

8-9-2022

COVID-19 Newsletter (Vol. 131)

Center for Disaster Medicine, New York Medical College

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From: [NYMC_COVID19Newsletter](#) on behalf of [Disaster Medicine](#)
To: NYMC_COVID19NEWSLETTER@LISTSERV.TOURO.EDU
Subject: Center for Disaster Medicine Information Brief
Date: Tuesday, August 9, 2022 8:19:46 PM
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NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE

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Center for Disaster Medicine



Tuesday, August 9, 2022

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve, we are seeing other emerging public health threats/emergencies and we continue to address ongoing/emerging disaster issues, the Center for Disaster Medicine has been and will continue to be a source of reliable information, education and models for mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. As such we are expanding this informational document to address the broader areas addressed by the center while retaining critical COVID19 information. You will notice we have updated the name to CDM Info Brief. 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.

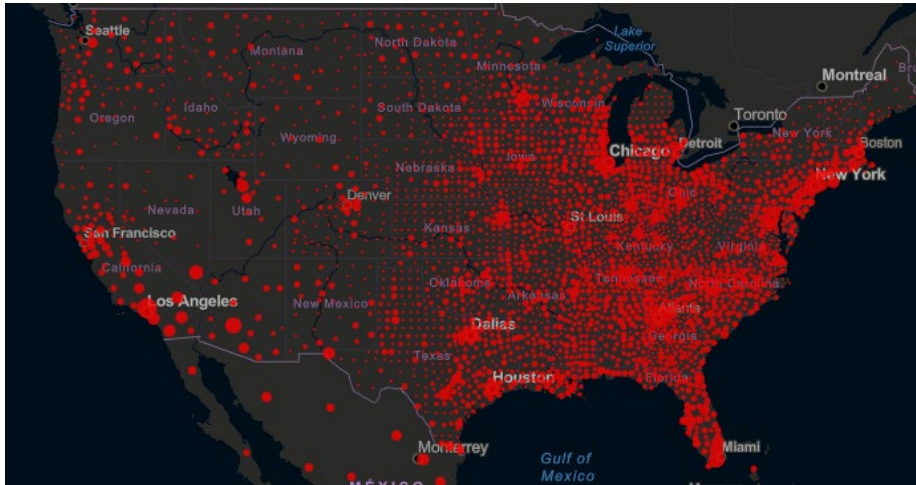
David Markenson, M.D., M.B.A.
Director
Center for Disaster Medicine

COVID-19 Statistics

	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Total Vaccine Doses Admin.
Worldwide	585,388,272	6,420,133	12,012,343,369
United States	92,241,199	1,034,020	600,631,310
New Jersey	2,621,249	34,343	17,969,587
New York	5,876,474	70,511	40,801,475
Connecticut	860,321	11,138	7,979,336

Information as of 8/9/22 at 0300 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.
- On July 21, 2022, CDM staff provided STOP THE BLEED workshop to staff and students of the NYMC community. This life-saving training is ongoing on a monthly basis so that everyone has an opportunity to raise their level of awareness and knowledge.

The White House

The official website of the White House will deliver updated information as the country grapples with converging crises. This will include actions to control current public health threats, 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.

- On August 4, the White House declared monkeypox a public health emergency. "We are prepared to take our response to the next level in addressing this virus and we urge every American to take monkeypox seriously," Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra said to reporters during a briefing on Thursday. A public health emergency can trigger grant funding and open up more resources for various aspects of a federal response. It also allows the Secretary to enter into contracts for treatments and other necessary medical supplies and equipment, as well as support emergency hospital services, among other things. Public health emergencies last for 90 days but can be extended by the

Secretary. CDC Director Rochelle Walensky, said the declaration will provide resources and increase access to care. She also said it will expand the CDC's ability to share data. Some have been calling for a federal public health emergency saying it will signal to the country that this is a serious outbreak. <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2022/08/04/1115676160/white-house-declares-monkeypox-a-public-health-emergency>
<https://www.whitehouse.gov>

COVID-19 Website

On March 30, 2022, Biden Administration Launched COVID.gov, a New One-Stop Shop Website for Vaccines, Tests, Treatments, Masks, and the Latest COVID-19 Information- a new website was launched in an effort to consolidate information for consumers.
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/03/30/fact-sheet-biden-administration-launches-covid-gov-a-new-one-stop-shop-website-for-vaccines-tests-treatments-masks-and-the-latest-covid-19-information/>

Health and Human Services (HHS)

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra announced that he will declare the ongoing spread of monkeypox virus in the United States a Public Health Emergency (PHE). This action will further strengthen and accelerate the Biden-Harris Administration's response in recognition of the continued rapid transmission of monkeypox in the U.S. and globally, and to signal the seriousness and urgency with which the Administration is responding. The announcement comes on the heels of President Biden appointing Robert Fenton of the Federal Emergency Management Agency as White House National Monkeypox Response Coordinator and Dr. Demetre Daskalakis of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as White House National Monkeypox Response Deputy Coordinator. "Ending the monkeypox outbreak is a critical priority for the Biden-Harris Administration. We are taking our response to the next level by declaring a public health emergency," said Secretary Becerra. "With today's declaration we can further strengthen and accelerate our response further." "President Biden has called on us to explore every option on the table to combat the monkeypox outbreak and protect communities at risk," said White House National Monkeypox Response Coordinator Robert Fenton. "We are applying lessons learned from the battles we've fought – from COVID response to wildfires to measles, and will tackle this outbreak with the urgency this moment demands." The PHE declaration is in concert with the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) work to explore new strategies that could help get vaccines to affected communities across the country, including using new dose-sparing approach that could increase the number of doses available, up to five-fold. The public health emergency also carries important implications for data sharing with the federal government. Fifty-one jurisdictions have already signed data use agreements that will provide the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with information related to vaccine administration. Declaring the outbreak an emergency may provide the justification that the remaining jurisdictions need to sign their agreements. Additionally, it provides authorities to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to collect testing and hospitalization data. As of today, HHS has shipped more than 602,000 doses of the JYNNEOS vaccine to states and jurisdictions, an increase of 266,000 in the past week. HHS has allocated 1.1 million doses to states and jurisdictions in total and is making more doses available as jurisdictions use their current supply. HHS also announced today that it has accelerated the delivery of an additional 150,000 doses to arrive in the U.S. next month. The doses, which were slated to arrive in November will now arrive in the U.S. in September. Today's announcements are part of the Biden-Harris Administration's comprehensive strategy to combat the monkeypox outbreak. The strategy includes significantly scaling the production and availability of vaccines, expanding testing capacity and making testing more convenient, reducing burdens in accessing treatments, and conducting robust outreach to stakeholders and members of the LGBTQI+ communities.
<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2022/08/04/biden-harris-administration-bolsters-monkeypox-response-hhs-secretary-becerra-declares-public-health-emergency.html>

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

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

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

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

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>

United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

- COVID-19 testing updates:
 - As of today, 439 tests and sample collection devices are authorized by the FDA under emergency use authorizations (EUAs). These include 302 molecular tests and sample collection devices, 85 antibody and other immune response tests, 51 antigen tests, and 1 diagnostic breath test. There are 78 molecular authorizations and 1 antibody authorization that can be used with home-collected samples. There is 1 EUA for a molecular prescription at-home test, 2 EUAs for antigen prescription at-home tests, 19 EUAs for antigen over-the-counter (OTC) at-home tests, and 3 for molecular OTC at-home tests.
 - The FDA has authorized 31 antigen tests and 8 molecular tests for serial screening programs. The FDA has also authorized 1070 revisions to EUA authorizations.

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>

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

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 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>

- The CDC has established a new website dedicated to the monkeypox virus and 2022 US outbreak. For more information, please visit
<https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/index.html>

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. 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
 - When students return to campus this fall, the latest COVID variant isn't the only virus they'll have to worry about. Monkeypox, a painful but nonfatal virus spread primarily through skin contact, is on the rise—and with the fall semester rapidly approaching, many institutions are starting to prepare for potential outbreaks. There have been more than 6,600 confirmed cases of monkeypox in the U.S., according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, over half of which were reported in the past two weeks. The Biden administration has declared the virus a national health emergency; California and Illinois declared states of emergency last week, as did New York City. Colleges have not been immune to monkeypox even during the quiet summer months, when places of potentially high transmission—such as dormitories, gyms and lecture halls—are largely empty. Confirmed cases have been reported at the University of Texas at Austin; Georgetown University and George Washington University in Washington, D.C.; and West Chester University and Bucknell University in Pennsylvania. Many experts are encouraging colleges to begin preparing for possible outbreaks, citing their densely populated residential settings and fluid social and sexual networks. Some institutions have begun that planning process in earnest. David Lakey, vice chancellor for health affairs and chief medical officer at the University of Texas system, said system officials have been meeting with risk managers at various UT campuses to discuss preventative measures, messaging campaigns and containment and care strategies. Read more at <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2022/08/05/colleges-prepare-potential-monkeypox-outbreaks>
- K-12
 - With educators still reeling from three years of a pandemic, schools are opening for a new school year in the midst of yet another public health emergency — this time monkeypox. The World Health Organization on July 23 declared monkeypox a public health emergency of international concern, making it something school nurses should be monitoring, said Linda Mendonca, president of the National Association of School Nurses. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has not released specific guidance for handling monkeypox in school settings. But that could change as more students return to classrooms to school and outbreaks possibly emerge, according to public school health experts. Read more about their suggested best practices at <https://www.k12dive.com/news/5-best-practices-as-schools-brace-for-monkeypox/628870/>

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

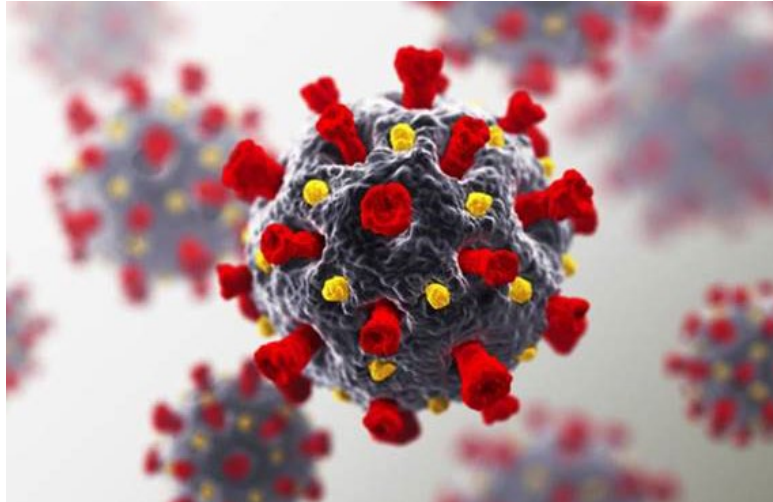
- Governor Kathy Hochul announced the launch of the Health Care and Mental Hygiene Worker Bonus program. Enacted in the Fiscal Year 2023 New York State Budget, the program includes \$1.3 billion allocated for the payment of recruitment and retention bonuses to certain health care and mental hygiene workers, a key initiative in the Governor's aim to increase the state's health care workforce by 20 percent over the next five years. Bonuses will be awarded to eligible workers who make less than \$125,000 annually and remain in their positions for at least six months. Disbursements will be commensurate with the number of hours worked and duration of service within designated vesting periods for up to a total of \$3,000 per employee. <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-launches-health-care-worker-bonus-program>
- Governor Kathy Hochul announced the latest round of the JYNNEOS vaccine that will be distributed to local health departments. To ensure all vaccine allotments across the country are being put to optimal use, the Phase 3 allocations are being divided by the federal government into three installments and delivered as the states administer vaccines. The first installment for the New York State Department of Health will be made up of 11,840 vaccines (or 40 percent of the Phase 3 total allocation to New York State). New York City will receive approximately 32,000 doses in the first installment of Phase 3, sent directly to the city health department from the federal government. <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-announces-latest-monkeypox-vaccine-distribution-following-phase-3-federal>
- Governor Kathy Hochul updated New Yorkers on the state's progress combating COVID-19. "As we continue to monitor the numbers and prepare for any potential surges in the Fall, I remind all New Yorkers to take advantage of the tools we have that help protect against and treat COVID-19," Governor Hochul said. "The vaccine and booster are the best tools we have to prevent serious hospitalization from COVID-19, and I encourage those who are not up to date on their vaccine and booster doses to get caught up immediately. Take a test if you feel unwell and if you do test positive, talk to your doctor about potential treatment."

New York State Department of Health (DOH)

For a list of COVID-19 positive cases by county in New York State-
<https://covid19tracker.health.ny.gov/views/NYS-COVID19-Tracker/NYSDOHCVID-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/NYSDOHCVID-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 a bill (S-2364 [t.e2ma.net]) to extend expanded permissions for restaurants, bars, distilleries, and breweries to use fixtures and equipment enabling them to serve patrons outdoors in private areas, on sidewalks, and in other municipally-designated outdoor areas. The permissions were set to expire November 30, 2022 but, will now be extended by two additional years to support the food and beverage industry, patrons, and local communities by facilitating opportunities to serve customers outdoors. "My Administration worked in collaboration with the Legislature to support the restaurant industry and their customers by expanding outdoor dining during the COVID-19 pandemic. We continue that support today by extending these expanded permissions for food and beverage establishments throughout our state," said Governor Murphy. "Supporting the success of our small businesses ultimately means supporting the success of our communities. Continuing this successful practice will not only benefit small business owners, but also the many patrons who have come to enjoy the atmosphere and opportunities outdoor dining offers." The Governor authorized municipalities to enable the expansion of outdoor dining during the COVID-19 pandemic to protect residents while supporting food and beverage establishments. Many business owners have continued to offer outdoor dining since beginning to offer outdoor seating during the summer of 2020. <https://www.state.nj.us/governor/news/news/562022/approved/20220803a.shtml>

Connecticut

- Governor Ned Lamont announced that beginning this week, the State of Connecticut will deliver \$30 million in grants to more than 1,700 of the state's hospitality sector businesses that suffered financial losses stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic. Businesses in this sector can anticipate receiving checks from the Connecticut Department of Revenue Services (DRS) that range in amounts from \$7,500 to \$49,999. The hospitality sector encompasses restaurants, hotels, entertainment venues, breweries, wineries, travel services, transportation services, and other businesses. Funding for the grants, which is known as the Connecticut Hospitality Industry Support Program and is being overseen by the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD), was approved as part of the state budget bill that Governor Lamont recently signed into law and is supported by money the state received from the federal American Rescue Plan Act. "So many locally-owned small businesses in the hospitality sector are continuing to recover from the pandemic, and any bit of relief that can be provided will help support them and their workers," Governor Lamont said. "These funds are being sent directly to employers to accelerate their continued growth and can be used as they best determine to help mitigate any financial losses stemming from the pandemic. I thank the Biden administration and Connecticut's Congressional delegation for delivering these funds to our state through the American Rescue Plan Act." <https://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/News/Press-Releases/2022/08-2022/Governor-Lamont-Announces-Grants-To-Support-Hospitality-Businesses-Impacted-by-the-Pandemic>

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)

New York City is currently the epicenter of the monkeypox outbreak in the United States. For the latest information including cases, symptoms, testing and vaccine information regarding monkeypox in New York City, please visit
<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/health/health-topics/monkeypox.page>

NYC DOHMH launched a new COVID-19 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>

Westchester County Department of Health

For the latest breakdown of positive cases in Westchester County as of August 7, 2022
<https://wcgis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/280339d96db14efd9cc304dba0f3a71d>

For the latest COVID-19 information in Westchester including vaccines for children.
<https://health.westchestergov.com/2019-novel-coronavirus>

Putnam County Department of Health

Breakdown of positive cases by towns in Putnam County as of August 5, 2022
<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 5, 2022
<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 5, 2022
<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 8, 2022
<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

NYMC Leadership News:

U.S. officials face backlash for slow response as monkeypox cases rise

Channel News Asia

8/6/2022

<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/watch/us-officials-face-backlash-slow-response-monkeypox-cases-rise-video-2864066>

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:

Gillibrand Calls For Defense Production Act For Monkeypox Vaccine

Patch

8/3/2022

<https://patch.com/new-york/rivertowns/gillibrand-calls-defense-production-act-monkeypox-vaccine>

Donald S. Chen, M.D., assistant professor of medicine

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Center for Disaster Medicine
7 Dana Road Suite 511
Valhalla, New York 10595
914-594-1750
<https://www.nymc.edu/center-for-disaster-medicine/>

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