

8-31-2021

## COVID-19 Newsletter (Vol. 87)

Center for Disaster Medicine, New York Medical College

Follow this and additional works at: [https://touro scholar.touro.edu/nymc\\_covid19\\_newsletter](https://touro scholar.touro.edu/nymc_covid19_newsletter)



Part of the [Infectious Disease Commons](#), [Influenza Humans Commons](#), and the [Virus Diseases Commons](#)

---



**NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE**

A MEMBER OF THE TOURO COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

**Center for Disaster Medicine**



**Tuesday, August 31, 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

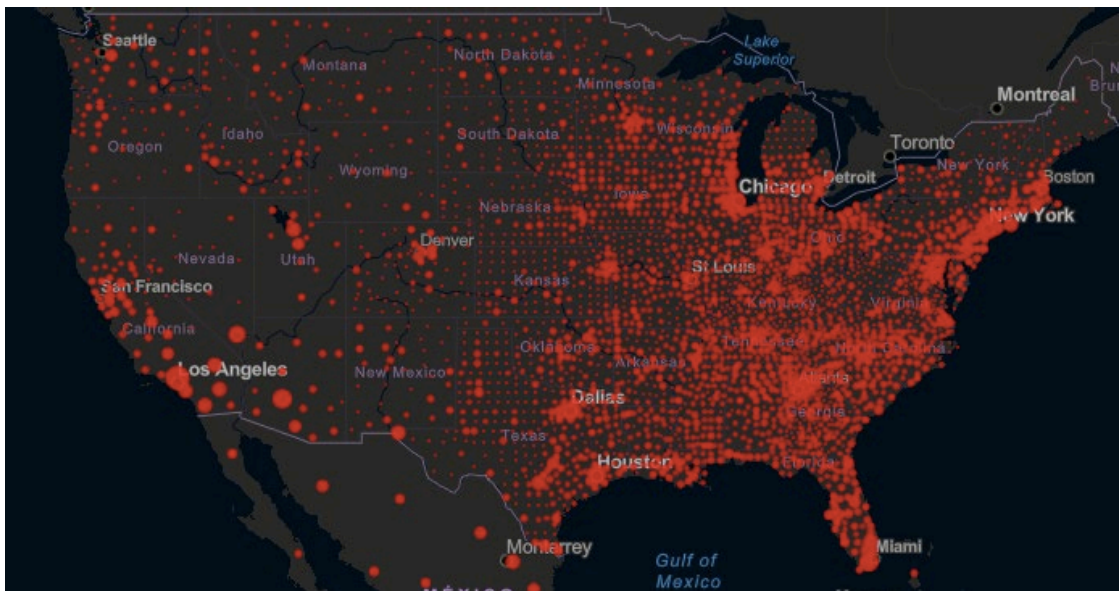
Center for Disaster Medicine

## **COVID-19 Statistics**

	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Total Vaccine Doses Admin.
Worldwide	217,088,286	4,509, 852	5,244,324,964
United States	39,057,368	638,711	368,419,046
New Jersey	1,088,330	26,849	11,084,973
New York	2,269,038	54,199	24,328,502
Connecticut	370,708	8,358	4,817,190

Information as of 8/31/21 at 0100 EDT. Source: <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>

## **United States COVID-19 Case Map / GIS**



## **Center for Disaster Medicine Updates**

- 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](#)**

## **Federal**

- As of August 30, 2021, Whole of Government Focuses on Lifesaving Measures, Power Restoration for Hurricane Ida Response- A tremendous coordination effort is taking place at all levels of government and utilizing assets from across the nation to conduct life-safety and rescue efforts in Louisiana and Mississippi.  
<https://www.fema.gov/press-release/20210830/whole-government-focuses-lifesaving-measures-power-restoration-hurricane-ida>

## **The White**

On August 27, 2021, President Biden provided an update on the COVID-19 Response and the Vaccination Program- Jeff Zients, Dr. Walensky and Dr. Fauci provided an update regarding COVID-19 response to the public.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/press-briefings/2021/08/27/press-briefing-by-white-house-covid-19-response-team-and-public-health-officials-52/>

On August 27, 2021, President Biden provided a statement on the Investigation into the Origins of COVID-19.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/08/27/statement-by-president-joe-biden-on-the-investigation-into-the-origins-of-covid-%e2%81%a019/>

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)**

Biden-Harris Administration Releases Medicaid and CHIP Guidance Targeting Vaccination and Testing for COVID-19- As part of its implementation of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP), the Biden-Harris Administration issued guidance that provides essential information to states as they navigate the options available to advance COVID-19 vaccination and testing, and the Medicaid program's broader aim of providing much-needed health coverage for millions of eligible individuals.

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2021/08/30/biden-harris-administration-releases-medicaid-and-chip-guidance-targeting-vaccination-and-testing-for-covid-19.html>

For the latest COVID-19 information from HHS

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

## **National Institutes of Health (NIH)**

NIH launches study of extra COVID-19 vaccine dose in people with autoimmune disease- The National Institutes of Health has begun a clinical trial to assess the antibody response to an extra dose of an authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccine in people with autoimmune disease who did not respond to an original COVID-19 vaccine regimen. The trial also will investigate whether pausing immunosuppressive therapy for autoimmune disease improves the antibody response to an extra dose of a COVID-19 vaccine in this population. The Phase 2 trial is sponsored and funded by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of NIH, and is being conducted by the NIAID-funded Autoimmunity Centers of Excellence.

<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/nih-launches-study-extra-covid-19-vaccine-dose-people-autoimmune-disease>

View the latest COVID-19 information from NIH

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

---

## **United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)**

As of August 27, 2021, 407 tests and sample collection devices are authorized by the FDA under emergency use authorizations (EUAs). These include 285 molecular tests and sample collection devices, 88 antibody and other immune response tests and 34 antigen tests. There are 60 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, seven antigen over-the-counter (OTC) at-home tests and two molecular OTC at-home tests. The FDA has authorized 14 antigen tests

and eight molecular tests for serial screening programs. The FDA has also authorized 613 revisions to EUA authorizations.

<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-august-27-2021>

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)**

On August 30, 2021, the CDC provided a statement following ACIP Pfizer-BioNTech Vote- CDC Director Rochelle P. Walensky, M.D., M.P.H., endorsed the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' (ACIP) recommendation for use of the Pfizer-BioNTech's licensed vaccine for people 16 and older.

<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/s0830-pfizer-vote.html>

On August 27, 2021, the CDC provided updated guidance regarding COVID-19 Vaccines for Moderately to Severely Immunocompromised People- CDC continues to recommend the use of the newly FDA-approved Pfizer-BioNTech (COMIRNATY) COVID-19 Vaccine for people 16 years and older, as one of the recommended vaccines to protect against COVID-19. CDC continues to recommend the vaccine under an emergency use authorization (EUA) for adolescents 12 through 15 years old, as well as an additional mRNA dose for moderately to severely immunocompromised people.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/immuno.html>

On August 25, 2021, the CDC provided updated guidance regarding school testing and COVID-19- Given new evidence on the B.1.617.2 (Delta) variant, CDC has updated the guidance for fully vaccinated people. CDC recommends universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status. Children should return to full-time in-person learning in the fall with layered prevention strategies in place.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/school-testing.html>

CDC provides updated information about the variants in the United States- 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)**

Biden-Harris Administration Releases Medicaid and CHIP Guidance Targeting Vaccination and Testing for COVID-19- To help states support families and communities and to continue to address health disparities, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will provide guidance to states about additional ARP funding for states to promote the importance of COVID-19 vaccination for eligible children and adults enrolled in Medicaid.

<https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/biden-harris-administration-releases-medicaid-and-chip-guidance-targeting-vaccination-and-testing>

Affordable Care Act's Shared Savings Program Continues to Improve Quality of Care While Saving Medicare Money During the COVID-19 Pandemic- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced today that Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) participating in the Medicare Shared Savings Program (Shared Savings Program) in 2020 earned performance payments (shared savings) totaling nearly \$2.3 billion while saving Medicare approximately \$1.9 billion, marking the fourth consecutive year of net savings for Medicare.

<https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/affordable-care-acts-shared-savings-program-continues-improve-quality-care-while-saving-medicare>

View the latest information from CMS

<https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/Emergency/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 August 31, 2021, the FDA has granted Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) to Moderna and Janssen/Johnson & Johnson. On August 23, 2021, the FDA granted full approval to Pfizer. Now with two vaccines with EUA and one vaccine with full FDA approval, 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 will update 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**

- Higher Education
  - A professor at the University of Georgia, who has previously retired but was hired back to teach an upper-level psychology course, quit the course midclass last week because a student refused to wear a face mask correctly. <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2021/08/30/covid-19-roundup-georgia-professor-quits-midclass>
- K-12
  - In Hoboken, New Jersey, the district's reopening plan requires students over age 12 to be vaccinated or face weekly testing. Many districts began mandating vaccination for school staff prior to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's approval of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for COVID-19, which was previously authorized for emergency use, and growing momentum for student mandates comes alongside a boost to those efforts following that approval. <https://www.k12dive.com/news/districts-begin-mandating-covid-19-vaccines-for-eligible-students/605654/>

## 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

- On August 25, 2021, Governor Kathy Hochul announced changes to New York State's \$800 million COVID-19 Pandemic Small Business Recovery Grant Program that will enable more small businesses to apply for funding. Businesses with revenues up to \$2.5 million can apply for grants, up from the previous threshold of \$500,000. Additionally, the limitation for businesses that received Federal Paycheck Protection Program loans has been increased from \$100,000 to \$250,000.

<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-announces-expanded-eligibility-800-million-covid-19-pandemic-small-business>

### New York State Department of Health (DOH)

On August 30, 2021, Governor Hochul updated New Yorkers on the state's progress combating COVID-19. "While we have come so far in containing COVID, the virus is still a threat to our communities - it is up to us to prevent it from spreading any further," Governor Hochul said. "Wear a mask, wash your hands and, if you haven't already, get vaccinated today. The vaccine is effective, it's safe, and it's available free of charge. It is the best protection we have against COVID."

<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-updates-new-yorkers-states-progress-combating-covid-19-5>

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>

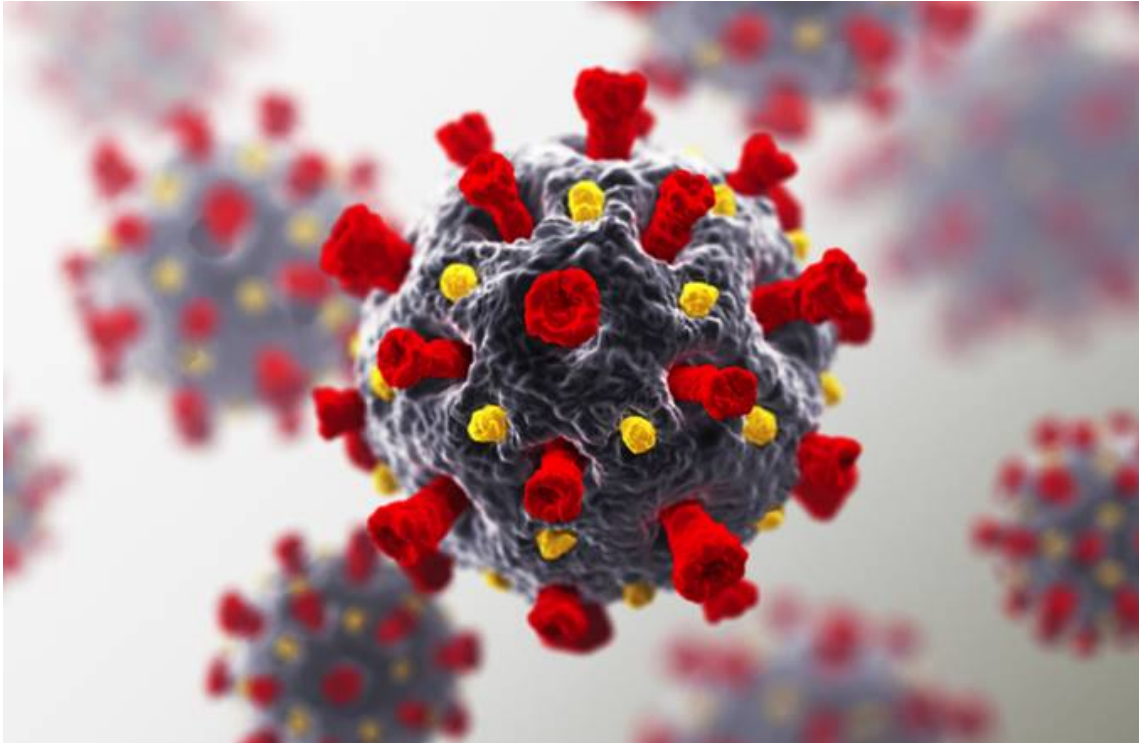
For the latest COVID-19 information from NYS DOH

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

---

## Connecticut

- As the State of Connecticut continues taking actions in response to the global spread of coronavirus disease (COVID-19), Governor Ned Lamont provided an update as of 3:00 p.m. on Monday, August 30, 2021.  
<https://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/News/Press-Releases/2021/08-2021/Governor-Lamont-Coronavirus-Update-August-30>
- On August 27, 2021, Governor Ned Lamont announced that the U.S. Department of Education has approved his administration's plan for use of the \$110 million the State of Connecticut is receiving from the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund. The funding was approved by Congress and signed into law by President Joe Biden earlier this year as part of the ongoing efforts to assist in recovery from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.  
<https://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/News/Press-Releases/2021/08-2021/Governor-Lamont-Announces-Federal-Approval-of-Plan-For-Coronavirus-Relief-Funding-in-Schools>



## Local Updates

---

### **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 August 29, 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 August 27 , 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 August 30, 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 August 30, 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 August 30, 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

### **WMCHHealth Post-COVID-19 Recovery Program began in June 2020**

The Journal News

8/24/2021

<https://www.lohud.com/videos/news/coronavirus/2021/08/24/wmchealth-post-covid-19-recovery-program-began-june-2020/8219935002/>

Gary Rogg, M.D., assistant professor of medicine

### **COVID long-hauler Catie Barber shares her story**

HV1

8/27/2021

<https://hudsonvalleyone.com/2021/08/27/covid-long-hauler-catie-barber-shares-her-story/>

Gary Rogg, M.D., assistant professor of medicine

### **Masking and Vaccinations are the Key Ingredients to Attain COVID-19 Herd Immunity**

Healthcare Business Today

8/28/2021

<https://www.healthcarebusinesstoday.com/masking-and-vaccinations-are-the-key-ingredients-to-attain-covid-19-herd-immunity/>

John Loike, Ph.D., interim director of the Master of Science Degree and the Graduate Certificate program in Medical Ethics and Humanities, SHSP

*Every effort is made to provide accurate and complete information in this newsletter. However, New York Medical College cannot guarantee that there will be no errors. NYMC makes no claims, promises or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the contents of the newsletters or the*

*articles linked herein and further expressly disclaims liability for errors and omissions in the contents of this newsletter.*

*This newsletter is for informational purposes only; it does not constitute medical advice. Always seek the advice of your physician or other qualified health provider with any questions you may have regarding a medical condition.*



New York Medical College  
Center for Disaster Medicine  
7 Dana Road Suite 511  
Valhalla, New York 10595  
914-594-1750

<https://www.nymc.edu/center-for-disaster-medicine/>