

United States COVID-19 Case Map / GIS



Center for Disaster Medicine Updates

- [On June 29, 2021, CDM hosted a press conference to announce an additional \\$1million in state funding.](#)

- On June 29, 2021, CDM staff provided medical training in pre-hospital trauma life support (PHTLS) to various emergency responder agencies from Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess counties.
- On June 30, 2021, CDM staff provided medical training in Geriatric Emergency Medical Services (GEMS) to various emergency responder agencies from Westchester and NYC.
- On July 1, 2021, as part of a summer fellowship in Emergency Medicine and Disaster Medicine CDM staff provided Stop the Bleed training to NYMC SOM medical students regarding how to provide life-saving interventions.
- On June 10, 2021, CDM staff provided CPR training to NYC hospital police in an effort to maintain overall preparedness
- Coordinating and overseeing COVID-19 screenings at NYMC campus
- Continue to partner with local organizations such as Westchester Department of Emergency Services and Westchester Medical Center to ensure ongoing collaboration with all public safety agencies.
- Coordinating volunteers to support local public health response to COVID-19.
- Conducting research and analysis of current events and COVID-19 response to identify strengths and areas for improvement in other regions.
- Updating and developing new programs to provide enhanced education on public health emergencies including pandemics.
- Exploring course development opportunities in infection prevention and control for frontline responders in the hospital and in the field.
- Serving as a source of information for COVID-19 related concerns or questions regarding public health, emergency medical service (EMS), public safety and healthcare response.
- Local networking and pandemic response analysis for New York's tri-state area, using first-person experiences to highlight current trends.

To view the Center for Disaster Medicine's newest webinar, please click here - [The COVID-19 Vaccine: What to Tell Your Patients](#)

The White House

On July 4, 2021, President Biden provided remarks highlighting the importance of Independence Day 2021 and its significance regarding COVID-19.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2021/07/05/remarks-by-president-biden-celebrating-independence-day-and-independence-from-covid-19/>

On July 1, 2021, the White House COVID-19 Response Team provided an update.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/press-briefings/2021/07/01/press-briefing-by-white-house-covid-19-response-team-and-public-health-officials-43/> On July 1, 2021, The White House provided an updated on the COVID-19 global response and recovery.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/07/01/u-s-covid-19-global-response-and-recovery-framework/>

The official website of the White House will deliver updated information as the country grapples with converging crises. This will include actions to control the COVID-19 pandemic, provide economic relief, tackle climate change, and advance racial equity and civil rights, as well as immediate actions to reform our immigration system and restore America's standing in the world. This website will provide all information in one central location.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov>

Health and Human Services (HHS)

On June 25, COVID-19 Health Equity Chair Dr. Marcella Nunez-Smith, held the fifth COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force meeting to consider interim recommendations addressing the inequities and the impact of long-COVID or Post-Acute Sequelae of SARS-CoV-2 infection (PASC), and access to personal protective equipment (PPE), testing and therapeutics.

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2021/07/02/readout-fifth-covid-19-health-equity-task-force-meeting.html>

For the latest COVID-19 information from HHS

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/coronavirus/index.html>

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

The National Institutes of Health is funding five additional projects to identify ways of safely returning students and staff to in-person school in areas with vulnerable and underserved populations. The awards are the second installment of the Safe Return to School Diagnostic Testing Initiative, launched earlier this year as part of the NIH Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics Underserved Populations (RADx-UP) program. The new awards will provide up to \$15 million over two years for five projects in California, Arizona, Hawaii, Nebraska and Florida.

<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/nih-covid-19-testing-initiative-funds-additional-research-projects-safely-return-children-person-school>

Detecting SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, improves with regularity of testing, whether using rapid antigen tests or PCR molecular tests. The PCR test is considered the gold standard for diagnosing COVID-19 infection, but cost and infrastructure issues, as well as wait times for PCR results, have limited its use more broadly as a screening tool for asymptomatic people because rapid results are needed to interrupt the chain of transmission.

<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/nih-funded-screening-study-builds-case-frequent-covid-19-antigen-testing>

View the latest COVID-19 information from NIH

<https://www.nih.gov/coronavirus>

United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

As of July 2, 2021, 393 tests and sample collection devices are authorized by the FDA under emergency use authorizations (EUAs). These include 281 molecular tests and sample collection devices, 84 antibody and other immune response tests and 28 antigen tests. There are 52 molecular authorizations and one antibody authorization that can be used with home-collected samples. There is one molecular prescription at-home test, three antigen prescription at-home tests, five antigen over-the-counter (OTC) at-home tests and two molecular OTC at-home tests. The FDA has authorized 11 antigen tests

and three molecular tests for serial screening programs. The FDA has also authorized 557 revisions to EUA authorizations.

<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-july-2-2021>

in the public health emergency, there was a need to issue emergency use authorizations (EUAs) for non-NIOSH-approved respirators as well as decontamination and bioburden reduction systems to disinfect disposable respirators. On June 30, 2021, those conditions no longer exist. Our national supply of NIOSH-approved N95s is more accessible to our health care workers every day.

<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-brief-fda-revokes-emergency-use-authorizations-certain-respirators-and-decontamination-systems>

For the latest overall FDA information about COVID-19.

<https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/counterterrorism-and-emerging-threats/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

The emerging variants CDC is closely monitoring have mutations in the virus genome that alter the characteristics and cause the virus to act differently in ways that are significant to public health (e.g., causes more severe disease, spreads more easily between humans, requires different treatments, changes the effectiveness of current vaccines). It's important to understand that genetic mutations are expected, and some variants can spread and become predominant while others subside.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/transmission/variant-cases.html>

CDC provides daily data tracker which has maps and charts tracking cases, deaths, and trends of COVID-19 in the United States- updated daily by 8 p.m. ET.

<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#datatracker-home>

For the latest CDC information

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/index.html>

Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

View the latest information from CMS

<https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/EPRO/Current-Emergencies/Current-Emergencies-page>

Vaccines

In this section, vaccine-related information from various sources will be collected, reviewed, and tabulated here. As of July 6, 2021, the FDA has granted Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) to Pfizer BioNTech, Moderna and Janssen/Johnson & Johnson. Now with three vaccines with EUA, the goal is to vaccinate a larger number of persons in the

coming months throughout the United States. As additional vaccines are granted EUA, information for those vaccines will also be included.

CDC created this section regarding COVID-19 vaccinations in the United States- CDC provides overall US COVID-19 Vaccine, deliveries and administration, maps, charts, and data updated daily by 8 PM. This section represents all vaccine partners including jurisdictional partner clinics, retail pharmacies, long-term care facilities, Federal Emergency Management Agency and Health Resources and Services Administration partner sites, and federal entity facilities.

<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#vaccinations>

The NYS DOH COVID-19 Vaccine Tracker Dashboard updates New Yorkers on the distribution of the vaccine including the number of doses received by the state, a breakdown of first or second doses, and the number of persons vaccinated with the first and second doses in each region.

<https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/covid-19-vaccine-tracker>

CDC created this section regarding the Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine to provide updated relevant information including side effects and safety data, clinical trials demographic statistics, and information on how the vaccine works.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/janssen.html>

CDC created this section regarding the Moderna vaccine to provide updated relevant information including side effects and safety data, clinical trials demographic statistics, and information on how the vaccine works.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/Moderna.html>

CDC created this section regarding the Pfizer BioNTech vaccine to provide updated relevant information including side effects and safety data, clinical trials demographic statistics, and information on how the vaccine works.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/Pfizer-BioNTech.html>

HHS created this section to provide the latest information about COVID-19 vaccines.

<https://www.hhs.gov/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccines/index.html>

For NYC DOHMH updated guidance regarding COVID-19 vaccine

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-vaccines.page>

The Vaccine Finder is a one-stop site for New Yorkers to find their nearest COVID-19 vaccination location. The Vaccine Finder can also provide New Yorkers with information to schedule vaccination appointments.

<https://vaccinefinder.nyc.gov/>

Educational Institution Information

- Arizona State University announced its COVID-19 mitigation plans for an in-person fall semester just two weeks ago. Under the plans, students would not have to be vaccinated against COVID-19. But those who chose not to submit proof of vaccination to ASU would be required to participate in twice-weekly COVID testing, wear face coverings in both indoor and

outdoor campus spaces, and submit to a daily health check. Fully vaccinated students would be able to bypass these extra requirements. The political backlash was immediate and fierce -- ASU was promptly forced by the governor to backtrack. He issued an executive order the next day stating that Arizona public universities and community colleges cannot mandate COVID-19 vaccines or require unvaccinated individuals to submit to COVID testing or to wear face masks as a condition for class attendance or participation in learning. Read more at:

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2021/06/30/arizona-public-colleges-cant-require-covid-vaccines-or-masks-or-testing-unvaccinated>

- For the more than 500 American colleges that plan to require COVID-19 vaccines for students coming to campus this fall, a major challenge will be implementing this requirement for international students who might not have access to one of the three vaccines currently authorized by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for use in the U.S. Some of those students may have access to a different vaccine authorized by a different national regulator in their home country, or they might not have access to a COVID-19 vaccine at all.

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2021/07/06/colleges-requiring-covid-vaccines-consider-how-enforce-these-requirements>

- K-12

- With fewer than half of children ages 12-17 having been vaccinated against COVID-19 and not much growth in that number expected before school starts, some districts have already decided to keep masks and other preventive measures in place this fall to reduce in-school transmission rates, District Administration reports. A Kaiser Family Foundation report shows 25 percent of parents don't plan to get their children vaccinated, and 18 percent are taking a wait-and-see approach based on safety and efficacy concerns. Of those willing to have their child vaccinated, 67 percent are Democrats and 37 percent are Republicans, while Independents are divided. Similarly, 58 percent of Democrats believe schools should required COVID-19 vaccines, compared to 20 percent of Republicans. Contributing to the concern is the fact that the shots are still only allowed under "emergency use" guidelines by the Food and Drug Administration. Read more at:

<https://www.k12dive.com/news/with-majority-of-students-unvaccinated-schools-mull-fall-covid-19-measures/602850/>

Clinical Trials

To view the latest information on clinical trials regarding COVID-19

<https://www.clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/results?recrs=&cond=Covid19&term=&cntry=&state=&city=&dist=>

American Red Cross

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/donate-blood/dlp/plasma-donations-from-recovered-covid-19-patients.html>

State Updates

New York

- Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced 76 recipients across the State will receive grant funds to enhance their emergency preparedness and response capabilities. The funding supports vital training and equipment for first responders, including specialized law enforcement and fire emergency response teams. The \$7.4 million in funding supports New York's bomb squads, hazardous materials teams, explosive detection canine teams and technical rescue and urban search and rescue teams. Funds will also help protect and secure critical infrastructure and enhance local governments' cyber security capabilities. <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-74-million-homeland-security-grants-support-states-emergency>
- Governor Cuomo signed legislation (S.4201-A/A.4063) prohibiting public employers from penalizing employees who use sick leave or compensatory time to quarantine, seek medical treatment, or for other absences related to a COVID-19 diagnosis or contact. This new measure builds on COVID-related employee protections signed into law by Governor Cuomo, including guaranteed paid leave for New Yorkers under mandatory or precautionary quarantine due to COVID, and guaranteed time off from work to receive the vaccine. <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-signs-legislation-prohibiting-public-employers-penalizing-employees-absences>

New York State Department of Health (DOH)

On July 5, 2021, Governor Cuomo updated New Yorkers on the state's progress combating COVID-19. "We're working to beat back COVID-19 on all fronts, and with more New Yorkers getting vaccinated every day, our future looks bright," Governor Cuomo said. "We're working to get shots in arms by offering new incentives for New Yorkers at sites across the state. Remember that vaccination is the key to defeating this pandemic for good and moving our state forward, so make an appointment or walk into a site today if you haven't yet received the shot." <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-updates-new-yorkers-states-progress-combating-covid-19-6>

For a list of positive cases by county in New York State <https://covid19tracker.health.ny.gov/views/NYS-COVID19-Tracker/NYSDOHCOVID-19Tracker-Map?%3Aembed=yes&%3Atoolbar=no&%3Atabs=n>

NYS DOH has created a dynamic COVID-19 Tracker which provides COVID-19 information regarding testing, cases, percentages, and fatalities across New York State. It also breaks down cases by county. <https://covid19tracker.health.ny.gov/views/NYS-COVID19-Tracker/NYSDOHCOVID-19Tracker-Map?%3Aembed=yes&%3Atoolbar=no&%3Atabs=n>

For the latest COVID-19 information from NYS DOH

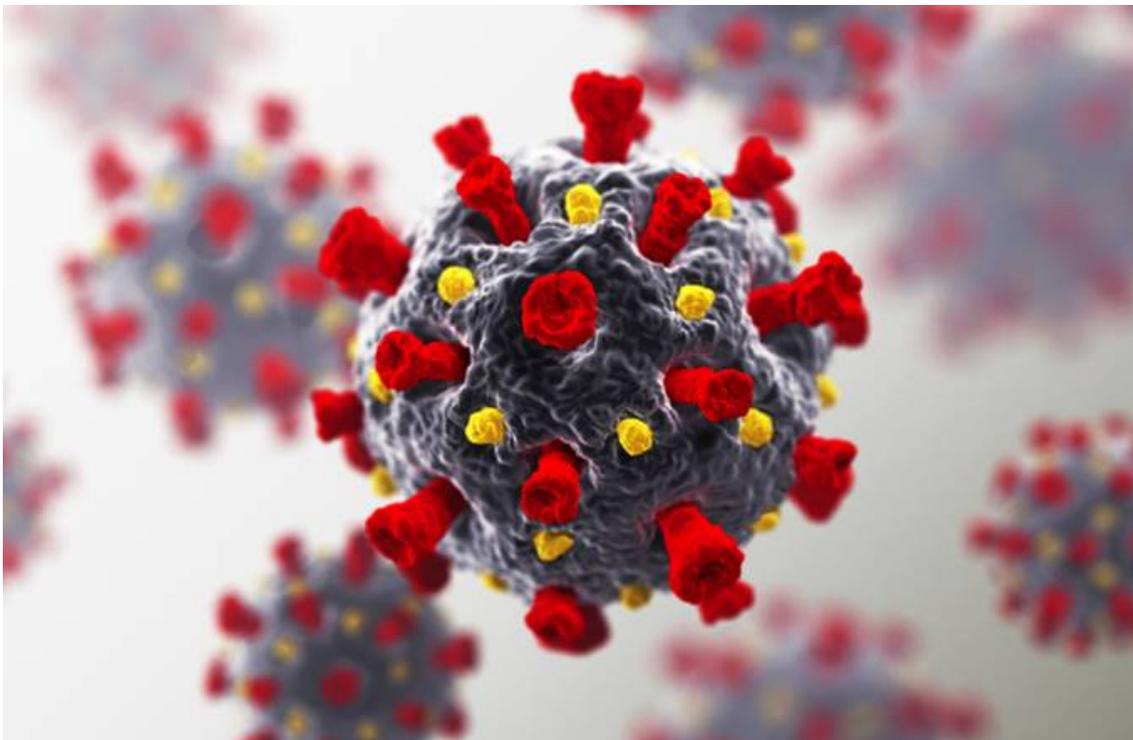
<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home>

New Jersey

- Governor Phil Murphy signed legislation (S3990) appropriating \$100 million in American Rescue Plan funds to the Department of Community Affairs to support child care providers and the child care workforce through a number of initiatives, including providing grants for facilities improvements, business technical assistance, workforce development supports, and a study of the child care landscape in the state. The Department of Community Affairs will make \$15.5 million available to the Department of Children and Families (DCF), \$54.5 million available to the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA), and \$30 million available to the Department of Human Services (DHS). <https://nj.gov/governor/news/news/562021/approved/20210701c.shtml>
- Governor Murphy highlighted several aspects of legislation allowing for the termination of the Public Health Emergency effective as of July 4. On June 4, 2021, Governor Murphy signed A5820 enabling the end of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency that had been in place since March 9, 2020. Immediately following the signing of the legislation, Governor Murphy signed Executive Order No. 244 (2021), ending the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. Under the legislation, the majority of executive orders issued that relied on the existence of the Public Health Emergency expire as of July 4, 2021, with exceptions specified in the legislation. Because Executive Order No. 192 (2020) is not specified in the legislation as continuing beyond July 4, 2021, masking, social distancing, and other health and safety protocols originally set forth in Executive Order No. 192 (2020) will no longer be mandatory across businesses and facilities, regardless if they are open to the public or not. Though these protocols are no longer required by the State, employers and entities overseeing worksites and other facilities are permitted to craft more restrictive policies that require masking and social distancing, and which continue the implementation of health and safety protocols. <https://nj.gov/governor/news/news/562021/approved/20210702c.shtml>

Connecticut

- Governor Ned Lamont announced the launch of Connecticut Summer at the Museum – a new state program created in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic that allows Connecticut children to receive free admission at more than 90 museums across Connecticut during the 2021 summer months. The program was originally proposed earlier this year by the governor as part of his larger plan to use a portion of the recovery funding Connecticut is receiving to provide children and families with engaging summer enrichment and learning experiences. His proposal was approved by the state legislature in the biennial state budget that he signed into law last week. Under the finalized program, from July 1 to September 6, 2021, all Connecticut children age 18 and under – plus one accompanying adult – will receive free admission to any of the participating museums, including historic house museums, historic sites, historical societies, art museums, children’s museums, science centers, special-interest museums, natural history museums, university museums, arboretums/botanical gardens, and zoos. Some of the participants include the Connecticut Science Center, Connecticut’s Beardsley Zoo, the Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk, Mystic Aquarium, and Mystic Seaport Museum, among many others. The full list of participating museums is available at www.CTSummerMuseums.com.



New York Blood Center (NYBC)

For the latest updated NYBC information about COVID-19:

<https://nybc.org/covid-19/>

New York City (NYC) Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH)

NYC DOHMH launched a new variants data page. The data on this page show how variants of the virus that causes COVID-19 are spreading in NYC. Variants are versions of the virus with certain sets of mutations. Some variants may result in a COVID-19 infection that is easier to spread, more severe or able to avoid antibodies from vaccines or previous infections.

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-data-variants.page>

For NYC DOHMH updated COVID-19 data page

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-data.page>

For the latest COVID-19 information from NYC DOHMH

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-main.page>

Westchester County Department of Health

For the latest breakdown of positive cases in Westchester County as of July 1, 2021

<https://wcgis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/280339d96db14efd9cc304dba0f3a71d>

For the latest COVID-19 information in Westchester including how to avoid the latest vaccine scams offering earlier access to vaccines.

<https://health.westchestergov.com/2019-novel-coronavirus>

Putnam County Department of Health

Breakdown of positive cases by towns in Putnam County as of July 2, 2021-

<https://www.putnamcountyny.com/covid19/>

For the latest COVID-19 information

<https://www.putnamcountyny.com/health/coronavirus/>

Dutchess County Department of Health

Breakdown of positive cases in Dutchess County as of July 5, 2021

<https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/DBCH/covid-19-dashboard.htm>

For the latest COVID-19 information:

<https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/DBCH/2019-Novel-Coronavirus.htm>

Orange County Department of Health

Updated COVID-19 dashboard for Orange County, NY as of July 2, 2021

<https://ocnygis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/21de1fb5ce0c480f95dc0cf2b8b83b71>

For the latest COVID-19 information

<https://www.orangecountygov.com/1906/2019-Novel-Coronavirus-Information>

Rockland County Department of Health

Review Rockland County's dashboard with the latest COVID-19 information regarding cases as of July 2, 2021

<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/d074e0336e81449393a76d1768ceb096>

For the latest COVID-19 information

<https://rocklandgov.com/departments/health/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Healthcare

For the latest COVID-19 information for healthcare facilities from the Greater New York Hospital Association that covers hospitals in the tri-state area.

<https://www.gnyha.org/>



Center for Disaster Medicine Media

New York Medical College Leadership News:

NYMC highlights \$1M in state funds for disaster training
Westchester and Fairfield Business Journal

6/30/2021

<https://westfaironline.com/137912/nymc-highlights-1m-in-state-funds-for-disaster-training/>

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Sherlita Amler, M.D., M.S., clinical associate professor of pediatrics, adjunct professor of public health and senior fellow in the Center for Disaster Medicine

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Ronnie Myers, D.D.S., dean of TCDM

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NY Medical College receives \$1 million from state for bioterrorism, disaster response

MidHudson News

6/30/2021

<https://midhudsonnews.com/2021/06/30/ny-medical-college-receives-1-million-from-state-for-bioterrorism-disaster-response/>

Alan Kadish, M.D., president

Faculty News:

No New Revelation on Hydroxychloroquine and COVID-19

Fact Check

7/2/2021

<https://www.factcheck.org/2021/07/scicheck-no-new-revelation-on-hydroxychloroquine-and-covid-19/>

Neil W. Schluger, M.D., the Barbara and William Rosenthal Chair of the Department of Medicine

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