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COVID-19 Newsletter

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Center for Disaster Medicine, New York Medical College

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Tuesday November 9, 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	250,356,392	5,055,566	7,286,150,956
United States	46,613,141	755,634	430,487,234
New Jersey	1,208,321	28,092	12,764,085
New York	2,594,515	56,749	28,113,246
Connecticut	405,910	8,790	5,575,746

Information as of 11/9/21 at 0100 EST. 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 - <u>The COVID-19 Vaccine: What to Tell Your Patients</u>

The White House

On November 4, 2021, President Biden made a statement regarding vaccination requirements in the United States.

https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/11/04/statement-by-president-joe-biden-on-vaccination-requirements/

On November 4, 2021, Biden Administration announced details of two major vaccination policies. First, the Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) announced the details of a requirement for employers with 100 or more employees to ensure each of their workers is fully vaccinated or tests for COVID-19 on at least a weekly basis. Second, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) at the Department of Health and Human Services announced the details of its requirement that health care workers at facilities participating in Medicare and Medicaid are fully vaccinated.

https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/11/04/fact-sheet-biden-administration-announces-details-of-two-major-vaccination-policies/

On November 3, 2021, President Biden made remarks on the authorization of the COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 5 to 11- After months of rigorous and independent scientific review, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)authorized and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommended the COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 5 through 11. https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2021/11/03/remarks-by-president-biden-on-the-authorization-of-the-covid-19-vaccine-for-children-ages-5-to-11/

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)

Statement from HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra on COVID-19 Vaccines for 5-11 Year Olds-Following the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) recommendation to make 5-11 year old children eligible for COVID-19 vaccines after the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA)'s authorization, HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra issued this statement on the landmark moment to increase children's protection during this pandemic:

https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2021/11/02/statement-hhs-secretary-xavier-becerra-covid-19-vaccines-5-11-year-olds.html

For the latest COVID-19 information from HHS https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/coronavirus/index.html

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

NIH scientists identify mechanism that may influence infectivity of SARS-CoV-2 variants-Scientists at the National Institutes of Health have found that a process in cells may limit infectivity of SARS-CoV-2, and that mutations in the alpha and delta variants overcome this effect, potentially boosting the virus's ability to spread. The findings were published online in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. The study was led by Kelly Ten Hagen, Ph.D., a senior investigator at NIH's National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR).

https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/nih-scientists-identify-mechanism-may-influence-infectivity-sars-cov-2-variants

In-person school during COVID-19 must address needs of underserved communities- Safe, in-person school during the COVID-19 pandemic requires research that involves community engagement in underserved or vulnerable areas of the United States, writes Alison Cernich, Ph.D., deputy director of NIH's Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) and colleagues. Earlier studies on safety measures in schools (e.g., masking, physical distancing and symptom monitoring) were often conducted in affluent and ethnically homogeneous neighborhoods. To address health disparities during the pandemic, NIH launched Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics – Underserved Populations (RADx-UP), which includes the Return to School Diagnostic Testing Approaches initiative. Projects from this initiative are also summarized in this special supplement of Pediatrics.

https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/person-school-during-covid-19-must-address-needs-underserved-communities

When to Test offers free online tool to help individuals make informed COVID-19 testing decisions- Demand is increasing for COVID-19 testing among individuals and families, especially as winter approaches and people shift to indoor activities. The National Institutes of Health's Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics (RADx) initiative today announced the launch of the When To Test Calculator for Individuals, a companion to the version for organizations introduced last winter. By responding to just a few prompts, the new individual impact calculator indicates whether a person should get a test—now or soon.

https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/when-test-offers-free-online-tool-help-individuals-make-informed-covid-19-testing-decisions

View the latest COVID-19 information from NIH https://www.nih.gov/coronavirus

United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

As of November 5, 2021, 419 tests and sample collection devices are authorized by the FDA under emergency use authorizations (EUAs). These include 291 molecular tests and sample collection devices, 90 antibody and other immune response tests and 38 antigen tests. There are 66 molecular authorizations and one antibody authorization that can be used with home-collected samples. There is one EUA for a molecular prescription athome test, three EUAs for antigen prescription athome tests, nine EUAs for antigen overthe-counter (OTC) athome tests and three EUAs for molecular OTC athome tests. The FDA has authorized 16 antigen tests and nine molecular tests for serial screening programs. The FDA has also authorized 677 revisions to test EUA authorizations. https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-november-5-2021

On November 5, 2021, the FDA authorized another over-the-counter (OTC) COVID-19 test. The FDA issued an emergency use authorization (EUA) for the iHealth COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Test, an OTC COVID-19 antigen diagnostic test that delivers results in 15 minutes. The company anticipates producing 100 million tests per month, with capacity increasing to 200 million per month in early 2022. https://www.fda.gov/media/153925/download

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)

Importance of One Health for COVID-19 and Future Pandemics- November 3, 2021, marks the sixth annual One Health Day, a global campaign that highlights the need for a One Health approach to address shared health threats by recognizing the interconnection between people, animals and our environment. This approach is more important than ever as we navigate the COVID-19 pandemic. The virus that causes COVID-19, SARS-CoV-2, is a zoonotic virus, which means it can spread between people and animals. As more animals are reported infected with the COVID-19 virus, it becomes increasingly clear that a One Health approach is crucial to address new disease threats that affect both people and animals.

https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/s1103-one-health.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 isimportant 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 8:00 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 Issues Emergency Regulation Requiring COVID-19 Vaccination for Health Care Workers- The Biden-Harris Administration is requiring COVID-19 vaccination of eligible staff at health care facilities that participate in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. The emergency regulation issued by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) today protects those fighting this virus on the front lines while also delivering assurances to individuals and their families that they will be protected when seeking care.

https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/biden-harris-administration-issues-emergency-regulation-requiring-covid-19-vaccination-health-care

View the latest information from CMS

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

Vaccines

In this section, vaccine-related information from various sources will be collected, reviewed, and tabulated here. As of November 9, 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 U.S. COVID-19 Vaccine, deliveries and administration, maps, charts, and data updated daily by 8:00 p.m. 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

CDC Recommends Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccine for Children 5 to 11 Years- On November 2, 2021, the CDC Director Rochelle P. Walensky, M.D., M.P.H., endorsed the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' (ACIP) recommendation that children 5 to 11 years old be vaccinated against COVID-19 with the Pfizer-BioNTech pediatric vaccine. CDC now expands vaccine recommendations to about 28 million children in the United States in this age group and allows providers to begin vaccinating them as soon as possible.

https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/s1102-PediatricCOVID-19Vaccine.html

On November 8, 2021, Governor Kathy Hochul updated New Yorkers on the state's progress combating COVID-19. "I'm proud of New Yorkers for all of the progress we've made in fighting this pandemic," Governor Hochul said. "Each day we get closer to beating COVID-19, but we cannot get complacent. This vaccine is our best weapon, and now children can begin getting vaccinated as well. We must all be an ambassador of this vaccine and tell our loved ones to get vaccinated as soon as possible."

https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-updates-new-yorkers-states-progress-combating-covid-19-74

On November 5, 2021, Governor Kathy Hochul announced the launch of a new website, clinical guidance and additional information and resources in the effort to vaccinate New York State's 5-11-year-old children against COVID-19. The Pfizer-BioNTech pediatric COVID-19 vaccine, which has been authorized by the Food and Drug Administration for emergency use in the United States and recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as well as New York State's Clinical Advisory Task Force, is already being administered by providers in the state.

https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-announces-new-guidance-and-resources-support-vaccination-5-11-year-old

On November 2, 2021, Governor Hochul made remarks regarding vaccines for children 5-11 years old. "Tonight's announcement is an important step in fighting this pandemic. New York State's Clinical Advisory Task Force unanimously agreed with the CDC. Next the New York State Department of Health will issue guidance to the public. "I encourage parents to reach out to their pediatricians and prepare to get their children vaccinated. New York State has been making preparations for this moment, and we will waste no time to help get shots administered through all available channels so that we can protect our kids from COVID-19 and finally put an end to the pandemic."

https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/statement-governor-kathy-hochul-cdcs-recommendation-pfizer-vaccine-5-11-year-olds

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/ianssen.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. As of October 16, 2021, the fully FDA approved Pfizer vaccine will now be known as COMIRNATY for ages 16 and older. 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
 - The Biden administration unveiled the details of a new rule requiring employers with 100 or more employees to mandate employees either be vaccinated against COVID-19 or undergo weekly testing. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration rule requires employees be fully vaccinated by January 4 in order to avoid COVID-19 testing requirements. It also requires employers to ensure that unvaccinated employees wear face masks in the workplace. The OSHA rule promises to further expand the number of colleges subject to a federal vaccine mandate -- albeit a soft mandate in this case, with a testing alternative. Steven Bloom, assistant vice president for government relations at the American Council on Education, said the OSHA rule would apply to all private colleges with 100 or more employees as well as to public colleges in the 26 states and two territories where government workers are under OSHA's jurisdiction.

https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2021/11/05/new-federal-covid-19-vaccination-rule-affects-colleges

- K-12
 - Though data is still forthcoming, anecdotal evidence suggests the return to in-person learning may be coupled with a spike in bullying incidents. The most recent data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's 2019 Youth Risk Behavior Survey revealed 25 percent of teens nationwide reported being bullied. CDC is continuing to gather data for 2021, which won't be available until 2023, said Melissa Mercado-Crespo, lead behavioral scientist in youth violence and emerging topics, in an email. The agency is also looking into the ways COVID-19 has changed attendance in schools and how that has impacted bullying

behaviors, Mercado-Crespo said. To read more, visit: https://www.k12dive.com/news/bullying-experts-advise-maintaining-focus-in-3-areas-with-students-back-in/609468/

Clinical Trials

To view the latest information on clinical trials regarding COVID-19 <a href="https://www.clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/results?recrs=&cond=Covid19&term=&cntry=&state=&city=&dist="https://www.clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/results?recrs=&cond=Covid19&term=&cntry=&state=&city=&dist="https://www.clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/results?recrs=&cond=Covid19&term=&cntry=&state=&city=&cit

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 the launch of a new website, clinical guidance and additional information and resources in the effort to vaccinate New York State's 5-11-year-old children against COVID-19. The Pfizer-BioNTech pediatric COVID-19 vaccine, which has been authorized by the Food and Drug Administration for emergency use in the United States and recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as well as New York State's Clinical Advisory Task Force, is already being administered by providers in the state. "This is the moment all of us have been waiting for, the opportunity to protect more of our children from this dangerous virus," Governor Hochul said. "As we head into the holiday season, I urge all parents and guardians to reach out to their pediatricians and family physicians to get their 5 11 year-olds vaccinated against COVID-19. We finally have this vaccine available to help keep our children, as well as our loved ones, safe and healthy, and it is critical that we take advantage of it." https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-announces-new-guidance-and-resources-support-vaccination-5-11-year-old
- Governor Kathy Hochul, coinciding with the reopening of international borders, announced a comprehensive \$450 million "Bring Back Tourism, Bring Back Jobs" inclusive recovery package to support New York State's hardest-hit tourism sector

workers, revitalize the state's tourism industry, and support businesses started just prior to or during the pandemic. Governor Hochul made the announcement at the Museum of Natural History, joined by representatives from I LOVE NY, NY Forever, tourism and business groups, as well as labor groups representing workers in the tourism industry. This package of programs represents a multi-faceted approach to revitalizing the industry through assistance for workers, investments in small businesses, and consumer-focused marketing around the nation and the world. https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-announces-major-450-million-bring-back-tourism-bring-back-jobs-inclusive

New York State Department of Health (DOH)

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

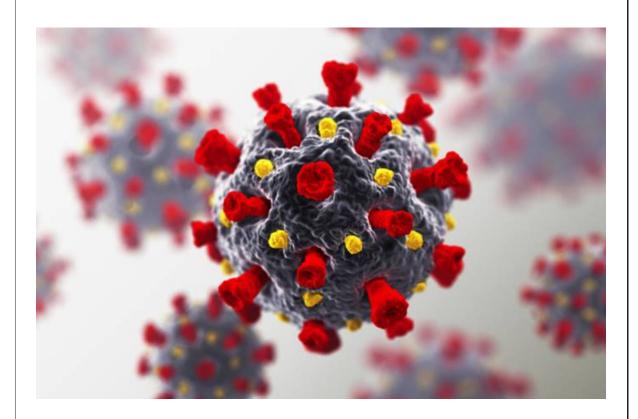
• New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy announced an additional \$10 million in funding to support the creation of a third phase of the Sustain & Serve NJ Program, bringing the total program funding to nearly \$45 million. Launched by the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA) in December 2020, Sustain & Serve NJ has provided eligible entities with grants to support the purchase of meals from New Jersey-based restaurants that have been negatively impacted by COVID-19. The meals have then been distributed to families in

need. https://www.nj.gov/governor/news/news/562021/approved/20211105a.shtml

Connecticut

Governor Ned Lamont and Connecticut Department of Public Health Commissioner Dr.
 Manisha Juthani announced that COVID-19 vaccines are now available to be
 administered in Connecticut to children ages 5 through 11. The availability of the
 vaccines for this age group follows the recent recommendations of the U.S. Food and
 Drug Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. With this
 announcement, nearly all of Connecticut's school-aged children are eligible to receive a

- COVID-19 vaccine. This roll-out is a critical tool to help keep children in school and protect not just children themselves, but also their parents, family members, teachers, and school staff. It is estimated that about 277,630 children between ages 5 and 11 live in Connecticut. https://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/News/Press-Releases/2021/11-2021/Governor-Lamont-and-Public-Health-Commissioner-Announce-COVID-19-Vaccines-Now-Available-to-Children
- Governor Lamont today announced the rollout of the Screen and Stay initiative for
 Connecticut schools that choose to participate. Under the initiative, students and staff
 identified as close contacts to a known COVID-19 case but who are not yet fully
 vaccinated will be able to remain in school if they were wearing masks and don't develop
 symptoms. The initiative will bring immediate relief to the frequent and repeated
 quarantines that continue to impact student learning and place a burden on working
 families. The innovative, multi-agency solution will aid school districts through the
 remainder of the fall. https://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/News/Press-Releases/2021/11-2021/Governor-Lamont-Announces-the-Screen-and-Stay-Initiative-for-Connecticut-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 November 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 November 4, 2021https://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 November 6, 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 November 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 November 8, 2021

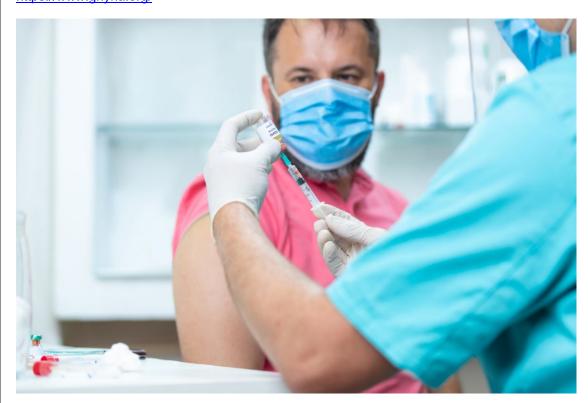
https://www.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/d074e0336e81449393a76d1768ceb096

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:
Children 5-11 may be able to get COVID-19 shot next week
News 12 Westchester

10/27/2021

https://westchester.news12.com/children-5-11-may-be-able-to-get-covid-19-shot-next-week Robert W. Amler, M.D., M.B.A., dean of the School of Health Sciences and Practice and vice president of government affairs

Faculty News:

Pfizer Shot Cleared for Kids 5 to 11 in Pandemic Milestone

Bloomberg Law 10/29/2021

https://news.bloomberglaw.com/health-law-and-business/pfizer-vaccine-for-kids-expected-to-get-fda-authorization-friday

Michael H. Gewitz, M.D., professor of pediatrics and vice chair of the Department of Pediatrics

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