



COVID-19 Digest Issue 75

April 1, 2022

CLINICAL PEARLS

- **Even mild illness with COVID-19 can turn into long COVID:**
 - [Results of a recent survey](#) of 436 Americans show that **long COVID is significantly associated with poorer long-term health status, worse quality of life, and psychological distress.** The study was based on outcomes seen in patients with acute COVID-19 between April 1 and July 28, 2020. **At long-term follow-up (6 to 11 months), 44% of the survey participants had persistent COVID-19 symptoms, and 56% did not.** Of the 221 participants who did not have persistent symptoms at long-term follow-up, 122 (55%) had recovered in under 1 month, 74 (33%) recovered in 1 to 3 months, 20 (9%) had recovered in 3 to 6 months, and 5 (2%) had recovered after 6 months.
 - **Among the survey participants with persistent symptoms, even those with mild illness reported a cluster of symptoms up to 6 months after diagnosis, including fatigue (31%), shortness of breath (20%), difficulty with concentration (9%), and loss of smell (9%).** While numerous previous studies have shown that up to 80% of patients with severe COVID develop long COVID, this study adds to a growing body of literature that suggests that even mild cases have the potential to turn into long COVID.
- **Loss of taste may linger 9 months after COVID-19:**
 - A [new research letter](#) shows that, **while complete loss of taste is uncommon, 9 months after COVID-19 diagnosis, 30% of patients still have an impaired sense of taste.** The observational, retrospective study included COVID-19 inpatients and outpatients from March 1 to May 31, 2020. A total of 214 patients were involved, with a mean age of 48.8 years. Of the patients seen at the hospital, 65.9% had loss of taste, and 34.1% had a reduced ability to taste during their initial illness. 192 patients with impaired taste (89.7%) also had olfactory dysfunction.
 - **Three months after diagnosis, 86.9% of patients had recovered their sense of taste, but after 9.5 months, 29.9% of patients still reported taste dysfunction. Patients who had persistent taste dysfunction reported a longer period of taste loss during their initial illness (median duration, 24 days), compared to patients who had their taste return (14 days during initial illness).** Of note, only two (3.1%) patients reported total loss of taste 9.5 months after infection.
- **[CDC's Updated Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Approved or Authorized in the United States](#)**
 - People ages 12 years and older who are moderately or severely immunocompromised may choose to receive a second booster dose using an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine at least 4 months after the first booster dose
 - Adults ages 50 years and older who are **not** moderately or severely immunocompromised may choose to receive a second booster dose using an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine at least 4 months after the first booster dose
 - People ages 18–49 years who are **not** moderately or severely immunocompromised and who received Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine as both their primary series dose and booster dose may receive a second booster dose using an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine at least 4 months after the first Janssen booster dose

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATES

- The White House [Let's Clear The Air on COVID](#)
- U.S. Food & Drug Administration
 - [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Update: FDA Authorizes Second Booster Dose of Two COVID-19 Vaccines for Older and Immunocompromised Individuals](#)





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- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Update: FDA to hold advisory committee meeting on COVID-19 vaccines to discuss future boosters](#)
- [Celltrion USA recalls certain Point of Care Celltrion DiaTrust COVID-19 Ag Rapid Tests for false positive test results and unauthorized shelf life](#)
- [SD Biosensor recalls STANDARD Q COVID-19 Ag Home Tests that are not authorized, cleared, or approved by the FDA and may give false results](#)
- WHO
 - [WHO releases 10-year strategy for genomic surveillance of pathogens](#)
 - [Weekly epidemiological update on COVID-19 – 29 March 2022 Edition 85](#)
 - [European Union funding boosts COVID-19 vaccination in Africa](#)

GUIDANCE/GUIDELINES

- CDC [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Approved or Authorized in the United States](#)
- EPA [Guidance to Help Building Owners and Operators Improve Indoor Air Quality and Protect Public Health](#)
- WHO [Strategic Preparedness, Readiness and Response Plan to End the Global COVID-19 Emergency in 2022](#)

RESOURCES

- IDSA Podcast: [COVID-19 Vaccines & Prevention in Immunocompromised Individuals](#)
- Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy (CIDRAP) Osterholm Update:
 - [Episode 96: A Familiar Uncertainty](#)
- The Lancet [COVID-19 Resource Centre](#)

ACADEMIC/RESEARCH PAPERS

- *New England Journal of Medicine*
 - [Efficacy of a Fourth Dose of Covid-19 mRNA Vaccine against Omicron](#)
- *International Journal of Infectious Diseases*
 - [Third of patients have gustatory dysfunction 9 months after SARS-CoV-2 infection: the ANOSVID study](#)
- *JCI Insight*
 - [Binding and neutralizing antibody responses to SARS-CoV-2 in young children exceed those in adults](#)
- *Clinical Microbiology and Infection*
 - [Post-COVID-19 syndrome and humoral response association after one year in vaccinated and unvaccinated patients](#)
- *American Cancer Society*
 - [A national quality improvement study identifying and addressing cancer screening deficits due to the COVID-19 pandemic](#)
- *Canadian Medical Association Journal*
 - [Impact of cancer surgery slowdowns on patient survival during the COVID-19 pandemic: a microsimulation modelling study](#)
- *AJMC*
 - [Out-of-Pocket Spending for Health Care After COVID-19 Hospitalization](#)





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- *Journal of Infection*
 - [Antimicrobial stewardship in non-COVID-19 patients with fever and respiratory symptoms in outpatient settings: lessons from the “dynamic zero-COVID policy” in mainland China](#)
- *AJPH*
 - [Pandemic-Related Workplace Violence and Its Impact on Public Health Officials, March 2020 – January 2021](#)
- *BMJ*
 - [Awake prone positioning for patients with covid-19](#)
 - [Prone positioning of patients with moderate hypoxaemia due to covid-19: multicentre pragmatic randomized triage \(COVID-PRONE\)](#)
- *PNAS*
 - [Public health implications of opening National Football League stadiums during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)
- *Nature*
 - [The P132H mutation in the main protease of Omicron SARS-CoV-2 decreases thermal stability without compromising catalysis or small-molecule drug inhibition](#)
- *The Lancet*
 - [Effectiveness and safety of pulse oximetry in remote patient monitoring of patients with COVID-19: a systematic review](#)
 - [SARS-CoV-2 co-infection with influenza viruses, respiratory syncytial virus, or adenoviruses](#)
- *bioRxiv*
 - [Resilience of S309 and AZD7442 monoclonal antibody treatments against infection by SARS-CoV-2 Omicron lineage strains](#)
- *medRxiv*
 - [Comparison of influenza and COVID-19-associated hospitalizations among children <18 years old in the United States – FluSurv-NET \(October-April 2017-2021\) and COVID-NET \(October 2020 – September 2021\)](#)
- *Pediatrics*
 - [Intimate Partner Violence and the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
 - [Healing-Centered Care for Intimate Partner Violence Survivors and their Children](#)
 - [Durability of SARS-CoV-2 Antibodies From Natural Infection in Children and Adolescents](#)
 - [Integrating SARS-CoV-2 Antibody Results in Children into Pandemic Response](#)
- *RSNA*
 - [Chest CT of Lung Injury 1 year after COVID-19 Pneumonia: The CovILD Study](#)
- *JAMA*
 - [Racial Disparities in COVID-19 Outcomes Among Black and White Patients with Cancer](#)
 - [Estimated COVID-19 Cases and Hospitalizations Averted by Case Investigation and Contact Tracing in the US](#)
 - [COVID-19 Cases and Disease Severity in Pregnancy and Neonatal Positivity Associated with Delta \(B.1.617.2\) and Omicron \(B.1.1.529\) Variant Predominance](#)
 - [COVID-19 mRNA Vaccines During Pregnancy New Evidence to Help Address Vaccine Hesitancy](#)
 - [Association of SARS-CoV-2 Vaccination During Pregnancy with Pregnancy Outcomes](#)
 - [Association of COVID-19 Vaccination in Pregnancy with Adverse Peripartum Outcomes](#)
 - [Perinatal complications in individuals in California with or without SARS-CoV-2 infection during pregnancy](#)





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- [SARS-CoV-2 Placentitis and Intraparenchymal Thrombohematomas among COVID-19 infections in pregnancy](#)
- [Alcohol-related deaths during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)
- [Comparative Effectiveness of Single vs. Repeated Rapid SARS-CoV-2 Antigen Testing Among Asymptomatic Individuals in a Workplace Setting](#)
- *UK Health Security Agency*
 - [SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern and variants under investigation in England: Technical Briefing 39](#)
- *Wiley*
 - [Associations between persistent symptoms after mild COVID-19 and long-term health status, quality of life, and psychological distress](#)
- *PLOS*
 - [From Deer-to-Deer: SARS-CoV-2 is efficiently transmitted and presents broad tissue tropism and replication sites in white-tailed deer](#)

MMWR

- [Effectiveness of Homologous and Heterologous COVID-19 Booster Doses Following 1 Ad.26.COV2.S \(Janssen \[Johnson & Johnson\]\) Vaccine Dose Against COVID-19–Associated Emergency Department and Urgent Care Encounters and Hospitalizations Among Adults — VISION Network, 10 States, December 2021–March 2022](#)
- [Use of At-Home COVID-19 Tests – United States, August 23, 2021 – March 12, 2022](#)
- [Effectiveness of mRNA Vaccination in Preventing COVID-19-Associated Invasive Mechanical Ventilation and Death – United States, March 2021 – January 2022](#)
- [COVID-19 – Associated Hospitalizations Among Adults During SARS-Cov-2 Delta and Omicron Variant Predominance, by Race/Ethnicity and Vaccination Status – COVID-NET, 14 States, July 2021-January 2022](#)

HOT OFF THE (LAY) PRESS

- *Moderna Press Releases*
 - [Moderna announces its COVID-19 vaccine Phase 2/3 study in children 6 months to under 6 years has successfully met its primary endpoint](#)
 - [Moderna submits amendment to the Emergency Use Authorization for an additional booster dose of its COVID-19 vaccine in the U.S.](#)
- *AstraZeneca Press Releases*
 - [Evusheld long-acting antibody combination retains neutralizing activity against Omicron variants including BA.2 in new independent studies](#)
- *New York Times*
 - [Ivermectin failed as Covid treatment, a large clinical trial found. The drug surged in popularity despite no strong evidence that it worked.](#)
 - [The U.S. plans to lift a pandemic-era order that has restricted immigration at the nation’s land borders, people familiar with the plan said](#)
 - [Twenty-one states file a lawsuit to block the mask mandate on public transportation](#)
 - [Federal health officials clear second Covid booster shots for those 50 and over, and some immunocompromised people](#)
 - [Breaking News: The F.D.A. authorized second booster shots of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines for everyone 50 and older and some immunocompromised people](#)
 - [The Morning: Reducing COVID’s toll](#)
 - [California Today: The struggle to understand pandemic risks](#)





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- [Hawaii lifts its indoor mask mandate and travel restrictions, the last state to do so](#)
- [Biden administration plans to offer second booster shots to those 50 and up](#)
- [Coronavirus: Understanding long COVID](#)
- [COVID updates: Los Angeles public school students could attend school without masks](#)
- [Bracing for the BA.2 wave](#)
- [Moderna will seek emergency authorization of its vaccine for young children.](#)
- [California Today: What's next for the pandemic?](#)
- [Coronavirus: Lessons from Hong Kong](#)
- ['He goes where the fire is': A virus hunter in the Wuhan market](#)
- [Coronavirus: Back-to-office carrots and sticks](#)
- [The Morning: COVID and the "very liberal"](#)
- *The Washington Post*
 - [Deaths outpace births in most counties as U.S. growth slowed in 2020](#)
 - [White House officials say U.S. has exhausted funds to buy potential fourth vaccine dose for all Americans](#)
- *The Atlantic*
 - [America Is Zooming Through the Pandemic Panic-Neglect Cycle](#)
- *The Wall Street Journal*
 - [Biden Administration to Stop Reimbursing Hospitals for COVID-19 Care for Uninsured](#)
 - [Ivermectin Didn't Reduce Covid-19 Hospitalizations in Largest Trial to Date](#)
- *Politico*
 - [CDC updates Covid-19 guidance to allow patients wear N95s](#)
- *NPR*
 - [Moderna wants the FDA to authorize its COVID-19 vaccine for kids under 6](#)
- *BBC*
 - [COVID: Rise in UK infections driven by BA.2 Omicron variant](#)
- *Aljazeera*
 - [Some European countries lift COVID curbs too 'brutally': WHO](#)
- *EurekaAlert!*
 - [Different SARS-CoV-2 variants may give rise to different long COVID symptoms, study suggests](#)
- *Reuters*
 - [U.S. travel industry urges White House to lift COVID restrictions, mask mandate](#)
- *Black Coalition Against COVID*
 - [The State of Black America and COVID-19 – A Two-Year Assessment](#)
- *Mercury News*
 - [COVID-19 cases are surging anew overseas. Is the U.S. next?](#)
- *San Francisco Chronicle*
 - [COVID cases in California are leveling off, here's how BA.2 variant might change that](#)
 - ['My job is to keep people from dying': How three Bay Area health leaders managed the COVID crisis](#)
 - [Only one U.S. county saw a larger share of people leave last year than San Francisco](#)
 - [Will the Bay Area be an outlier in a coming BA.2 COVID surge?](#)





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EPIDEMIOLOGY UPDATES

- [CDC COVID Data Tracker](#)
 - [Variant Proportions](#)
 - [Wastewater Surveillance](#)
 - [COVID-19 Vaccinations in the United States](#)
- [Johns Hopkins COVID-19 in the USA](#) – daily summary of key data on COVID-19 in the U.S.
- [American Academy of Pediatrics Children and COVID-19: State Level Data Report](#) – *new data!*
- [California COVID-19 by the numbers](#) are available on the [CDPH Website](#) and the [NYT Map and Table](#) (includes data by county)
 - **California [COVID-19 Statewide Update](#) as of April 1, 2022**
- [San Mateo County COVID-19 Dashboard](#)
- [Santa Clara County COVID-19 Dashboard](#)

ADDITIONAL COVID-19 RESOURCES

- [San Mateo County COVID-19 Guidance and Resources for Clinicians and Facilities – COVID-19 Digests](#)
- [Covid-WEB \(Wastewater Epidemiology for the Bay Area\)](#)
- [Palo Alto Online tracking the coronavirus in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties](#)
- [California COVID-19 Data and Tools](#)
- [CDPH COVID-19 Assessment and Modeling Tool](#)
- [California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitations Population COVID-19 Tracking Dashboards](#)
- [CDC Interactive Serology Dashboard for Commercial Laboratory Surveys](#)
- [HHS Coronavirus Data Hub](#)
- [COVID-19 Nursing Home Data](#)

