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
COVID-19 Digest Issue 75

- 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
  - 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**

- **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**

- **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
- 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

- EurekAlert!
  - 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](#)