

10-12-2021

## COVID-19 Newsletter (Vol. 90)

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, October 12, 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

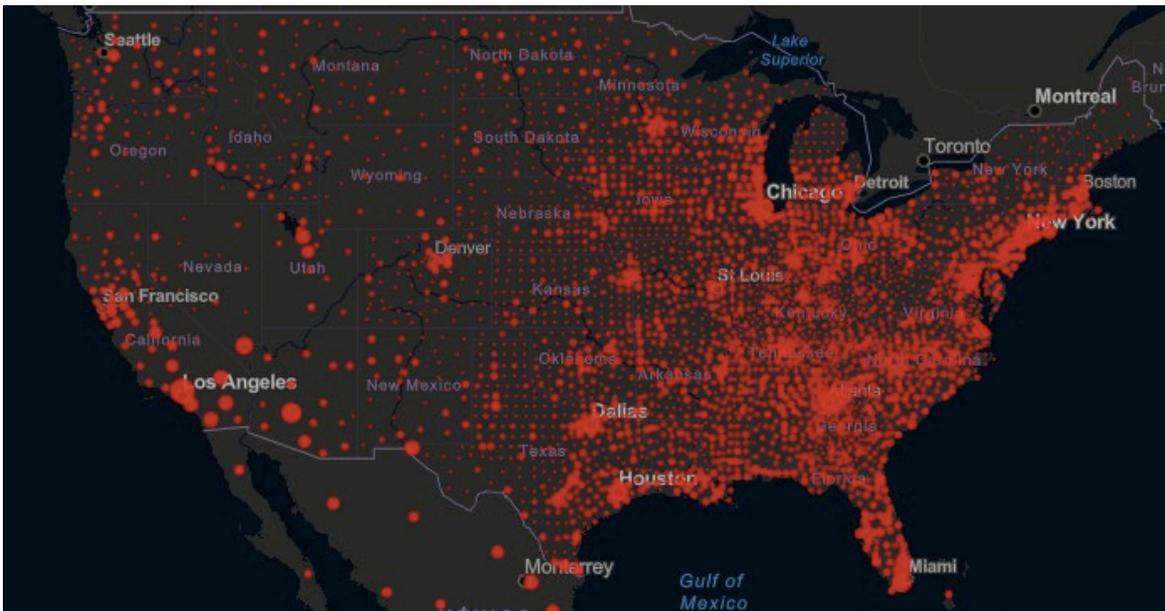
Center for Disaster Medicine

## COVID-19 Statistics

	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Total Vaccine Doses Admin.
Worldwide	238,257,886	4,857,239	6,493,282,167
United States	44,455,942	714,053	400,401,115
New Jersey	1,172,527	27,603	11,926,847
New York	2,480,082	55,749	26,370,560
Connecticut	394,008	8,667	5,150,595

Information as of 10/12/21 at 0200 EDT. Source: <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>

## United States COVID-19 Case Map / GIS



## **Center for Disaster Medicine Updates**

- On October 6, 2021, CDM staff provided life-saving training regarding CPR, First Aid and Stop the Bleed to members of the NYMC Public Safety Department. As the first line of

defense at NYMC, it is important that members of the department can handle any type of emergencies on campus.

- 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 October 7, 2021, President Biden provided a statement regarding the importance of COVID-19 vaccine requirements.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2021/10/07/remarks-by-president-biden-on-the-importance-of-covid-19-vaccine-requirements/>

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 October 6, 2021, Attorney General Merrick B. Garland and Secretary of Health and Human Services Xavier Becerra co-hosted a listening session with stakeholders on the bipartisan COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act, which was signed into law by President Biden on May 20. Under the legislation, the Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), in coordination with the COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force and community-based organizations, are required to issue guidance aimed at raising awareness of hate crimes during the COVID-19 pandemic. The session was moderated by Associate Attorney General Vanita Gupta

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2021/10/06/hhs-awards-2-billion-in-fiscal-year-2021-to-help-americans-access-hiv-care-support-services-and-medication.html>

For the latest COVID-19 information from HHS

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

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

More than 140,000 U.S. children lost a primary or secondary caregiver due to the COVID-19 pandemic. One U.S. child loses a parent or caregiver for every four COVID-19 deaths, a new modeling study published in *Pediatrics* reveals. The findings illustrate orphanhood as a hidden and ongoing secondary tragedy caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and emphasizes that identifying and caring for these children throughout their development is a necessary and urgent part of the pandemic response – both for as long as the pandemic continues, as well as in the post-pandemic era.

<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/more-140000-us-children-lost-primary-or-secondary-caregiver-due-covid-19-pandemic>

People with substance use disorders may be at higher risk for SARS-CoV-2 breakthrough infections- An analysis of electronic health records of nearly 580,000 fully vaccinated people in the United States found that the risk of SARS-CoV-2 breakthrough infection among vaccinated patients with substance use disorders was low overall, but higher than the risk among vaccinated people without substance use disorders. The study was published today in World Psychiatry and led by researchers at the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), part of the National Institutes of Health, and Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio.

<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/people-substance-use-disorders-may-be-higher-risk-sars-cov-2-breakthrough-infections>

View the latest COVID-19 information from NIH

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

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

On October 8, 2021, 415 tests and sample collection devices are authorized by the FDA under emergency use authorizations (EUAs). These include 290 molecular tests and sample collection devices, 89 antibody and other immune response tests and 36 antigen tests. There are 65 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, eight antigen over-the-counter (OTC) at-home tests and two molecular OTC at-home tests. The FDA has authorized 16 antigen tests

and eight molecular tests for serial screening programs. The FDA has also authorized 642 revisions to EUA authorizations.

<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-october-8-2021>

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 October 8, 2021, the COVID-19 Science Update summarized new and emerging scientific data for public health professionals to meet the challenges of this fast-moving pandemic. Staff from the CDC COVID-19 Response and the CDC Library systematically review literature in the WHO COVID-19 database and select publications and preprints for public health priority topics in the CDC Science Agenda for COVID-19 and CDC COVID-19 Response Health Equity Strategy.

[https://www.cdc.gov/library/covid19/10082021\\_covidupdate.html](https://www.cdc.gov/library/covid19/10082021_covidupdate.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)**

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 October 12, 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.

On October 7, 2021, the CDC updated its guidance regarding the Pfizer booster and who is eligible to get it at this time.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/booster-shot.html>

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

- Learning loss -- the idea that pandemic-era students failed to stay on the learning trajectory they would have been expected to follow in normal times -- is much discussed in elementary and secondary education. But it isn't talked about much in higher education, which makes sense, given that colleges and universities collectively spend a lot less time than elementary and high schools trying to quantify students' learning. But in survey after survey the past 18 months, including those done by *Inside Higher Ed* and College Pulse as part of the Student Voice project, students and faculty members alike consistently say they believe students have learned less than they usually do. A recent episode of *Inside Higher Ed's* news and analysis podcast, The Key, explored what colleges and universities face as they welcome students back into their physical classrooms this fall, and how professors and staff members who work with students might go about understanding which students have been set back and in what ways, and how to get them back on track. <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2021/10/07/dealing-college-students'-learning-loss-key-podcast>
- K-12
  - According to the 2021 Building A Grad Nation report from the America's Promise Alliance, an estimated three million students stopped going to school altogether when the COVID-19 pandemic forced a transition to virtual learning. The greatest impacts were felt by traditionally underserved groups, including students of color, English learners and those from low-income families. According to the report, early evidence doesn't show a significant drop in graduation rates for the class of 2020, though the nation is off-track to reach a 90 percent graduation rate goal. The rate hit an all-time high of 85.8 percent in 2019, but the report cautions that without focus from states on sustaining improvements for student groups including English learners and those with disabilities, that number could become a high-water mark. <https://www.k12dive.com/news/how-will-pandemic-learning-impact-graduation-rates-long-term/607734/>
  - Lawmakers and school leaders have expressed concerns around schools' continued limited access to COVID-19 tests, as well as slim testing bandwidth due to staff shortages for administering and documenting regular testing. The shortage persists despite billions of dollars invested by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services to expand school-based screening for both symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals. In places where funds are limited, staff bandwidth is slim or distribution is slow, some districts are compelled to forego regular testing, despite screening being a central part of guidance released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://www.k12dive.com/news/school-covid-19-testing-hit-with-supply-chain-delays-bandwidth-challenges/607805/>

## 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 Kathy Hochul announced that \$125 million in state funding is now available to help landlords who could not participate in the New York State Emergency Rental Assistance Program due to a federal requirement for tenants to participate in the application process. Administered by the State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance and accepting applications starting Thursday, October 7, the Landlord Rental Assistance Program provides up to 12 months of past-due rent to landlords who are ineligible for the federally funded program because their tenants either declined to complete an application or vacated the residence with arrears. Priority will be given to those landlords owning small-to-medium-sized properties. <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-announces-125-million-landlord-rent-relief-new-york-state>
- "As we reach this milestone of 85 percent of adult New Yorkers with at least one dose, we are one step closer to finally putting an end to this pandemic and getting our lives back to normal," Governor Hochul said. "While this is a momentous achievement, we still have communities lagging behind in vaccinations. The most important thing is getting vaccinated if you're in a high risk setting or immunocompromised. I urge all New Yorkers to get vaccinated to keep yourselves and those around you safe." <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-announces-major-milestone-achieved-85-adult-new-yorkers-have-received-least>

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

On October 11, 2021, Governor Kathy Hochul updated New Yorkers on the state's progress combating COVID-19. "Wearing a mask, washing your hands, getting your vaccine - easy, effective things you can do to keep COVID at bay," Governor Hochul said. "It costs nothing to keep your community safe and healthy while also protecting yourself and your loved ones. If you haven't already, get your vaccine today. It's free, effective, and readily available."

<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-updates-new-yorkers-states-progress-combating-covid-19-46>

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>

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## **New Jersey**

- Governor Phil Murphy announced that an additional \$10.2 million in support has been allocated to the Small Business Lease Emergency Assistance Grant Program (SBL-EAGP). The additional funding will be used to provide grants up to \$10,000 to businesses currently in the pipeline for the program. The program will continue to assist small business owners impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic which also assists landlords, many of whom are also small businesses.

<https://www.nj.gov/governor/news/news/562021/approved/20211006a.shtml>

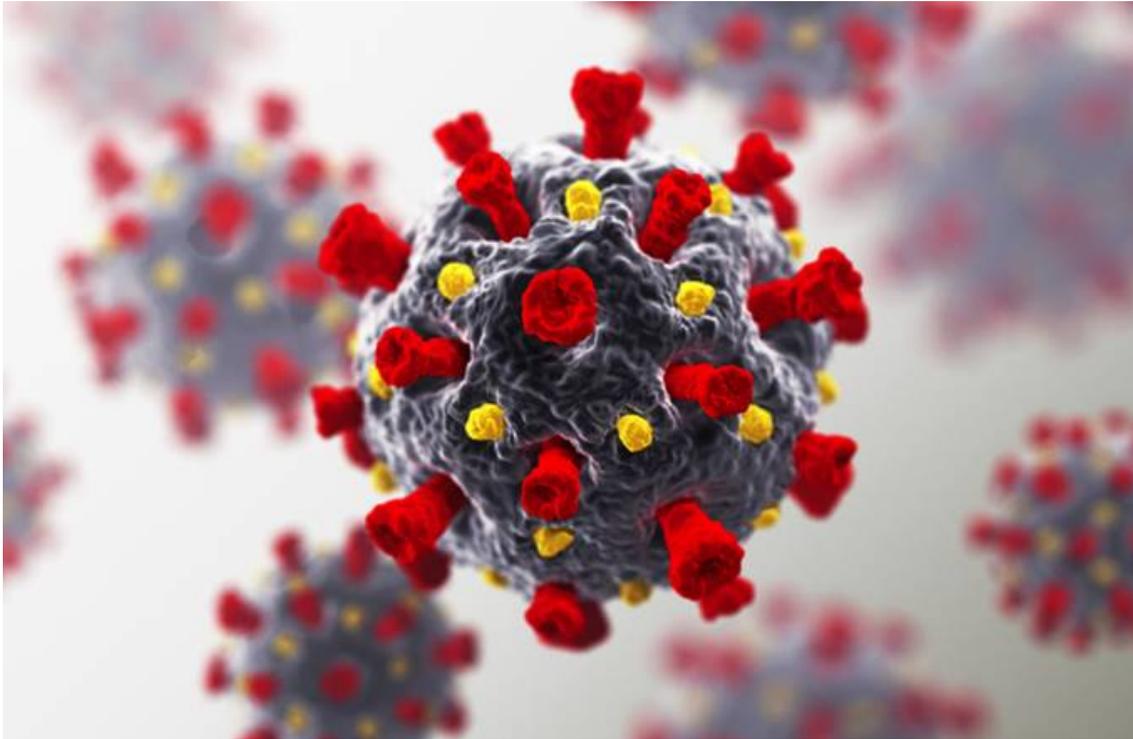
- Governor Murphy signed Executive Order No. 267, which proactively addresses the risks associated with duplication of benefits among state, county, and local programs funded with American Rescue Plan State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. The Order directs the Governor's Disaster Recovery Office to work closely with the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs and the Office of the State Comptroller, as well as all 21 counties and 565 municipalities that received funding, to ensure that the state fully maximizes its \$6.2 billion in American Rescue Plan State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds and complies with U.S. Treasury rules to guard against fraud, waste, and abuse.

<https://www.nj.gov/governor/news/news/562021/approved/20211008b.shtml>

## **Connecticut**

- Connecticut has recorded fewer COVID-19 cases per capita than any other U.S. state over recent weeks, and experts say there's one simple explanation above all others: vaccination. "If you look at the relationship between vaccination coverage and new cases, they seem to be strongly related," said Dr. David Banach, an epidemiologist at UConn Health. "I think that offers a good part of the explanation."

<https://www.courant.com/coronavirus/hc-news-coronavirus-connecticut-fewest-cases-vaccination-20211010-rxwfk7lvvva2zbt5te3mraivhe-story.html>



## Local Updates

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### **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 October 7, 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 October 7, 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 October 11, 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 October 8, 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 October 8, 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:**

#### **Are vaccine mandates un-American? Ask the father of our country**

The Hill

10/5/2021

<https://thehill.com/opinion/healthcare/575241-are-vaccine-mandates-un-american-ask-the-father-of-our-country?rnd=1633380862>

Edward C. Halperin, M.D., M.A., chancellor and chief executive officer

### **Faculty News:**

#### **COVID-19 Crisis and Mental Health Challenges Among Youth: An Opinion Piece**

United Nations

October 2021

<https://www.un.org/en/academic-impact/covid-19-crisis-and-mental-health-challenges-among-youth-opinion-piece>

Padmini Murthy, M.D., M.P.H., M.S., M.Phil., CHES, professor of public health and global health director and clinical assistant professor of family and community medicine

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