

COVID-19 | Test to Treat Equity ECHO

Thursday, December 14, 2022



FAMILY HEALTH CENTERS
OF SAN DIEGO



Learning Session Logistics

- Zoom Q&A: questions and comments regarding the presentation
 - Zoom Chat: questions regarding technical or logistical issues
- This session is being recorded. Your attendance is consent to be recorded.
 - Please keep sessions apolitical and non-commercial. Thank you!

Data Use

Project ECHO collects registration, participation, questions/answers, chat comments, and poll responses for this program, and shares this data with FHCSD and the CDPH. Your individual data will be kept confidential and de-identified. These data may be used for reports, maps, communications, surveys, quality assurance, evaluation, research, and to inform new initiatives.



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Today's Agenda

1. Announcements and Introductions [5 min]
2. Introduction to Test & Treat and SARS-CoV-2 Basics [40 min]
 - Christian Ramers, MD, MPH, FIDSA, AAHIVS (Family Health Centers of San Diego)
3. Q&A and Discussion [15 min]
4. Closing



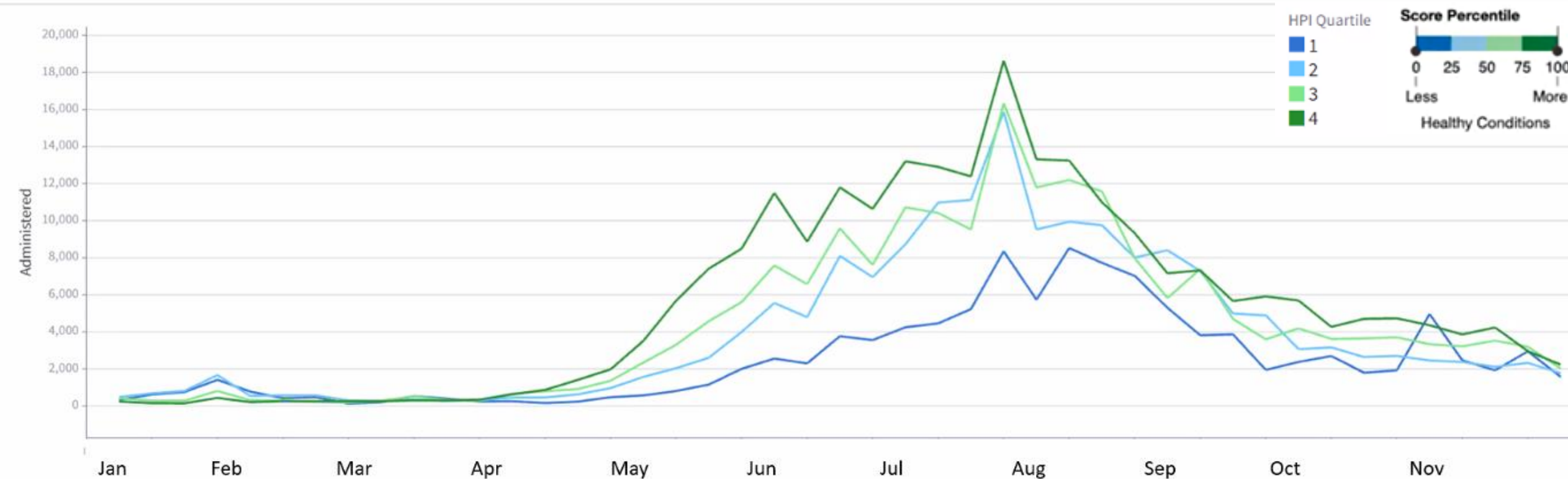
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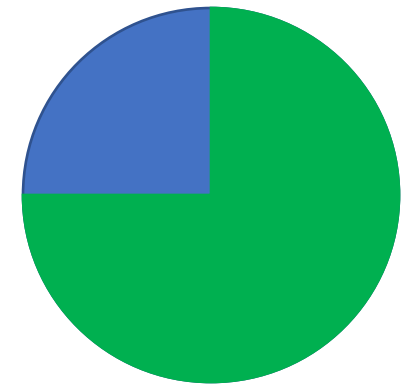
CDPH COVID-19 Test to Treat Equity ECHO

- Why now?
- Key issues facing providers: burnout, staffing challenges, patient mistrust, COVID-19 misinformation, barriers to obtaining/dispensing Paxlovid, hesitant prescribers, COVID fatigue, poor understanding of COVID-19 disease process, **health disparities**

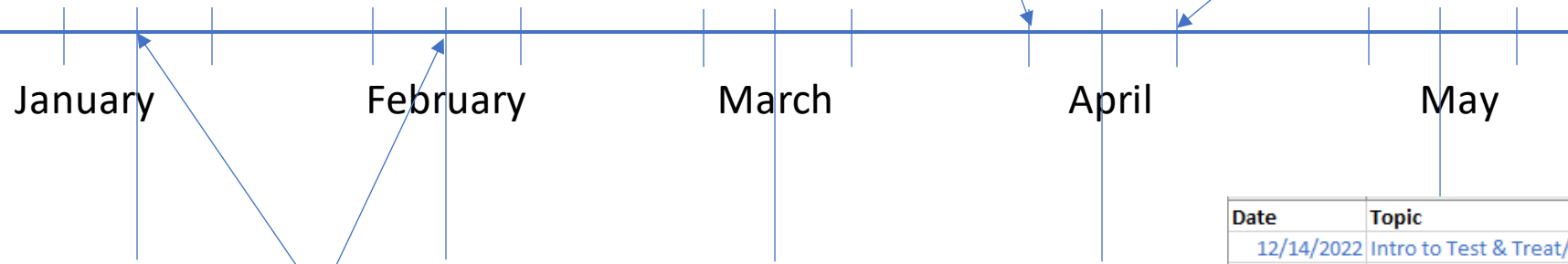
Administered Paxlovid Courses by HPI Quartile Over Time



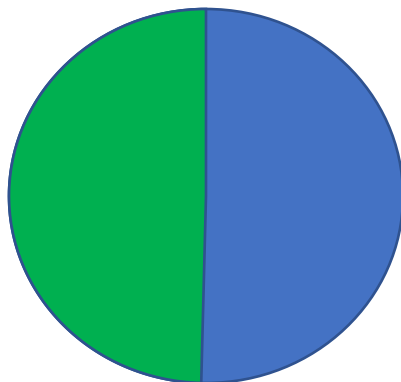
Test & Treat Equity ECHO – Program Vision



Office Hours/Q&A ECHO sessions (1st Wed NorCal, 3rd Wed SoCal)



Interactive Webinars (2nd Wed, open for all)



| Date | Topic | Speaker |
|------------|---|---------------------|
| 12/14/2022 | Intro to Test & Treat/SARS-CoV-2 Basics | Christian Ramers |
| 1/4/2023 | NorCal Cluster Office Hours/Q&A/ ECHO | |
| 1/11/2023 | Outpatient Therapeutics for COVID-19 | Daniel Griffin? |
| 1/18/2023 | SoCal Cluster Office Hours/Q&A/ECHO | |
| 2/1/2023 | NorCal Cluster Office Hours/Q&A/ ECHO | |
| 2/8/2023 | SARS-CoV-2 Testing | John Lynch? |
| 2/15/2023 | SoCal Cluster Office Hours/Q&A/ECHO | |
| 3/1/2023 | NorCal Cluster Office Hours/Q&A/ ECHO | |
| 3/8/2023 | Natural History and Pathophysiology of COVID-19 | Jason Maley? |
| 3/15/2023 | SoCal Cluster Office Hours/Q&A/ECHO | |
| 3/22/2023 | possible make-up/rescheduled session | |
| 3/29/2023 | possible make-up/rescheduled session | |
| 4/5/2023 | NorCal Cluster Office Hours/Q&A/ ECHO | |
| 4/12/2023 | Practical Aspects & Operational Details | Monica Vidaurrezaga |
| 4/19/2023 | SoCal Cluster Office Hours/Q&A/ECHO | |
| 5/3/2023 | NorCal Cluster Office Hours/Q&A/ ECHO | |
| 5/10/2023 | Overview of Post-COVID Conditions | Ben Abramoff? |
| 5/17/2023 | SoCal Cluster Office Hours/Q&A/ECHO | |

Upcoming Sessions

- January 11 – Outpatient Therapeutics for COVID-19
- February 8 – SARS-CoV-2 Testing
- March 8 – Natural History and Pathophysiology of COVID-19
- April 12 – Practical Aspects & Operational Details
- May 10 – Overview of Post-COVID Conditions

Regional Office Hours/Q&A ECHOs

- Northern California focused – 1st Wednesday of each month
- Southern California focused – 2nd Wednesday of each month



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COVID-19 Test to Treat Clinical Resources

CLINICAL RESOURCES OVERVIEW

COVID-19 DIAGNOSIS

PRESCRIBING MEDICATION

DISPENSING MEDICATION

- CCI ‘high touch technical assistance’ ‘light touch technical assistance’
- Community Clinical Linkages-CBO grant
 - Up to \$100,000 for CBOs to improve community education/linkage
 - Applications due 12/19/22, accepted on rolling basis



ABOUT US ▼

PROGRAMS ▼

RESOURCES ▼

NEWS

SUPPORT PHC ▼

CDPH COVID-19 Treatments Community-Clinical Linkages Grant (CCL)

The goal of the COVID-19 Treatments Community-Clinical Linkages (CCL) Grant is to advance equitable access to COVID-19 treatments via robust community-clinical linkages.

- Submit cases, questions: TestToTreat@fhcsd.org

- <https://www.careinnovations.org/programs/covid-19-test-to-treat/>
- <https://www.phcdocs.org/covid-equity>

COVID-19 Test to Treat Resource Hub

Welcome, providers! Explore the latest on therapeutic information, workflows, and operational tools to launch and expand Test to Treat pathways.



Clinical Information

Download workflows and adaptable operational tools to help you implement a Test to Treat program.



Therapeutic Information

Compare available treatment options, identify the right medication for your patients, and get the latest on these therapeutics.

Clinical Information - <https://www.careinnovations.org/test-2-treat-overview/clinical-resources-overview/>

Therapeutic Information - <https://www.careinnovations.org/covid-19-therapeutic-information/>

Introductions

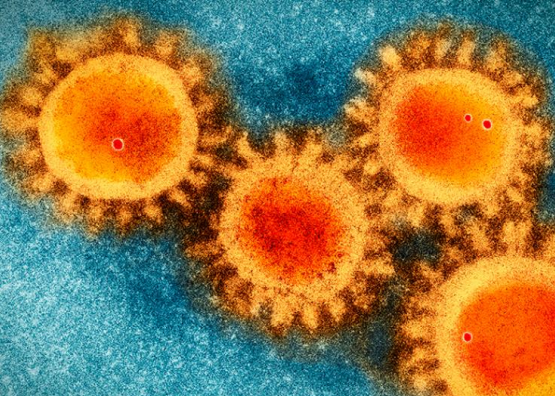


- **Caroline Kennedy, MD**
 - Medical Director, Monterey County Health Department



- **Kelvin Vu, DO, FAAFP**
 - Senior VP, Clinical Services Open Door Community Health Centers

- **Monica Vidaurrazaga, MD**
 - Infectious Disease Specialist, co-director FHCSD COVID-19 treatment program



**FAMILY HEALTH CENTERS
OF SAN DIEGO**



COVID-19 Test & Treat: an introduction

Christian B. Ramers, MD, MPH, FIDSA, AAHIVS

christianr@fhcsd.org - @cramersmd

Chief, Population Health

Medical Director, Laura Rodriguez Research Institute

Director, Graduate Medical Education

Family Health Centers of San Diego

Clinical Associate Professor – **UC San Diego School of Medicine**

Adjunct Associate Professor – **San Diego State Graduate School of Global Public Health**

Senior Clinical Advisor – **CHAI Global Hepatitis Program**

12/14/22

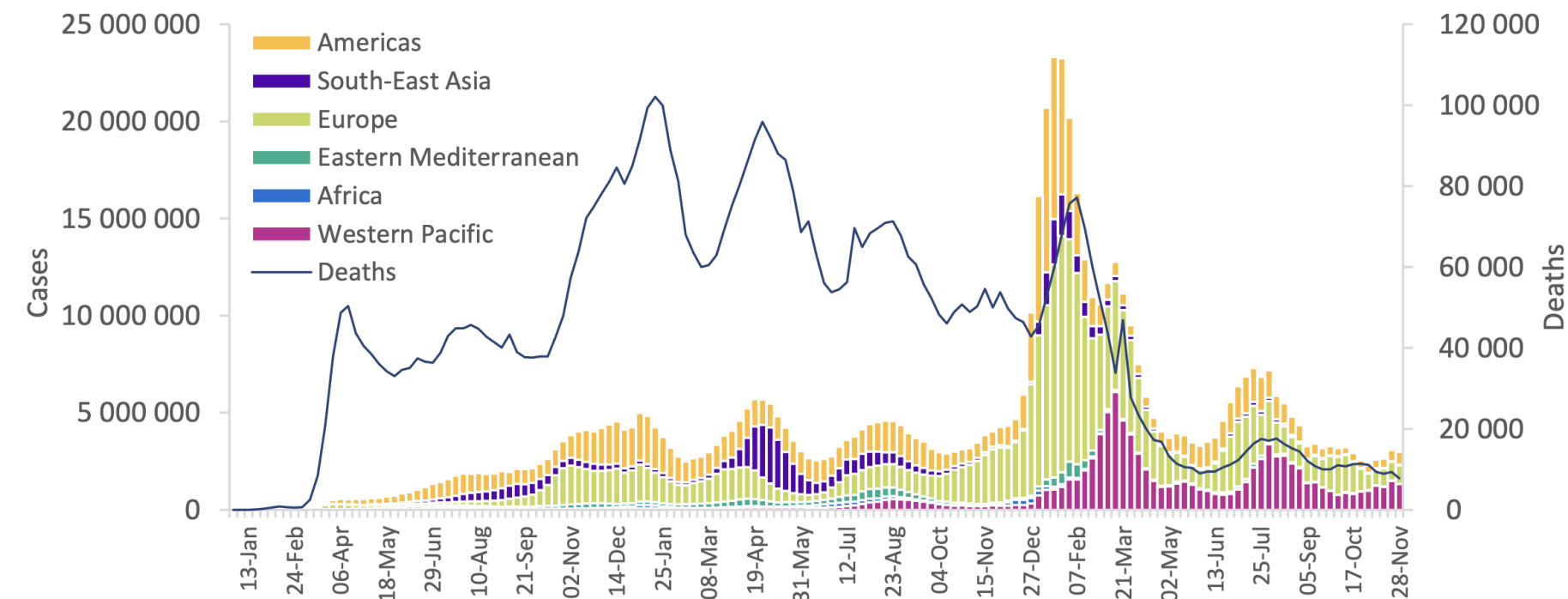
Learning Objective

- **At the conclusion of this lecture you should be able to:**
 - **Utilize** resources to track global & local COVID-19 epidemiology
 - **Find** up-to-date US and San Diego variant proportions
 - Appropriately **evaluate** COVID-19 patients for oral antiviral therapy
 - **Manage** drug-drug interactions with nirmatrelvir/ritonavir
 - **Determine** recommended first-line therapy
 - **Refer** appropriate patients for IV remdesivir infusion

Outline

- **COVID-19 – Where are We?**
 - Global and local Epidemiology
 - Variants
 - Pathophysiology and clinical risk factors
- **Test & Treat Algorithm:** Utilizing COVID-19 therapeutics
 - **Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir** (Paxlovid)
 - **Remdesivir** (Veklury)
 - **Molnupiravir** (Lagevrio)
 - What NOT to use
- **Influenza basics**

Figure 1. COVID-19 cases reported weekly by WHO Region, and global deaths, as of 4 December 2022**



New Cases

- 2.9 million new cases (-3%)

New Deaths

- 7,833 deaths (-17%)

Case numbers driven by:

- **Japan** (749,895; +7% increase)
- **France** (385,716; +38% increase)
- **Korea** (370,574; -2% decrease)
- **USA** (296,333; -1% decrease)
- **Brazil** (188,043; +25% increase)

Deaths driven by:

- **USA** (1,744; -33% decrease)
- **Japan** (1,063; +6% increase)
- **Brazil** (632; +18% increase)
- **Italy** (462; -22% decrease)
- **France** (424; +2% increase)

Total Cases:

- 641,487,094 recorded
- Europe (41%); Americas (28%); W Pacific (16%); SE Asia (9%)

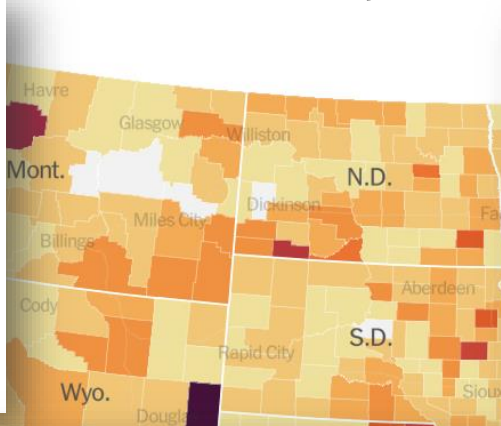
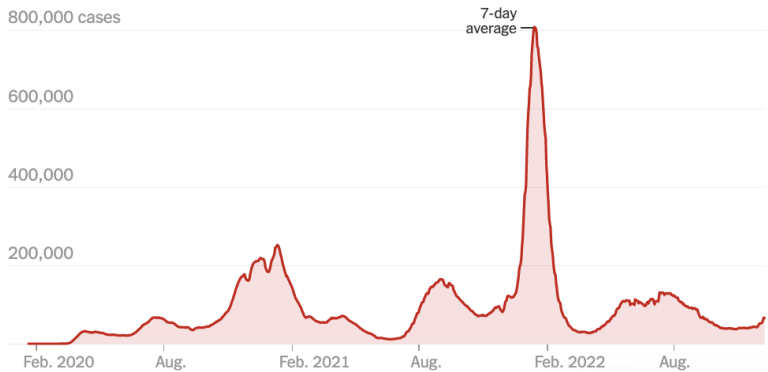
Total Deaths:

- **6,621,419** recorded
- Americas (43%); Europe (32%); SE Asia (12%)

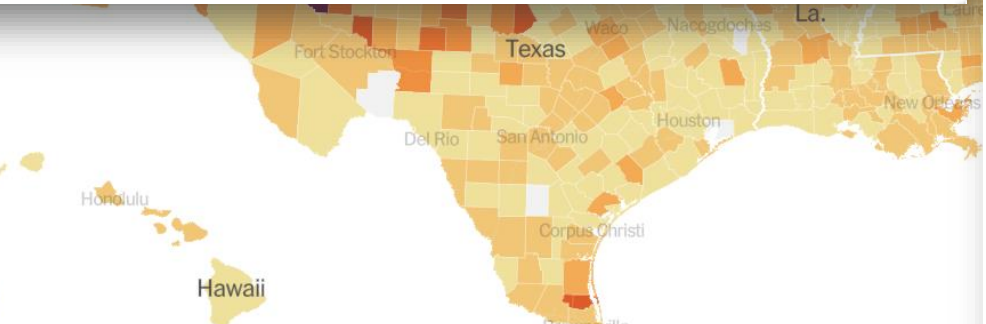
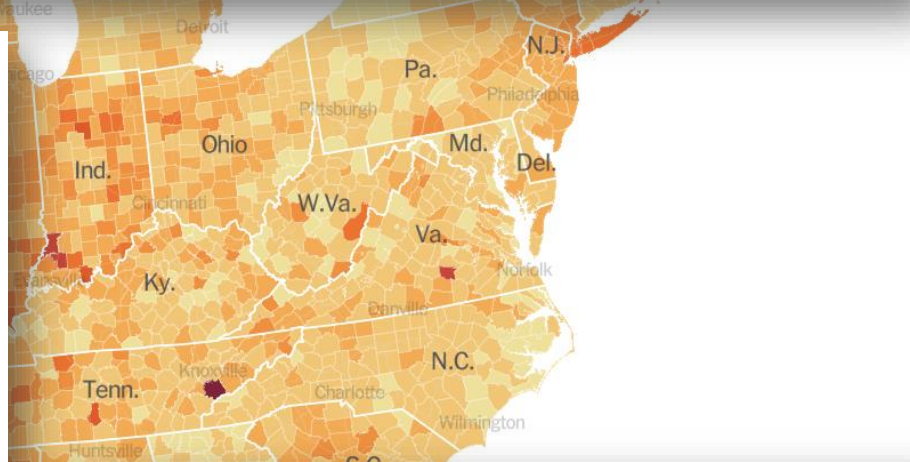
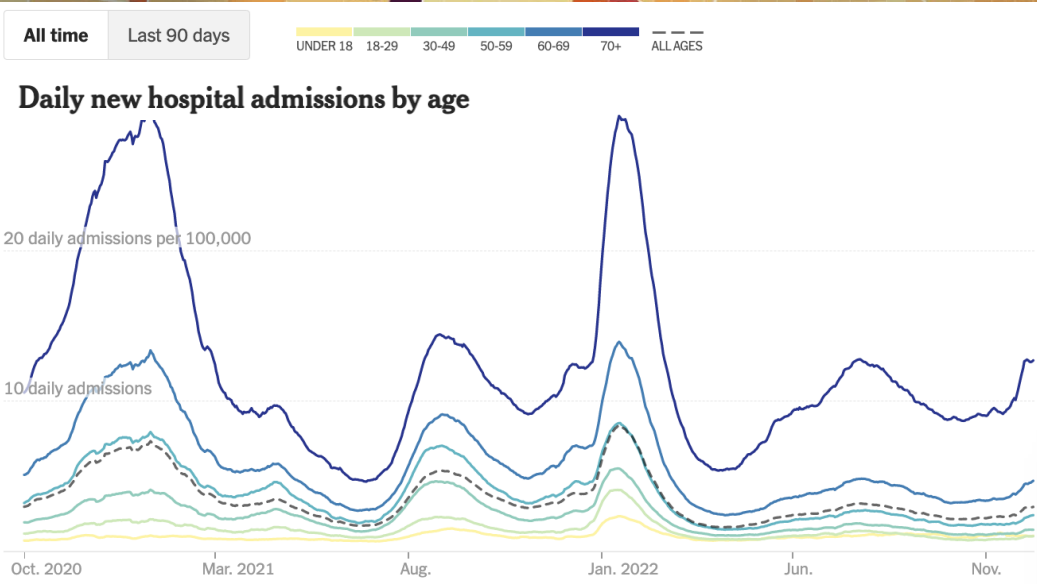
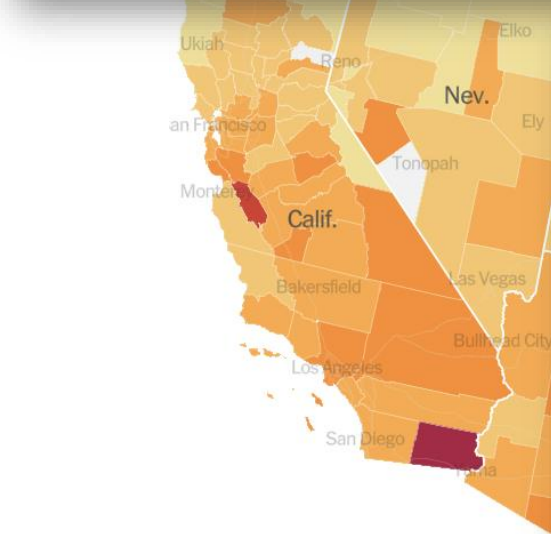
- New cases stable (-3%; 2.9 million); deaths declined (-17%, 7,833)
- Overall >641 million cases; >6.6 million deaths
- Cases declined or stable in 5/6 WHO regions; AFRO (-78%), SEARO (-27%), EURO (stable), WPRO (-10%), EMRO (-4%), Americas (+14%); Deaths declined or stable in all 6 regions
- Omicron VOC composed 99.2% of sequences to GISAID (BA.5 73.2%, BQ.1 16.2%, BA.4 3.5%, BA.2 6.3%); XBB now making up 2%

US COVID-19 cases and Deaths

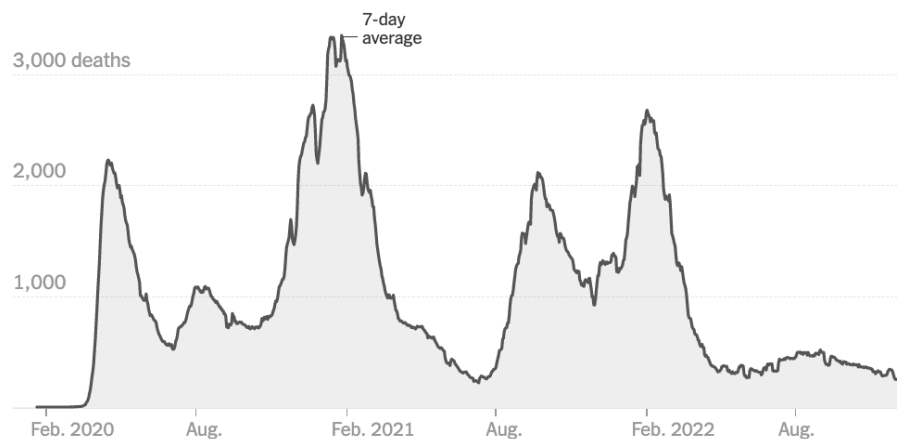
New reported cases by day



| | DAILY AVG. ON DEC. 9 | PER 100,000 | 14-DAY CHANGE |
|-----------------|----------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Cases | 65,591 | 20 | +53% |
| Test positivity | 12% | — | +32% |
| Hospitalized | 37,921 | 11 | +32% |
| In I.C.U.s | 4,289 | 1 | +23% |
| Deaths | 466 | <1 | +38% |



New reported deaths by day



CA COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths

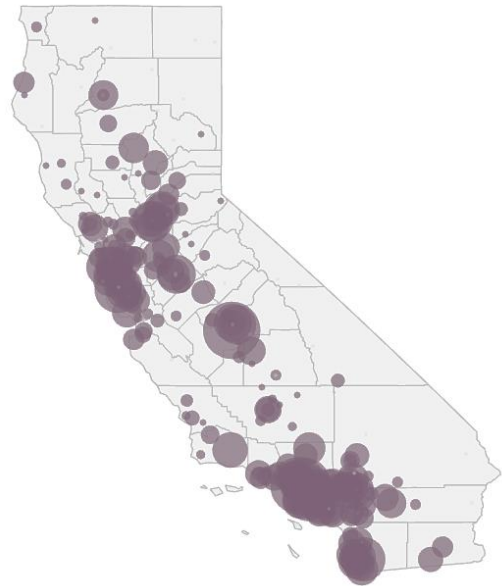
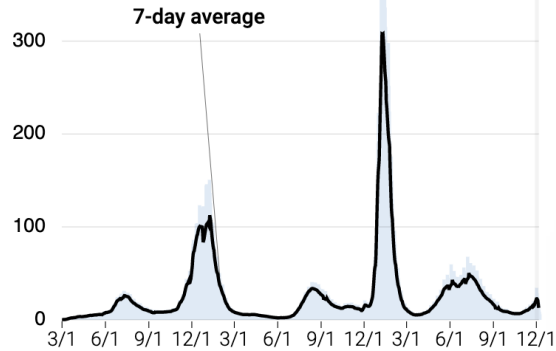
10,726,070 total confirmed cases

7,805 average cases per day

19.4 cases per 100K (7-day average)

Cases per 100K

Pending

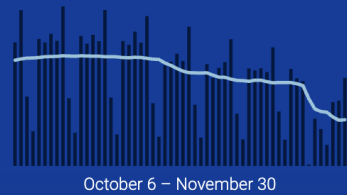


VACCINES ADMINISTERED

86,031,799 total

50,839 daily avg.

72.4% of population vaccinated
(with primary series)

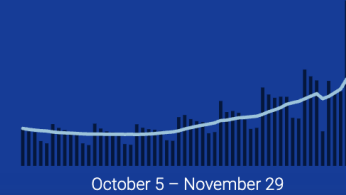


CASES

10,726,070 total

7,805 daily avg.

19.4 new cases (per 100K)



DEATHS

96,995 total

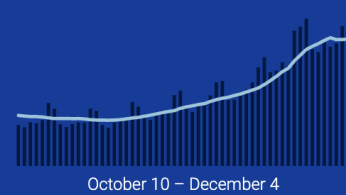
13 daily avg.

0.03 new deaths (per 100K)



TESTS

11.7% test positivity

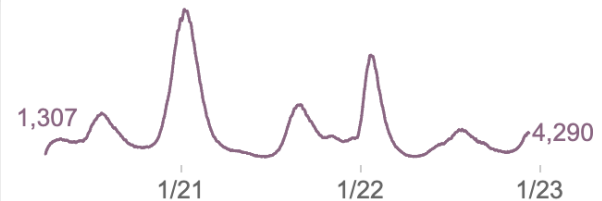


Positive Patients

4,290

1 Day Δ
-81
-1.9%

14 Day
Rolling Avg.
3,927

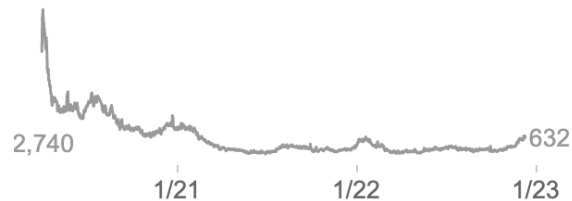


Suspected Patients

632

1 Day Δ
-40
-6.0%

14 Day
Rolling Avg.
604

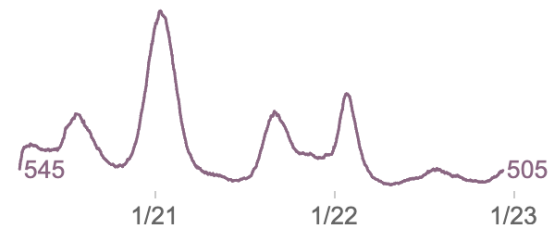


ICU Positive Patients

505

1 Day Δ
-1
-0.2%

14 Day
Rolling Avg.
442

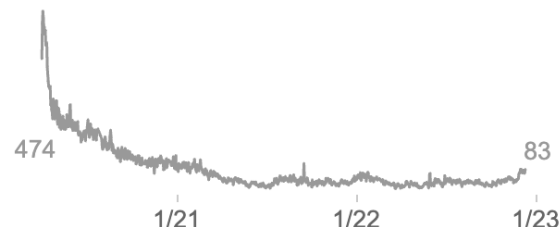


ICU Suspected Patients

83

1 Day Δ
+10
+13.7%

14 Day
Rolling Avg.
75



96,995 total confirmed deaths

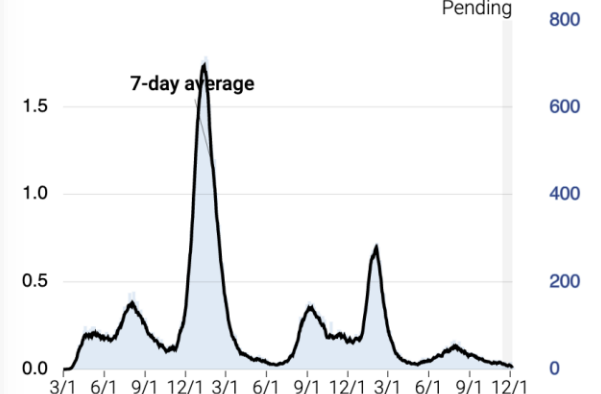
13 average deaths per day

0.03 deaths per 100K (7-day average)

Deaths per 100K

Pending

Deaths



| | Cumulative Count | Change from Previous Report | Percentage | Cumulative Rate per 100,000 |
|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| Total Confirmed Cases | 947,909 | 5,649 | 100.0% | 28,281 |
| Hospitalizations | 36,309 | 180 | 3.8% | |
| Deaths | 5,584 | 15 | 0.6% | |

*Known hospitalizations; information is incomplete for many cases under investigation. Periodically, larger numbers of hospitalizations may be added on one day as a result of batched reports and quality assurance processes. Cases, hospitalizations, and deaths are added to this table as information becomes available; this may not be indicative of when the event occurred.

COVID-19 Case Counts for Previous 7 Days by Date Reported, San Diego County

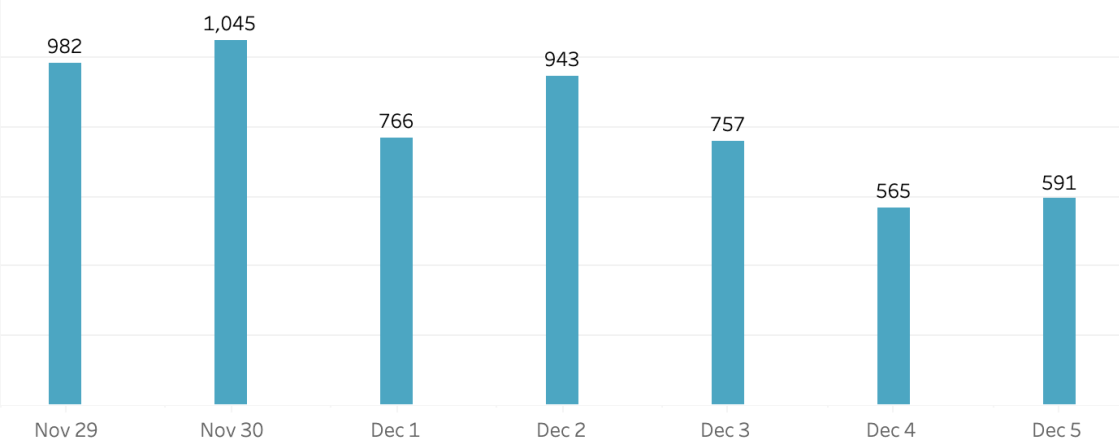


Figure 1.1. San Diego County COVID-19* Cases by Episode Month

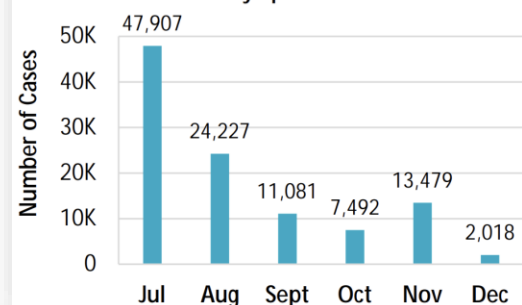


Figure 1.2. San Diego County Influenza Cases by Episode Month

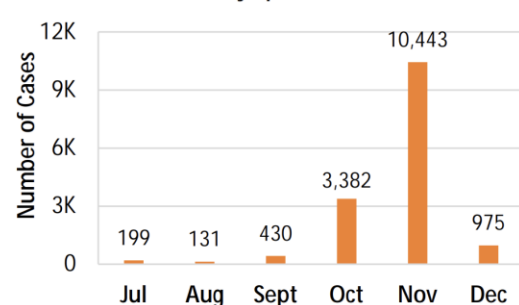


Figure 2.1. San Diego County COVID-19 Confirmed and Probable Cases by CDC Episode Week*, 2022-23 Fiscal Year-to-Date (N=118,677)

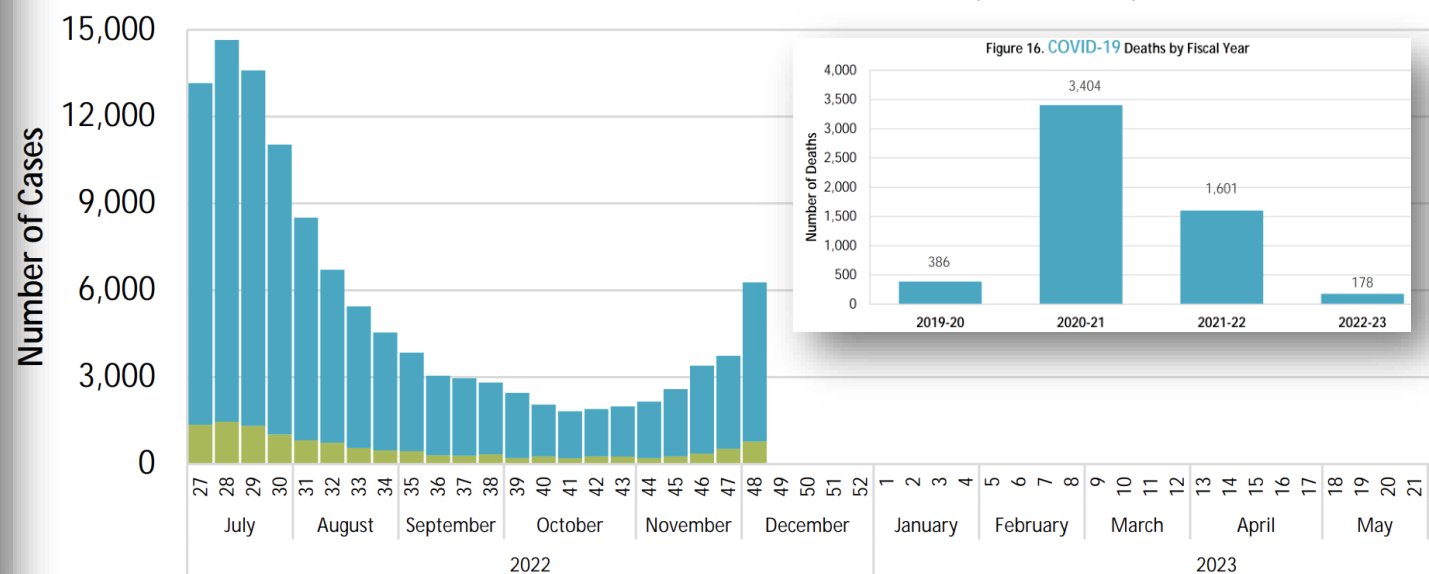
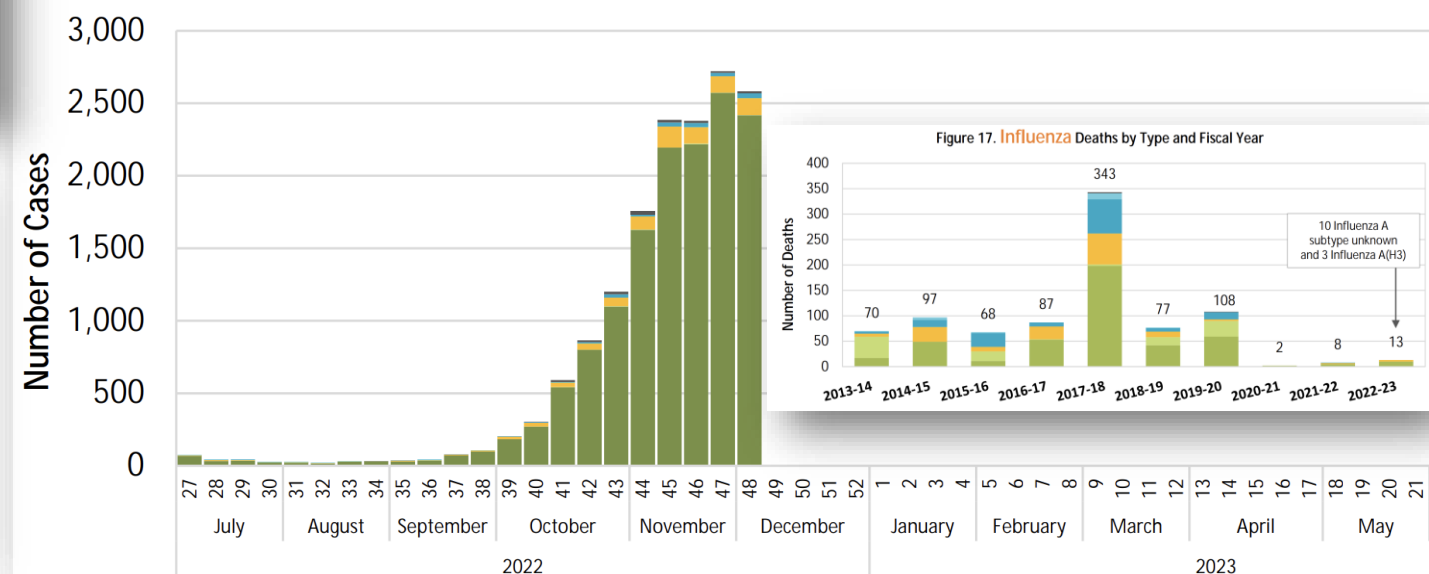
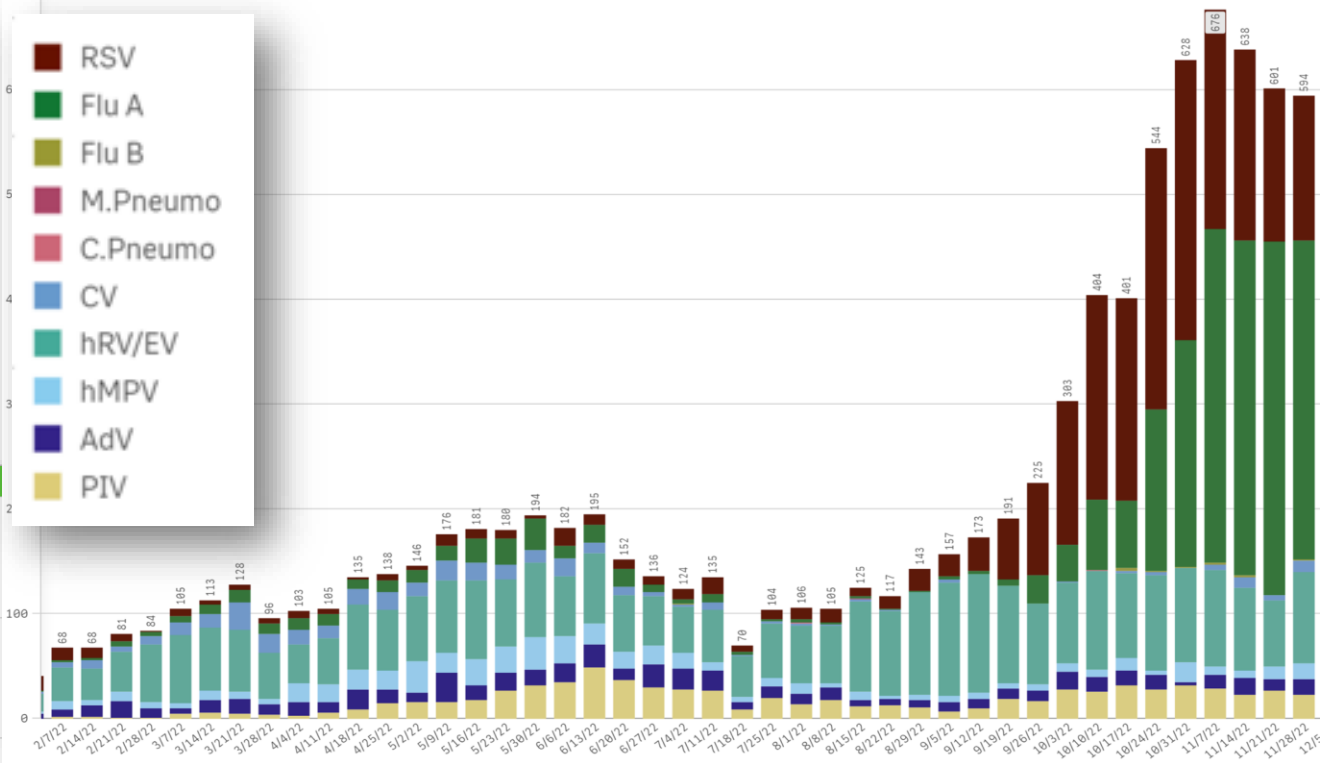


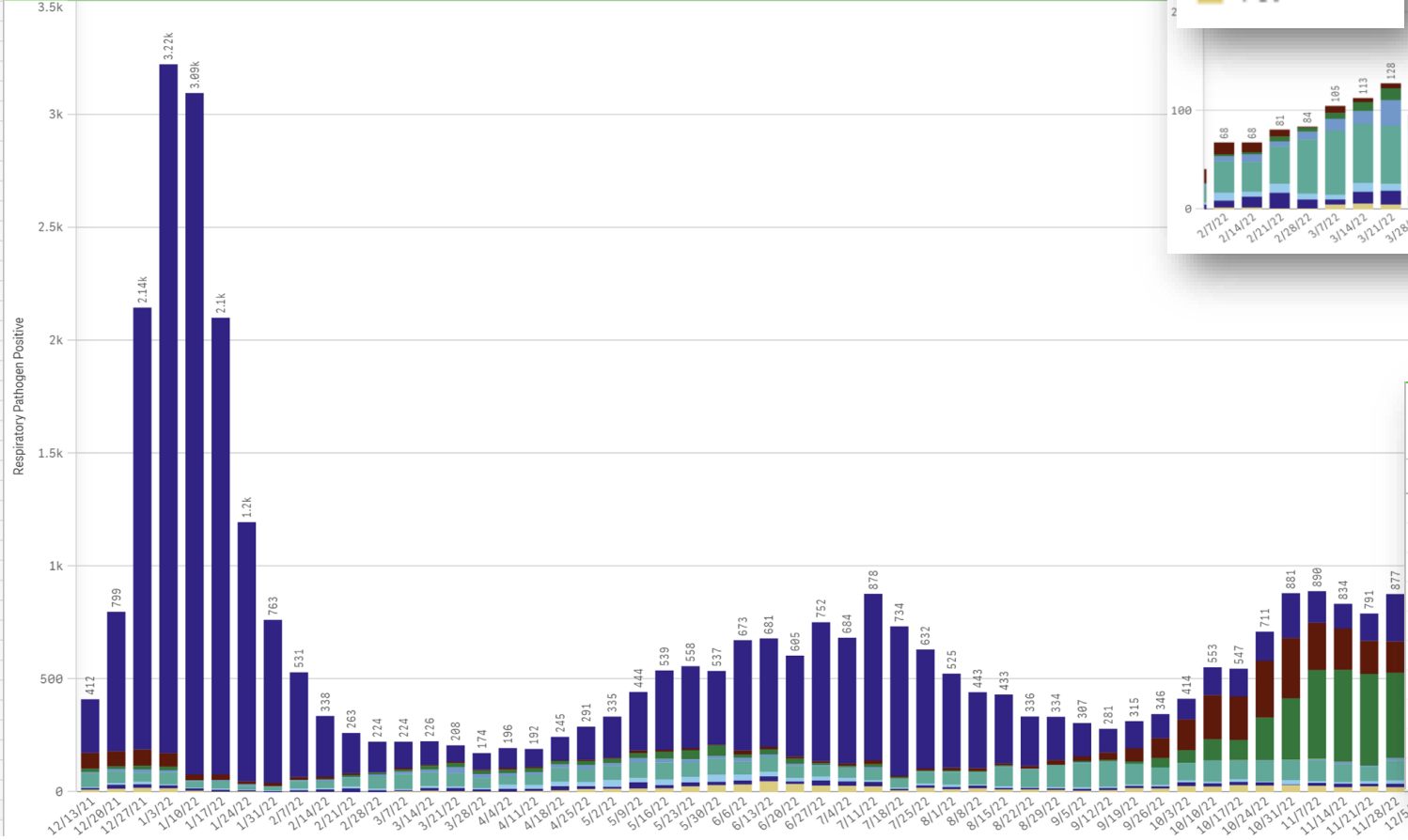
Figure 2.2. San Diego County Influenza Cases by Type and CDC Episode Week*, 2022-23 Fiscal Year-to-Date (N=15,560)



Rady Children's Virology Report



All Positive Respiratory Pathogens by Week Start - Data as of 12/5/2022



| Component Group | Pathogen Positive Previous Week 11/28/2022 - 12/4/2022 | Pathogen Tests Previous Week 11/28/2022 - 12/4/2022 | Previous Week Positive Rate |
|----------------------------------|---|--|-----------------------------|
| Totals | 785 | 4,829 | 16.3% |
| Influenza A | 304 | 1,048 | 29.0% |
| COVID-19(SARS-CoV-2,PCR) | 212 | 3,152 | 6.7% |
| RSV | 138 | 1,048 | 13.2% |
| Human Rhinovirus/Enterovirus | 87 | 370 | 23.5% |
| Parainfluenza | 23 | 370 | 6.2% |
| Adenovirus | 15 | 370 | 4.1% |
| Human Metapneumovirus | 15 | 370 | 4.1% |
| Coronavirus(other than COVID-19) | 11 | 370 | 3.0% |
| B.Pertussis/Parapertussis | 2 | 48 | 4.2% |
| Influenza B | 1 | 1,048 | 0.1% |

Figure 3.1. Cumulative **COVID-19** Confirmed and Probable Cases by CDC Episode Week* and Fiscal Year

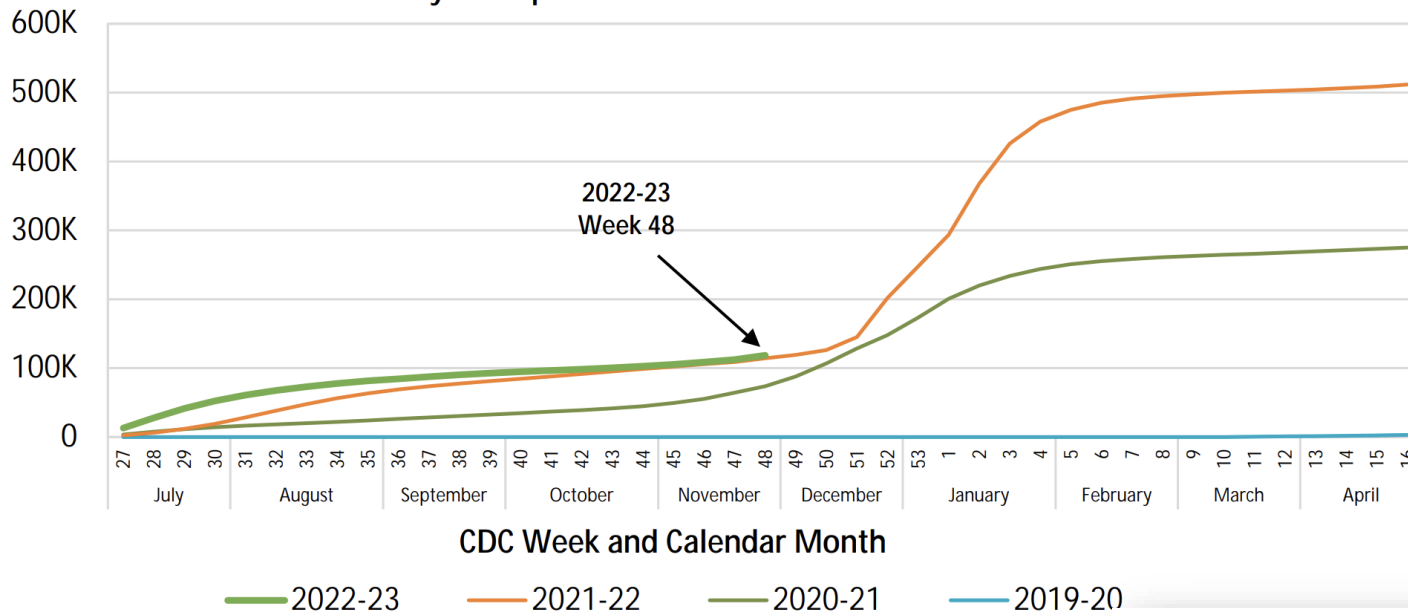
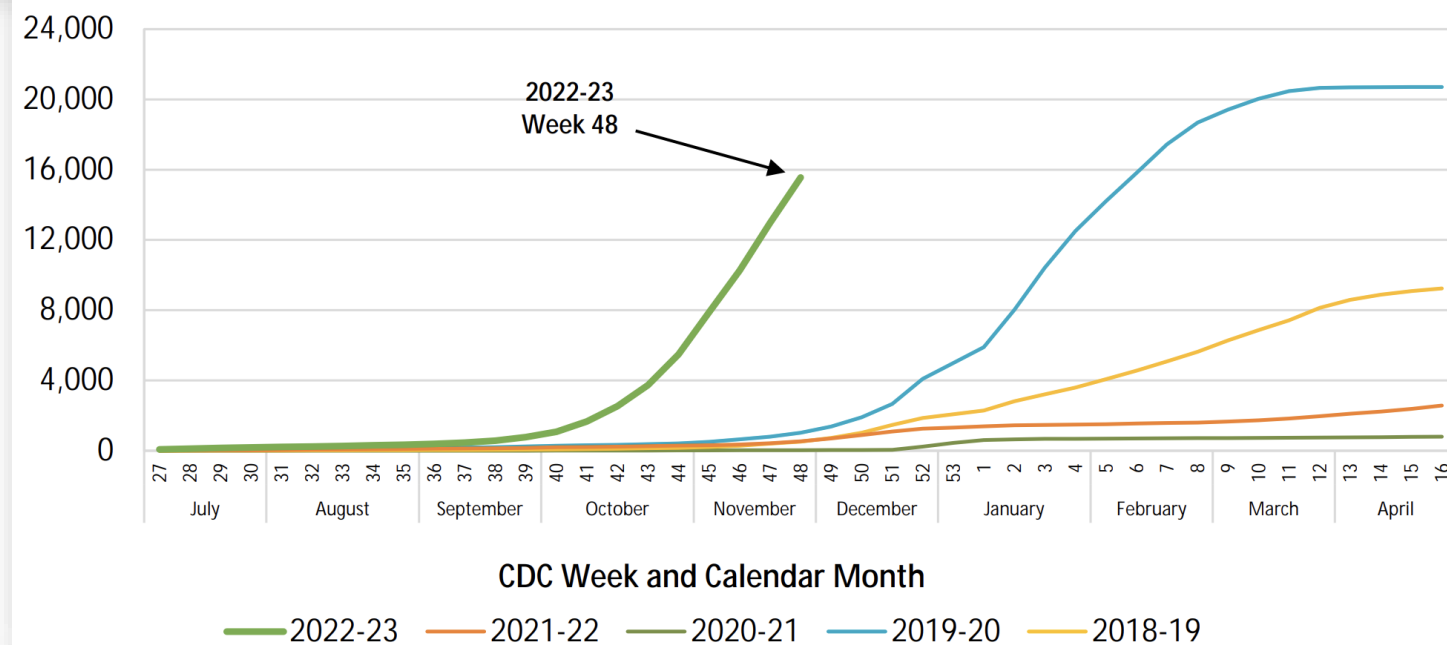
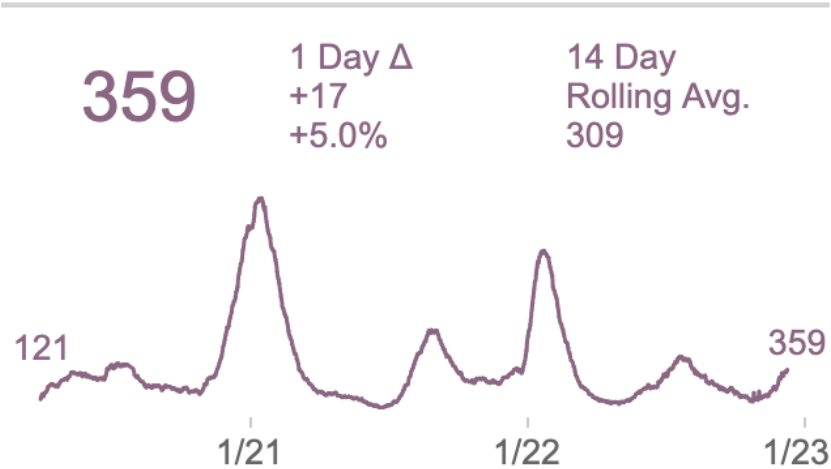


Figure 3.2. Cumulative **Influenza** Cases by CDC Episode Week* and Fiscal Year

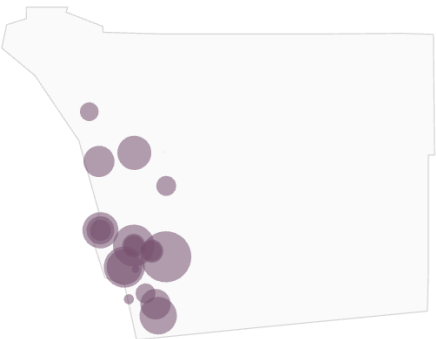
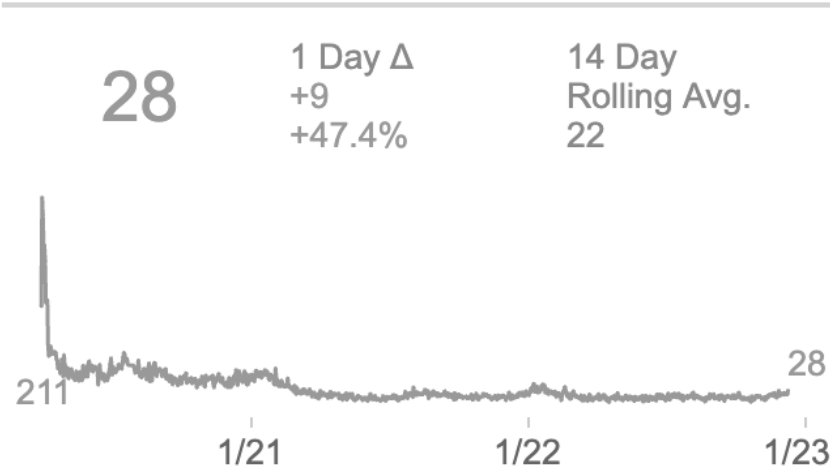


COVID-19 Hospitalizations, ICU admissions – San Diego – 12/9/22

Positive Patients

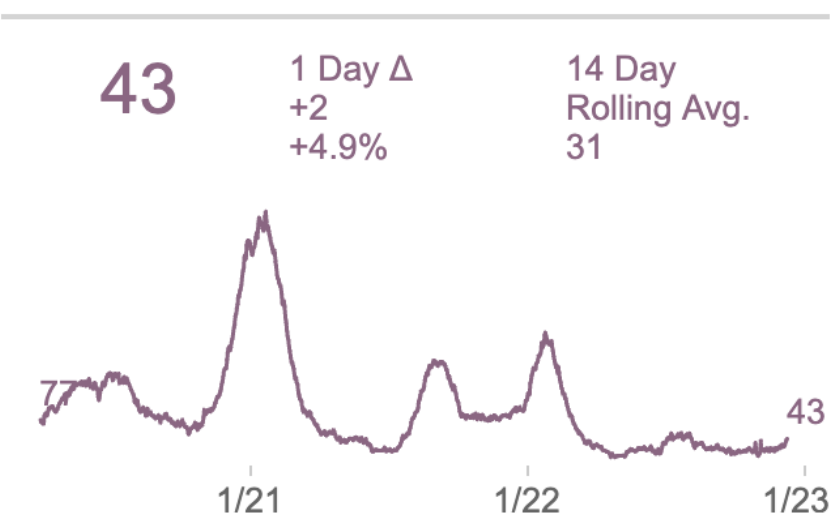


Suspected Patients

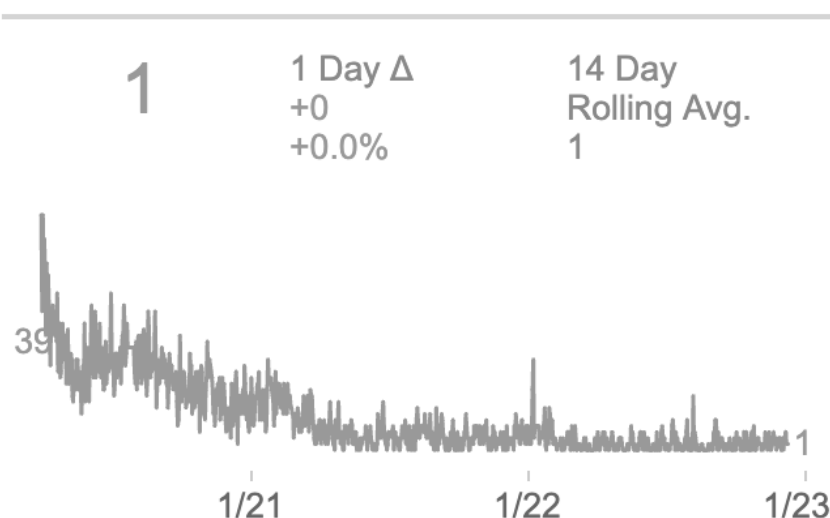


**Peak Hospitalizations
(1/14/21): 1,728**

ICU Positive Patients

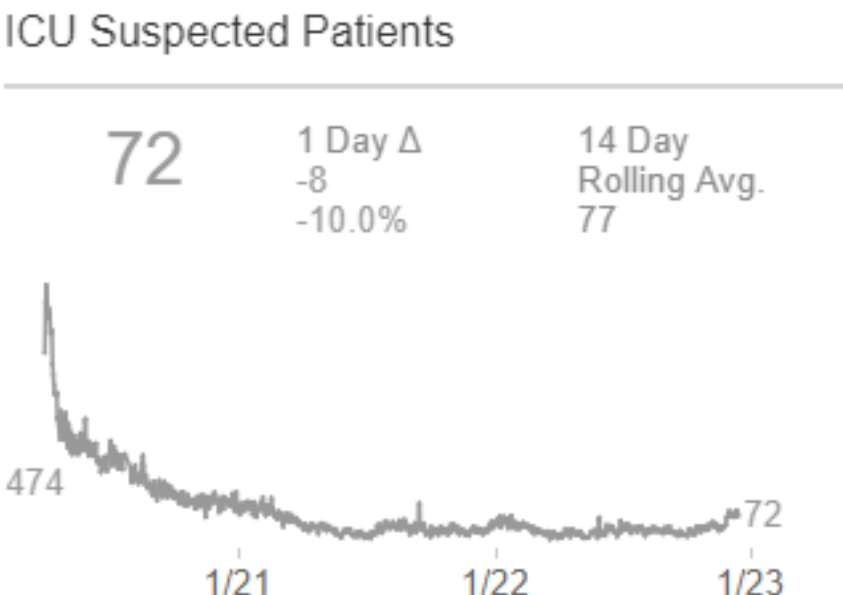
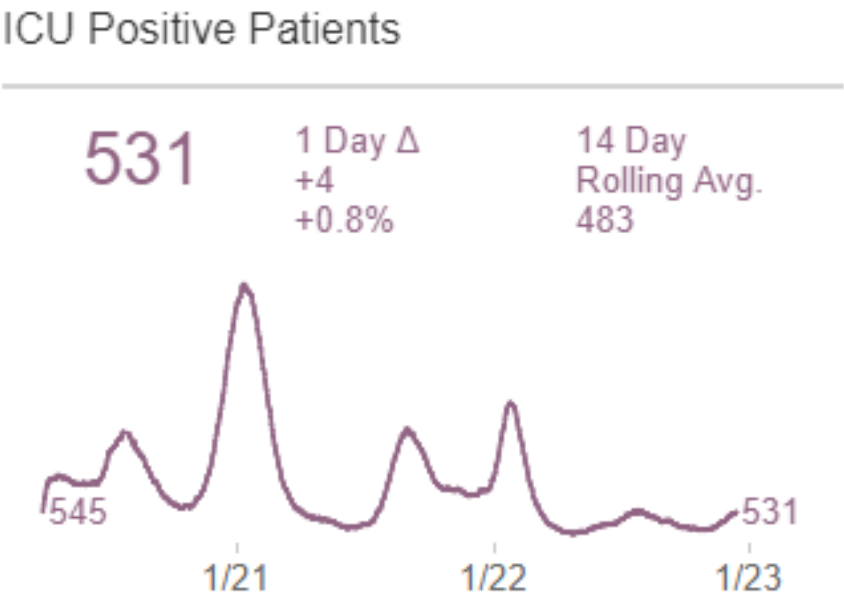
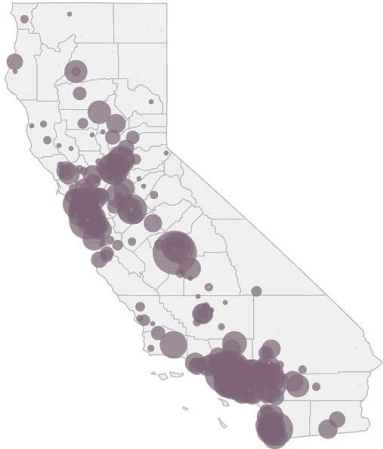
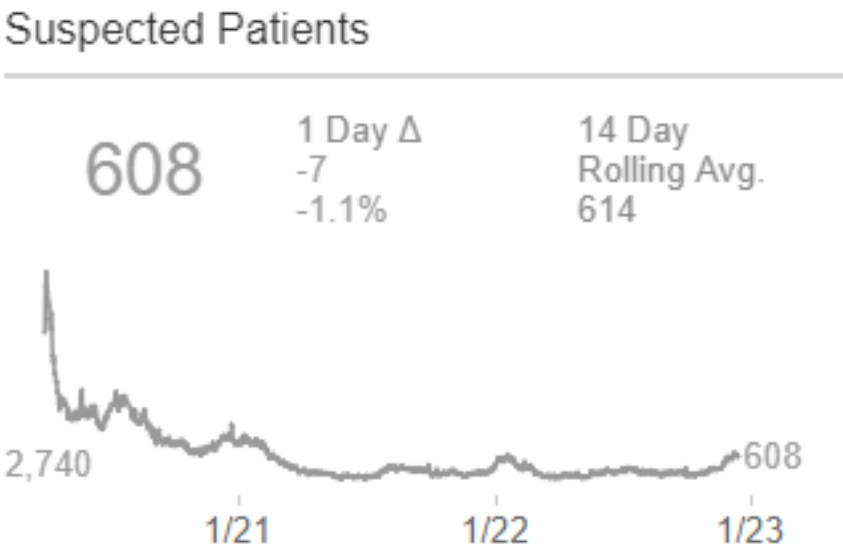
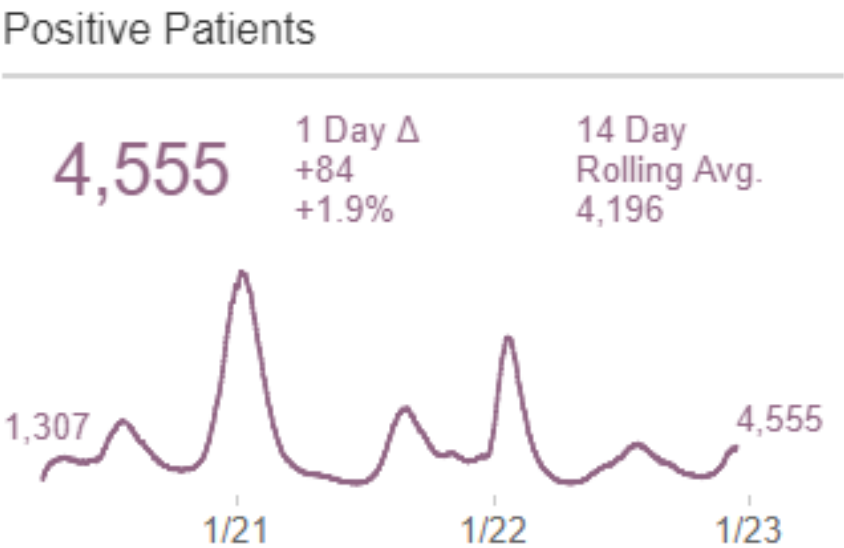


ICU Suspected Patients



**Peak ICU Admissions
(1/20/21): 447**

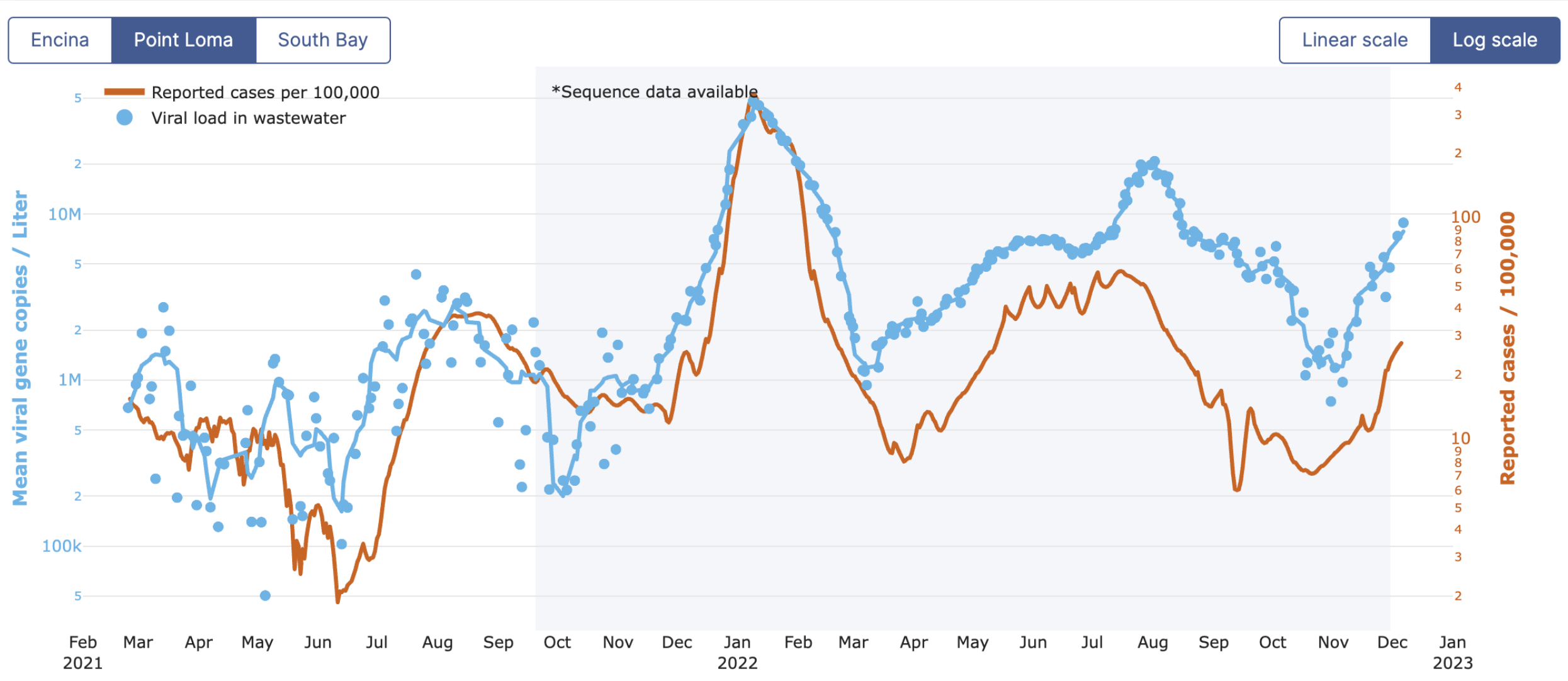
COVID-19 Hospitalizations, ICU admissions – CA – 12/14/22



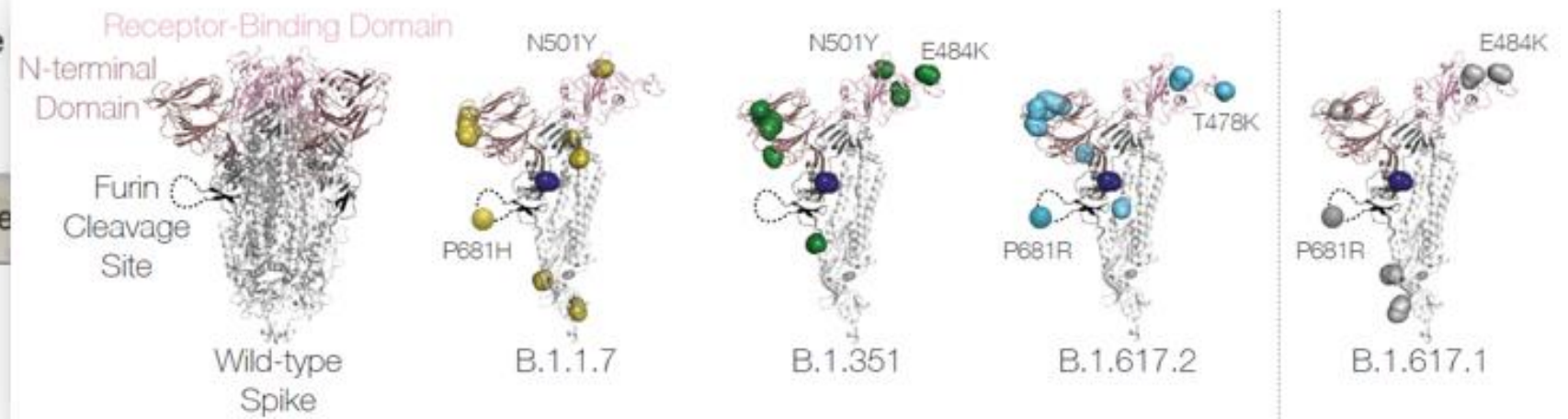
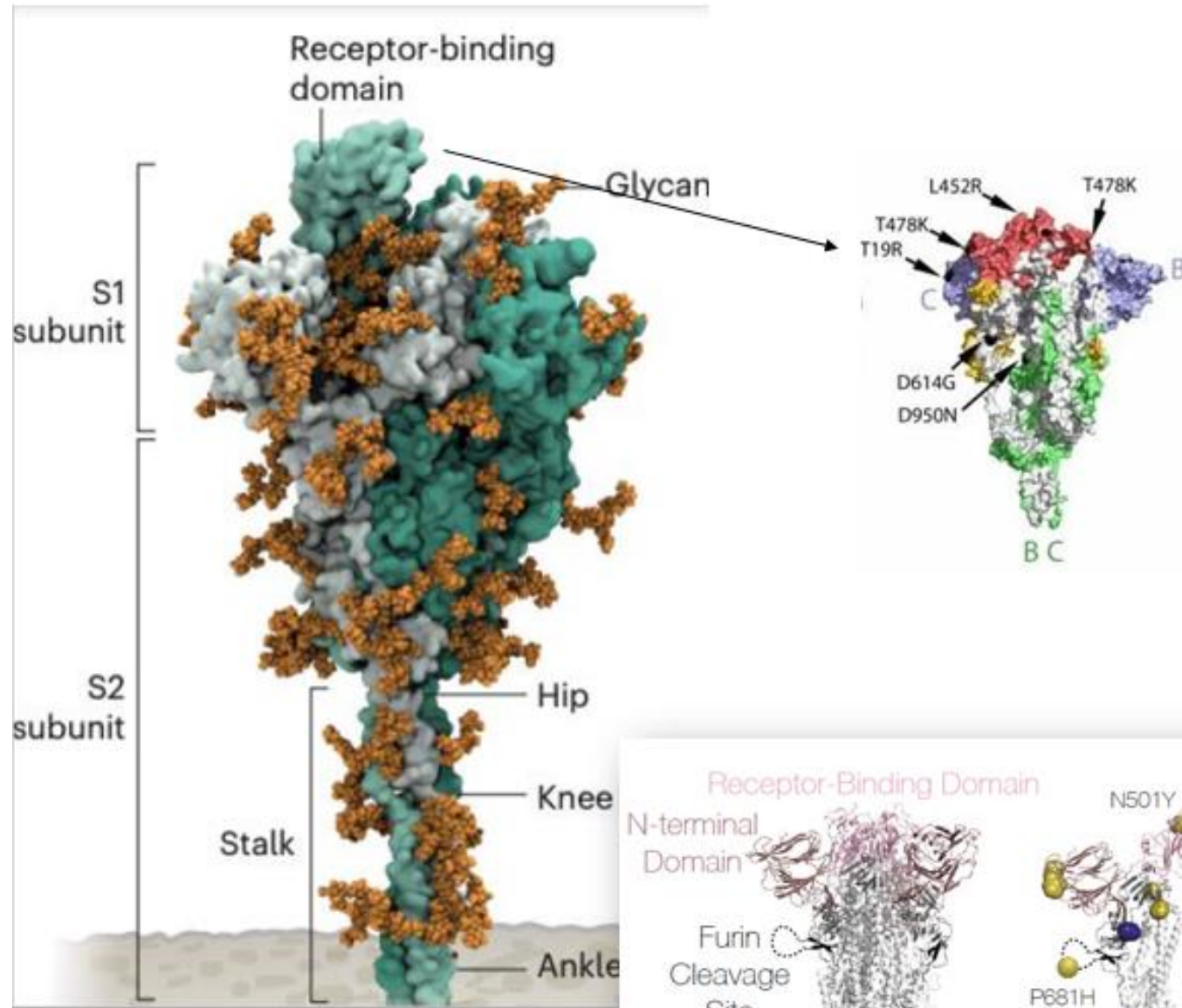
Peak Hospitalizations
(1/6/21): **21,938**

Peak ICU Admissions
(1/10/21): **4,868**

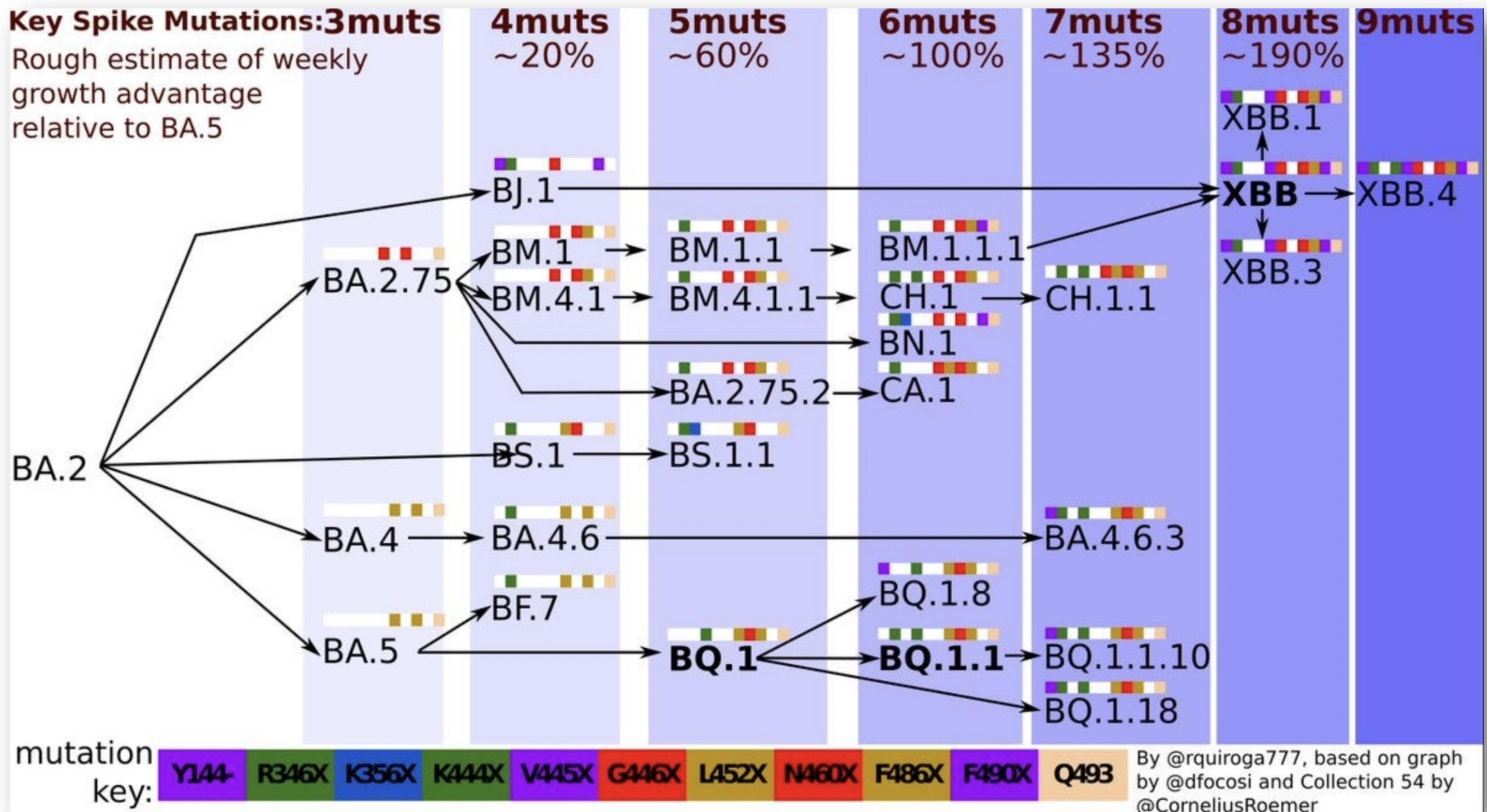
San Diego SARS-CoV-2 Wastewater surveillance – 12/11/22



SARS-CoV-2 Variants



SARS-CoV-2 Omicron Variants

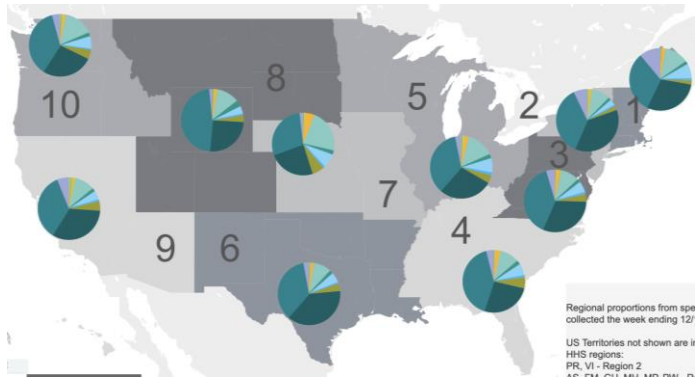
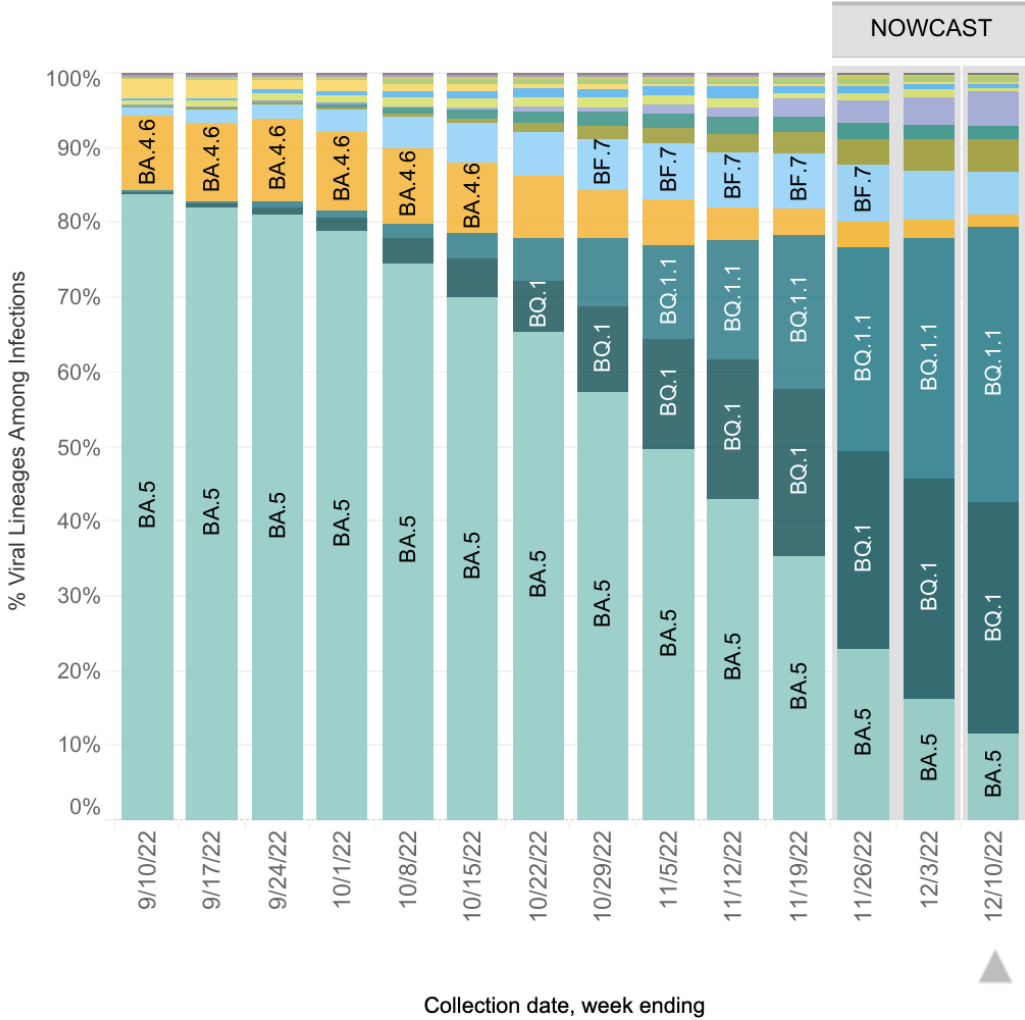


SARS-CoV-2 Variants – US CDC data (9/4/22-12/10/22)

United States: 12/4/2022 – 12/10/2022 NOWCAST

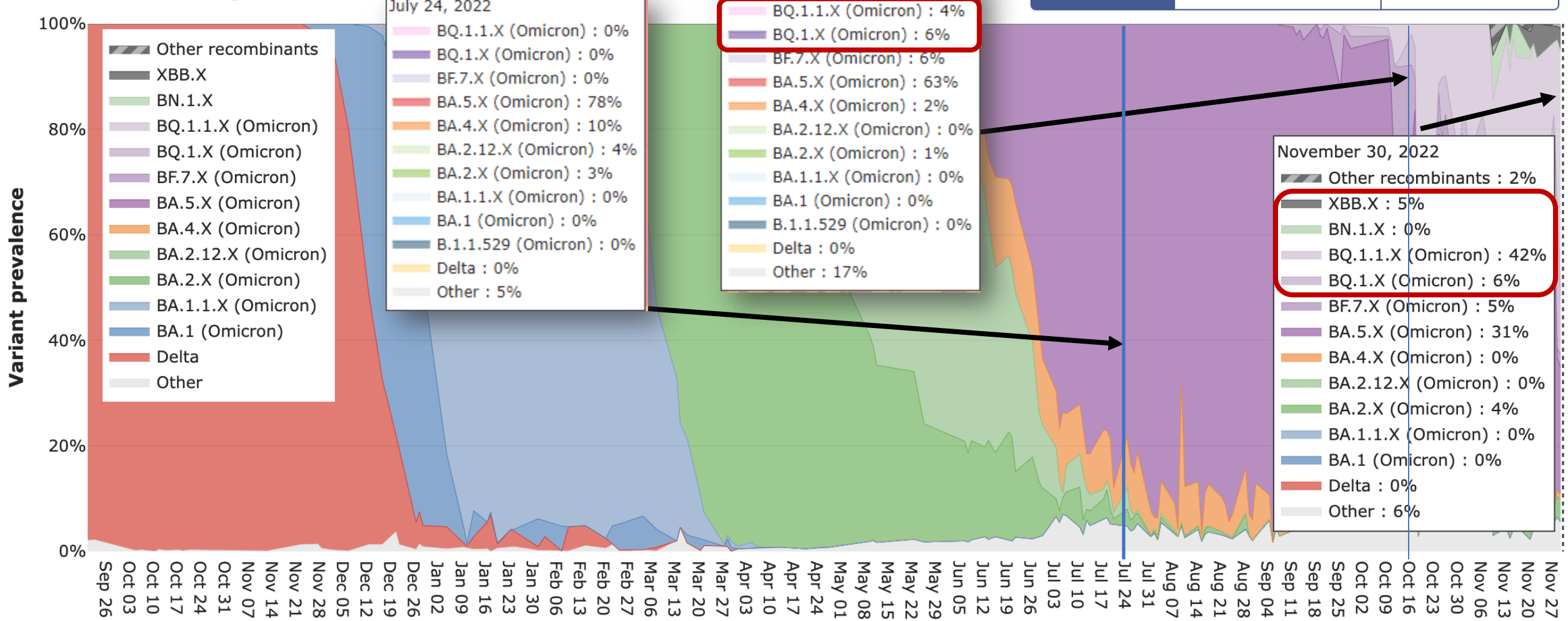
United States: 9/4/2022 – 12/10/2022

| USA | | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|----------|--------|------------|--|
| WHO label | Lineage # | US Class | %Total | 95%PI | |
| Omicron | BQ.1.1 | VOC | 36.8% | 34.1-39.6% | |
| | BQ.1 | VOC | 31.1% | 29.0-33.4% | |
| | BA.5 | VOC | 11.5% | 10.3-12.7% | |
| | BF.7 | VOC | 5.7% | 5.0-6.5% | |
| | XBB | VOC | 4.7% | 2.6-8.1% | |
| | BN.1 | VOC | 4.3% | 3.8-4.9% | |
| | BA.5.2.6 | VOC | 1.7% | 1.4-2.0% | |
| | BA.4.6 | VOC | 1.6% | 1.4-1.9% | |
| | BF.11 | VOC | 0.8% | 0.6-1.0% | |
| | BA.2 | VOC | 0.7% | 0.5-1.1% | |
| | BA.2.75 | VOC | 0.6% | 0.5-0.7% | |
| | BA.2.75.2 | VOC | 0.4% | 0.3-0.5% | |
| | BA.4 | VOC | 0.0% | 0.0-0.0% | |
| | BA.1.1 | VOC | 0.0% | 0.0-0.0% | |
| | B.1.1.529 | VOC | 0.0% | 0.0-0.0% | |
| | BA.2.12.1 | VOC | 0.0% | 0.0-0.0% | |
| Delta | B.1.617.2 | VBM | 0.0% | 0.0-0.0% | |
| Other | Other* | | 0.0% | 0.0-0.1% | |



SARS-CoV-2 Variants – SD Wastewater surveillance

Wastewater lineages



Updated EUA for Bebtelovimab

Table 2: Bebtelovimab Pseudotyped Virus-Like Particle Neutralization Data for SARS-CoV-2 Spike Protein Variants

| Lineage with Spike Protein Substitution | Country First Identified | WHO Nomenclature | Key Substitutions Tested ^a | Fold Reduction in Susceptibility |
|---|--------------------------|---|---|----------------------------------|
| BA.1.1 | South Africa | Omicron [+R346K] | BA.1 + R346K | No change ^b |
| BA.2 | South Africa | Omicron [BA.2] | G339D + S371F + S373P + S375F + T376A + D405N + R408S + K417N + N440K + S477N + T478K + E484A + Q493R + Q498R + N501Y + Y505H | No change ^b |
| BA.2.12.1 | USA | Omicron [BA.2+L452Q] | BA.2 + L452Q | No change ^b |
| BA.2.75 | India | Omicron [BA.2+D339H, G446S, N460K, R493Q (reversion)] | BA.2 + D339H + G446S + N460K + R493Q (reversion) | No change ^b |
| BA.2.75.2 | India | Omicron [BA.2.75+R346T+F486S] | BA.2.75 + R346T + F486S | No change ^b |
| BA.4/BA.5 | South Africa | Omicron [BA.4/BA.5] | G339D + S371F + S373P + S375F + T376A + D405N + R408S + K417N + | No change ^b |
| BA.4.6/BF.7 | USA/Belgium | Omicron [BA.4+R346T] | BA.4 + R346T | No change ^b |
| BQ.1 | Nigeria | Omicron [BA.5+K444T+N460K] | BA.5 + K444T + N460K | >672 ^d |
| BQ.1.1 | Multiple | Omicron [BA.5+R346T+K444T+N460K] | BA.5 + R346T + K444T + N460K | >672 ^d |

<https://www.fda.gov/media/156152/download>

<https://www.fda.gov/drugs/drug-safety-and-availability/fda-announces-bebtelovimab-not-currently-authorized-any-us-region>

https://www.covid19treatmentguidelines.nih.gov/therapies/update-on-bebtelovimab/?utm_source=site&utm_medium=home&utm_campaign=highlights

FDA Announces Bebtelovimab is Not Currently Authorized in Any US Region

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The COVID-19 Treatment Guidelines Panel's Update on Bebtelovimab

Last Updated: December 6, 2022

The prevalence of SARS-CoV-2 Omicron subvariants that are anticipated to be resistant to bebtelovimab (i.e., BQ.1, BQ.1.1, XBB) has been rapidly increasing in the United States. As of December 2, 2022, the combined prevalence of these subvariants is estimated to be over 68%.¹

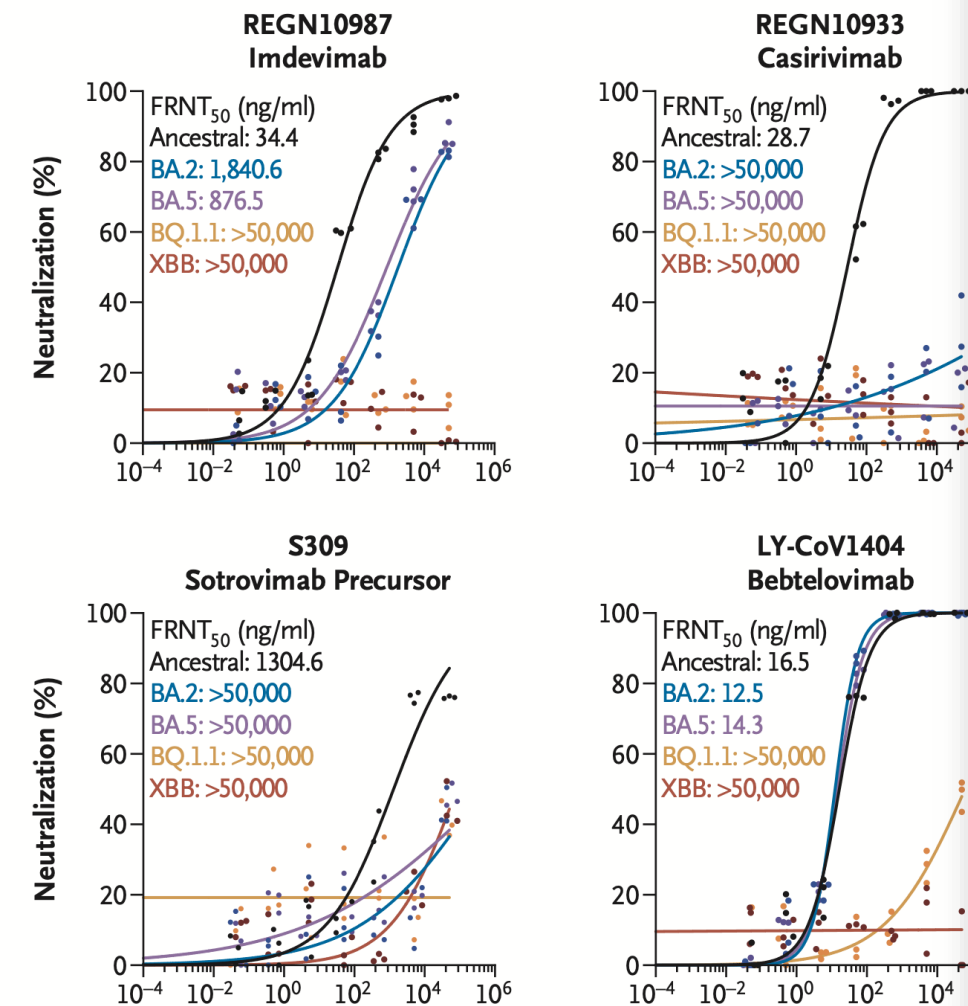
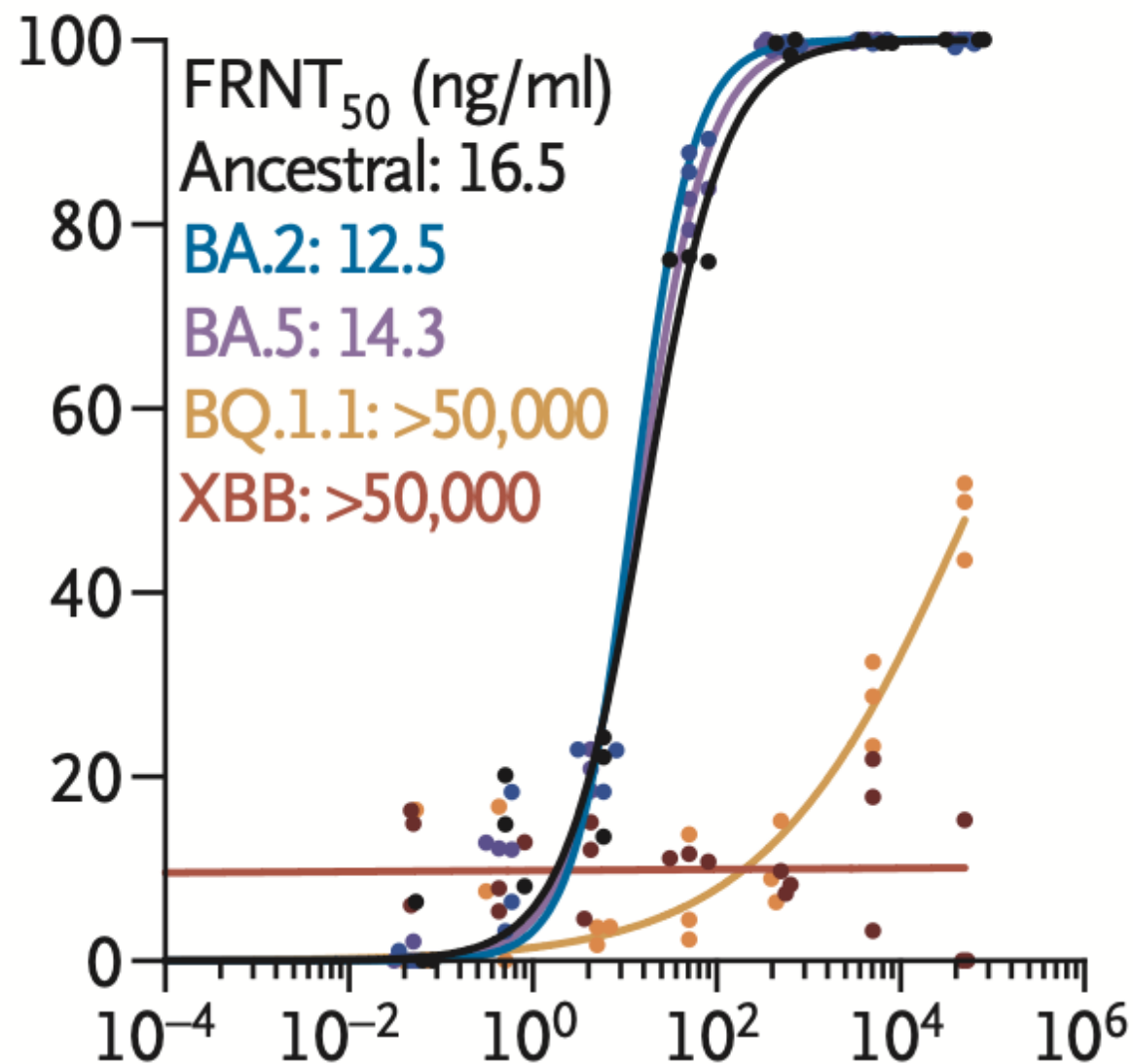
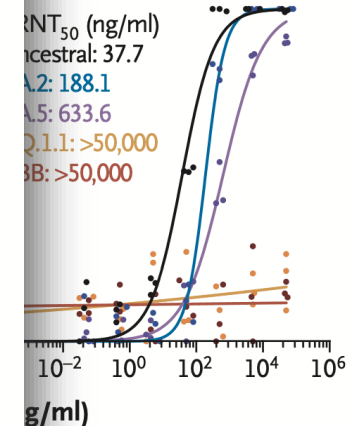
Due to the increasing prevalence of these resistant strains, the Food and Drug Administration revised the Emergency Use Authorization for bebtelovimab on November 30, 2022. Bebtelovimab is not currently authorized for the treatment of COVID-19 in any region of the United States.²

The COVID-19 Treatment Guidelines Panel (the Panel) now **recommends against** the use of **bebtelovimab** for the treatment of nonhospitalized patients with COVID-19 who are at high risk of progressing to severe COVID-19 ([AIII](#)).

CORRESPONDENCE

Efficacy of Antiviral Agents against Omicron Subvariants BQ.1.1 and XBB

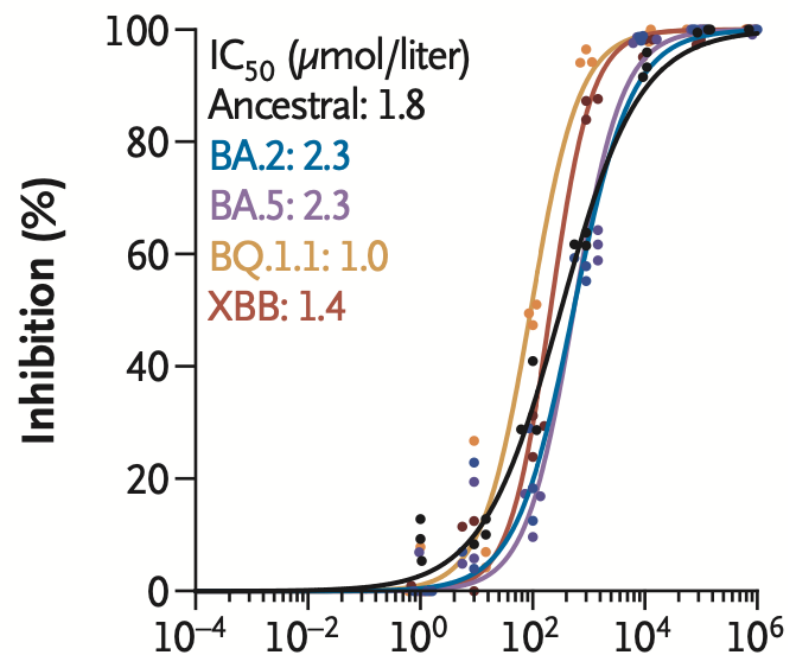
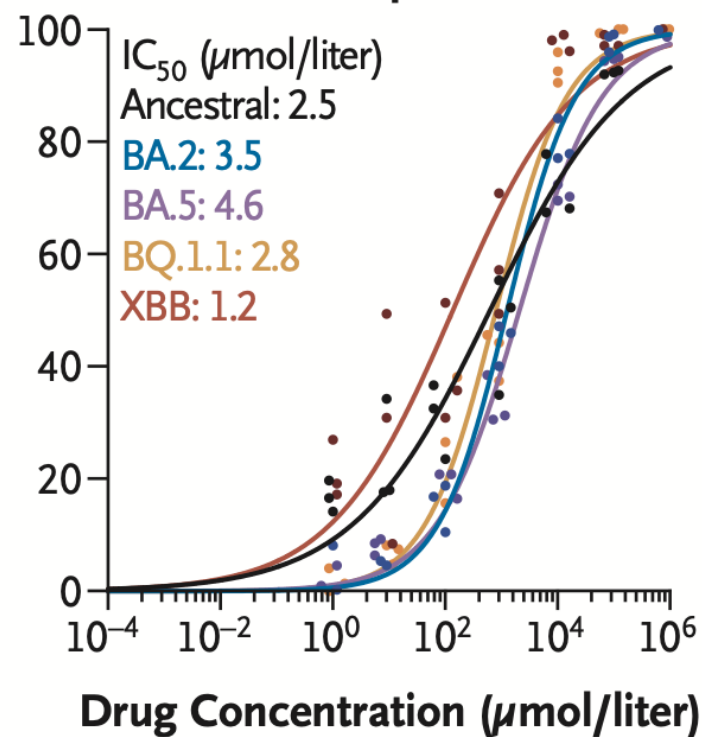
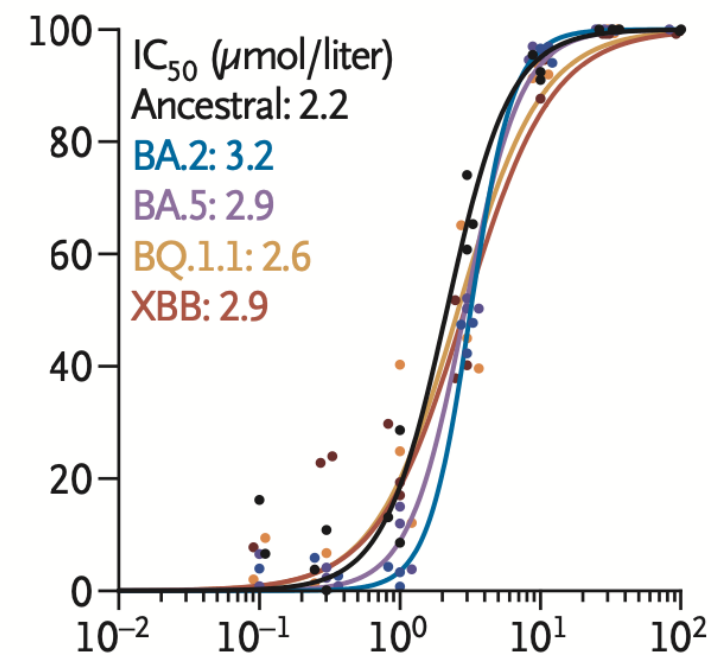
A Neutralizing Activity of Monoclonal Antibodies

LY-CoV1404
BebtelovimabCOV2-2196–COV2-2130
Eixagevimab–Cilgavimab

CORRESPONDENCE

Efficacy of Antiviral Agents against Omicron
Subvariants BQ.1.1 and XBB

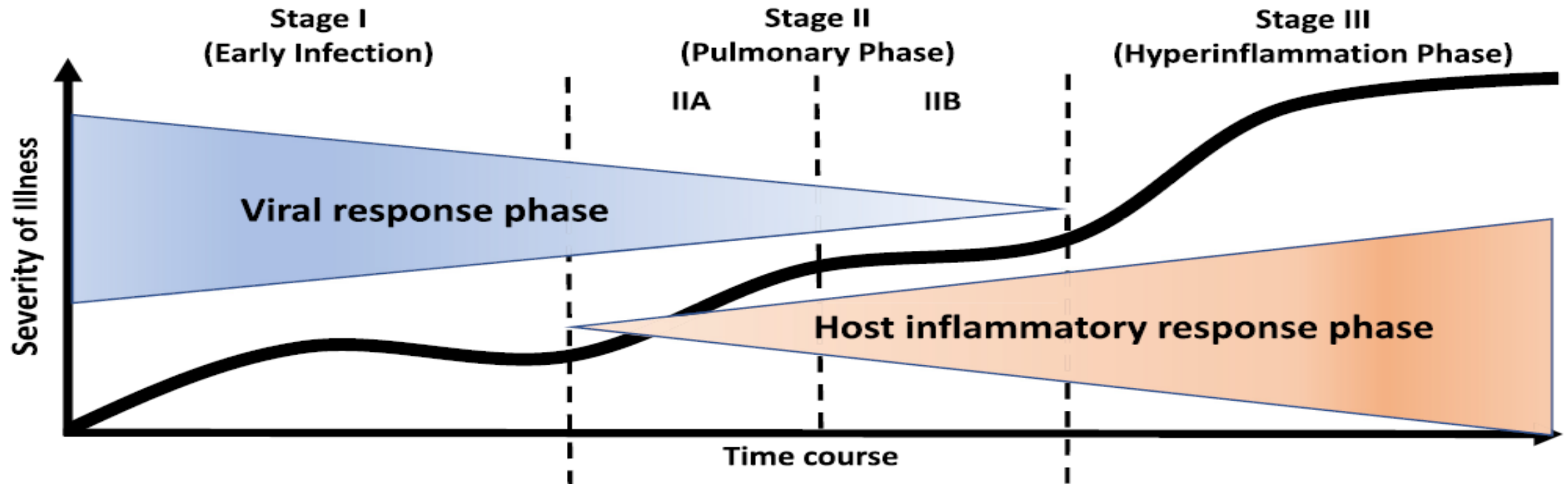
B Inhibitory Activity of Antiviral Drugs

GS-441524
RemdesivirEIDD-1931
MolnupiravirPF-07321332
Nirmatrelvir

Summary: Epidemiology and Variants

- SARS-CoV-2 epidemiology remains unpredictable with some seasonal variation
- With wide availability of rapid home antigen tests, officially reported case numbers are less reliable, however wastewater surveillance and genomic sequencing remain valuable tools to describe contours of pandemic
- New variants—defined by additive mutations in the spike protein gene--continue to evolve and cause outbreaks due to evasion of vaccine-mediated and natural immunity
- Current increase in cases, hospitalizations, and deaths driven by **XBB**, **BQ.1**, and **BQ.1.1** variants which are no longer susceptible to monoclonal antibodies.
- Oral and IV antivirals **nirmatrelvir/ritonavir**, **molnupiravir** and **remdesivir** maintain activity against all known variants.

Biphasic nature of COVID-19: viral → inflammatory stage

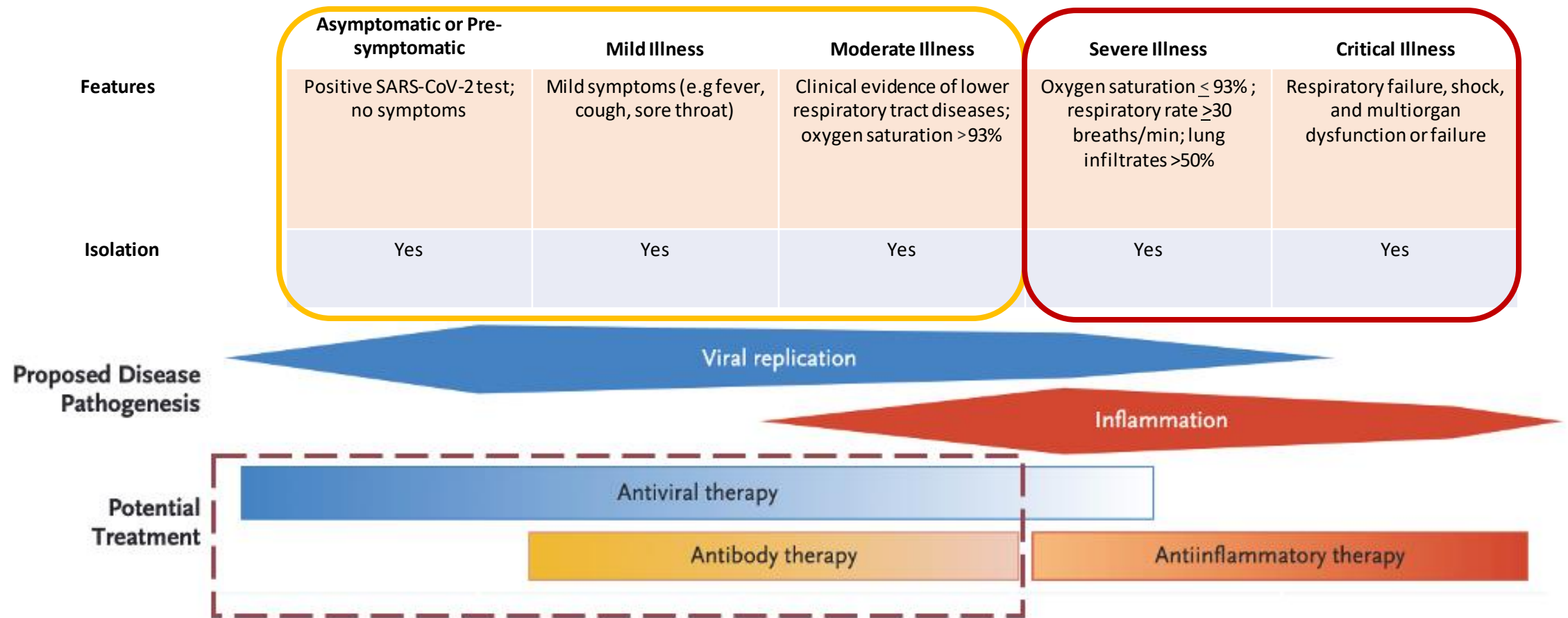


Important to consider **TIMING** of infection (2-3 weeks clinical course),
BIPHASIC NATURE of COVID-19 (Viral and Inflammatory Phase),
and **WIDE SPECTRUM** of severity and clinical manifestations

Asymptomatic/mild disease – loss of smell/taste – Long COVID – pneumonia/resp failure – MIS-C/MIS-A – thromboembolic - Death

- Because of bi-phasic nature, therapies must be appropriately tailored to disease phase:
 - Anti-viral agents are most effective when used **EARLY**
 - Anti-inflammatory agents are most effective when used **LATER**

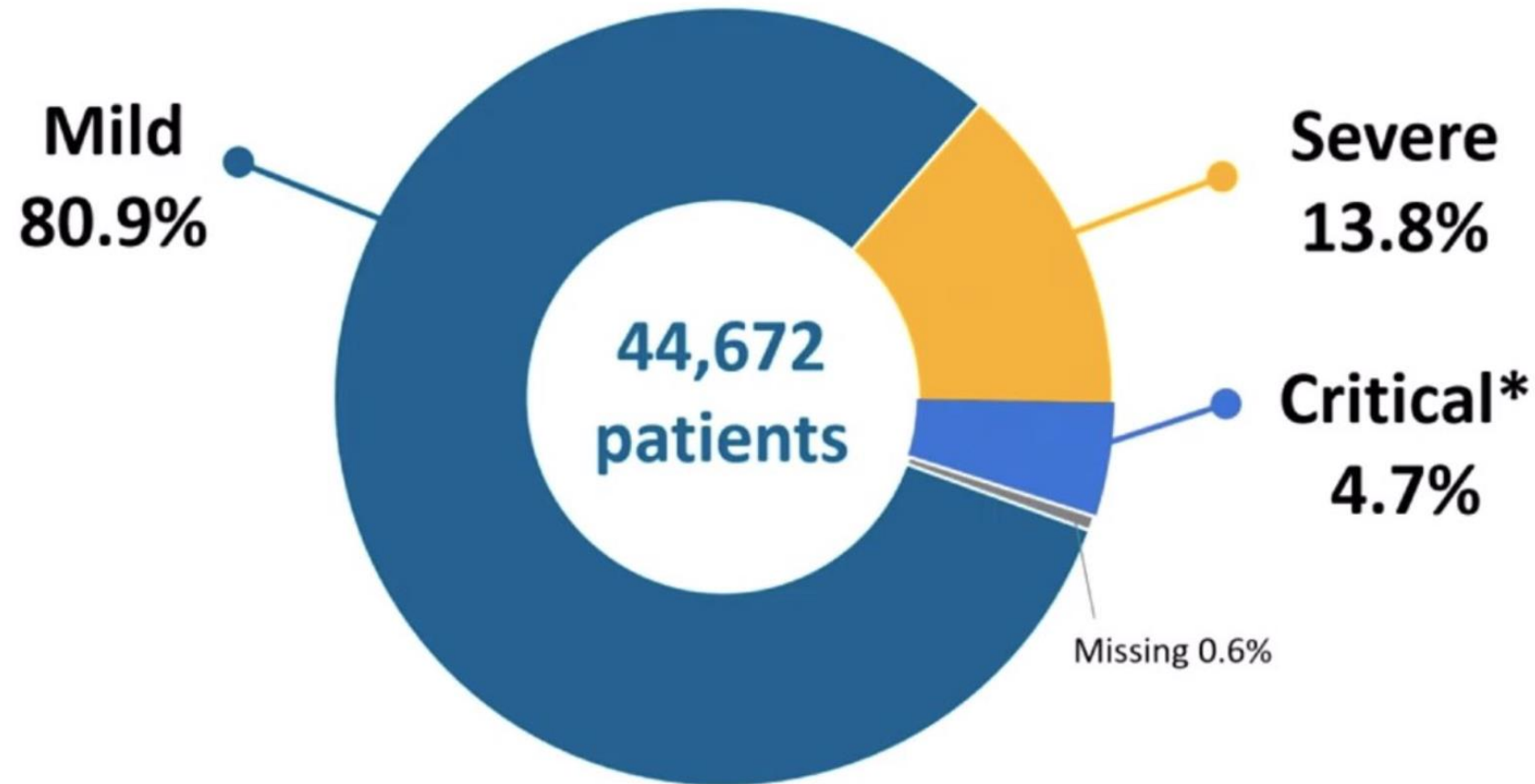
Viral and inflammatory phases have different clinical characteristics



- Anti-viral agents must be used during time of viral replication (mild to moderate illness) and are ineffective once disease has progressed into inflammatory phase

Only 20% of COVID-19 patients will have Severe/Critical outcome

COVID-19: Severity of Illness through 2/11/20 (N = 44,672)¹



adapted from Zhang 2020, [China CDC Weekly Report](#); 2(8):113-122.

* 1,023 (49%) deaths among 2,087 critically ill patients

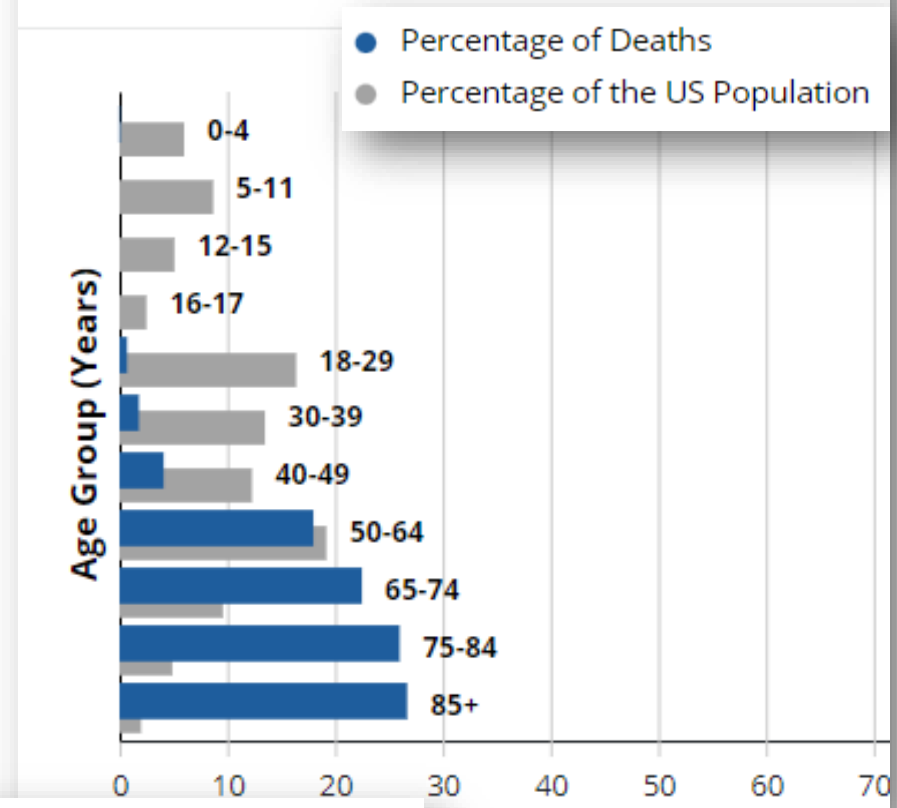
* These numbers are 'pre-vaccination', and vaccines are likely to reduce the percentage of severe/critical disease
1) <https://special.croi.capitalreach.com> – Dr. John Brooks – US CDC

Age is the most important risk factor for severe disease

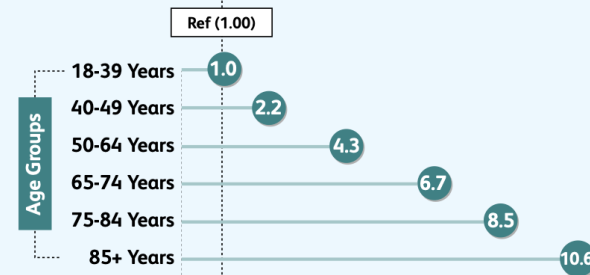
- In the United States, 81% of deaths occurred in those \geq age 65
- Risk of hospitalization/death starts to increase \geq age 50
 - (18% of deaths in 50-64 yr old group)
- Case Fatality rate by age:
 - ≥ 85 years 10-27%
 - 65-84 years 3-11%
 - 55-64 years 1-3%
 - < 55 years $< 1\%$

| Rate compared to 18-29 years old ¹ | 0-4 years old | 5-17 years old | 18-29 years old | 30-39 years old | 40-49 years old | 50-64 years old | 65-74 years old | 75-84 years old | 85+ years old |
|---|---------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Cases ² | 1x | 1x | Reference group | 1x | 1x | 1x | 1x | 1x | 1x |
| Hospitalization ³ | 1x | $< 1x$ | Reference group | 2x | 2x | 3x | 5x | 8x | 15x |
| Death ⁴ | $< 1x$ | $< 1x$ | Reference group | 4x | 10x | 25x | 60x | 140x | 340x |

Data from 904,221 deaths. Age group for 903,386 (99%) deaths.



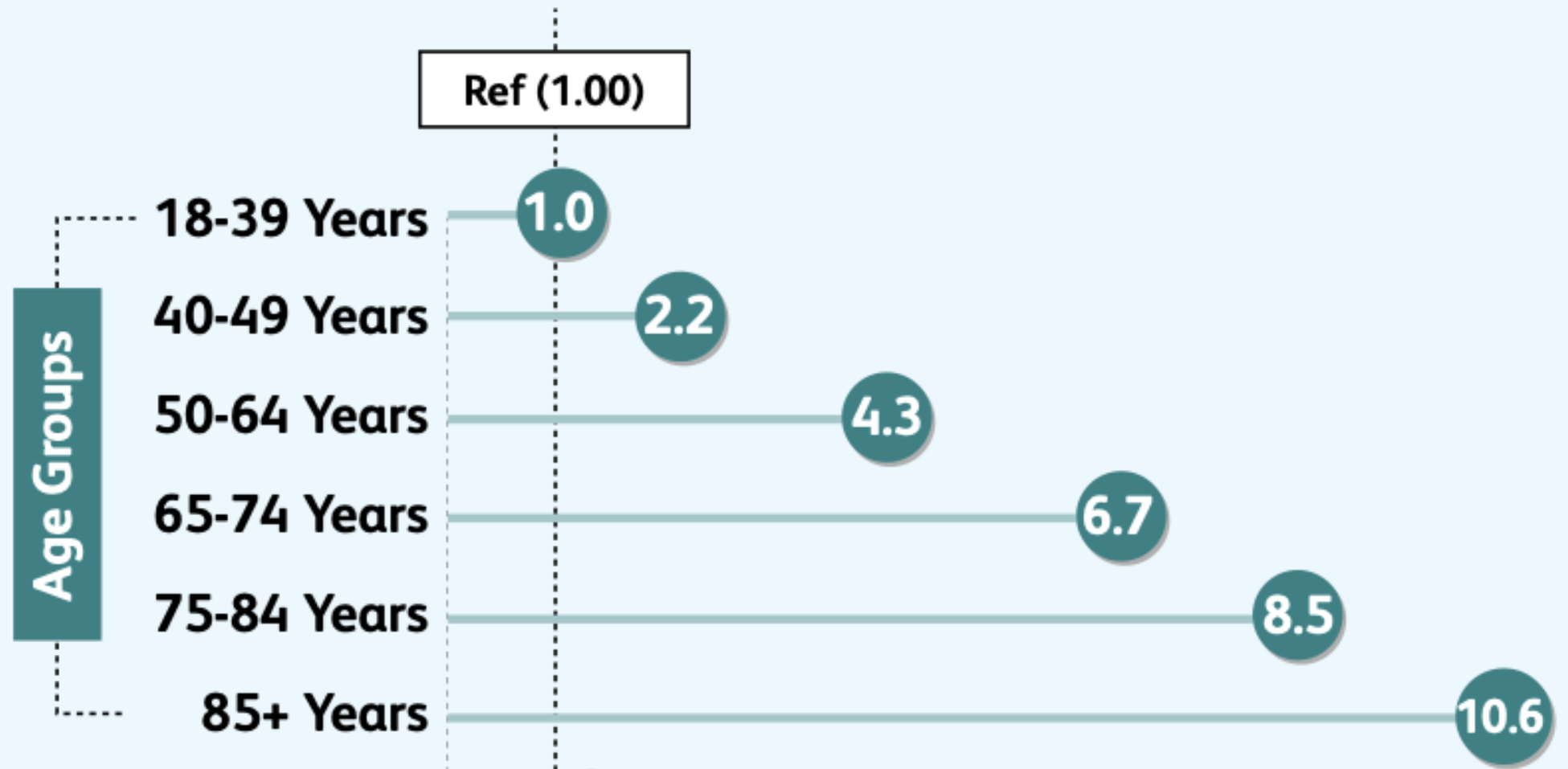
COVID-19 Death Risk Ratio for Select Age Groups and Underlying Medical Conditions



Age is the most important risk factor for severe disease

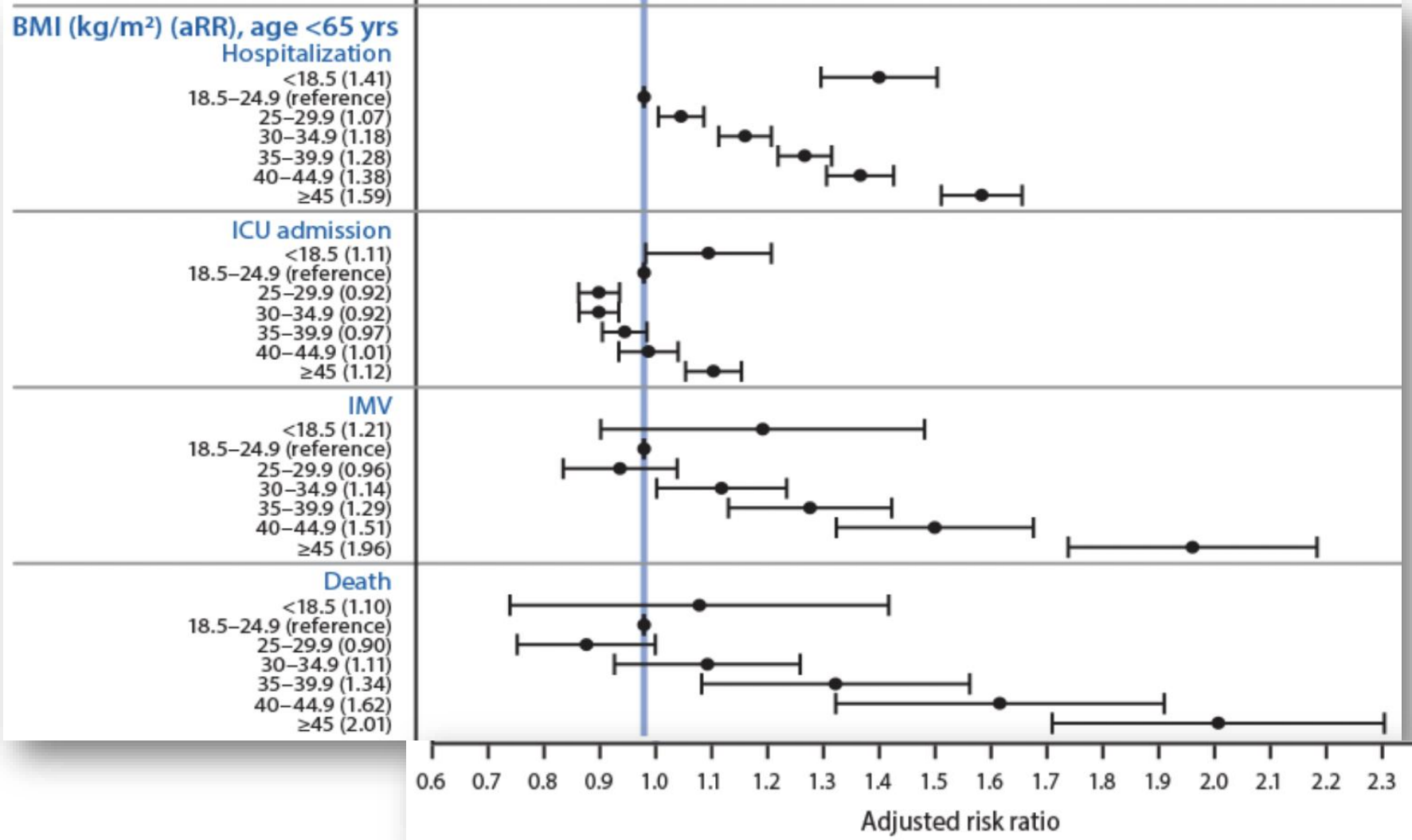
Date from 2021-2021 deaths Age group

COVID-19 Death Risk Ratio for Select Age Groups and Underlying Medical Conditions

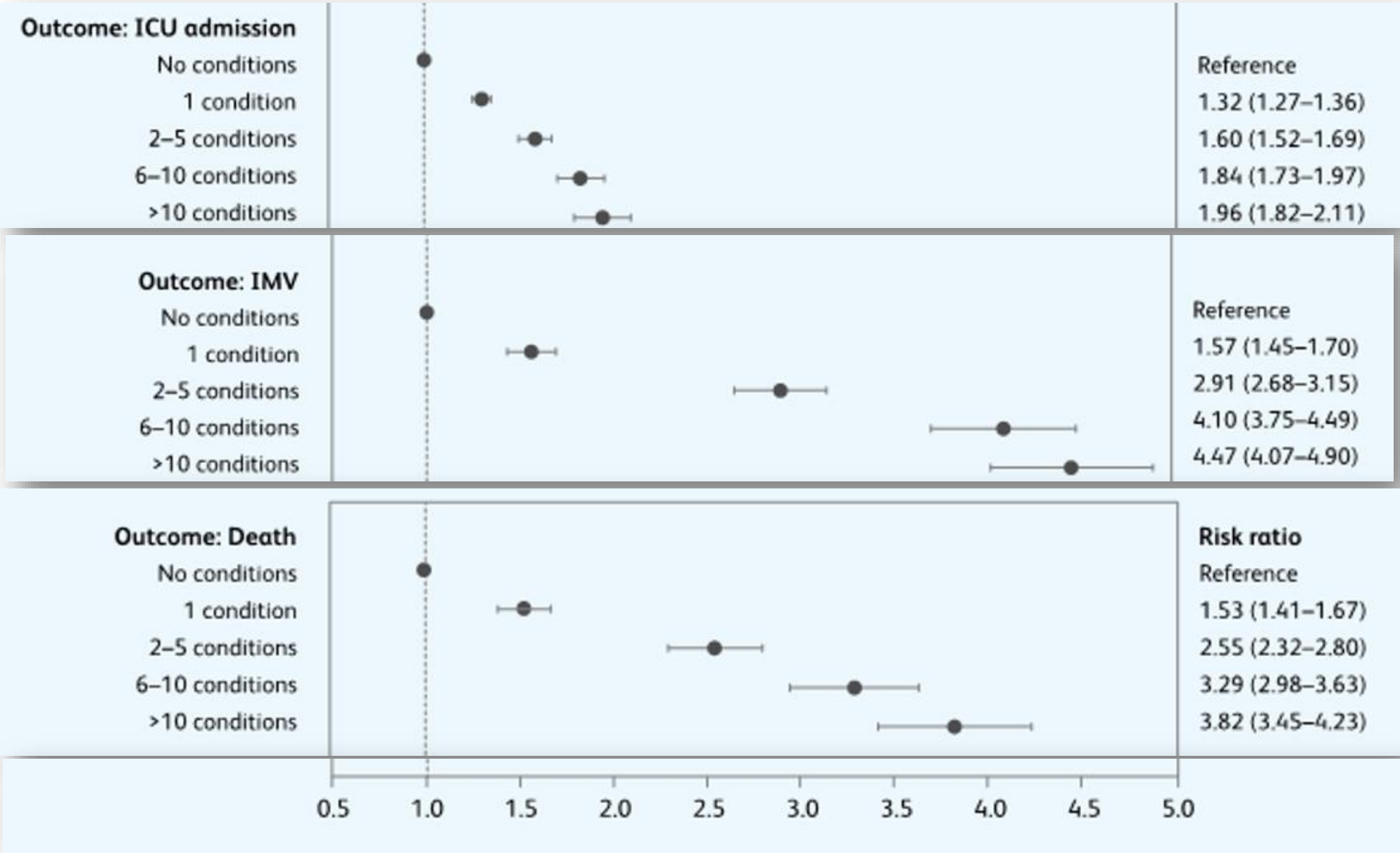


Obesity and high BMI are associated with severe outcomes

FIGURE 1. Association between body mass index (BMI) and severe COVID-19–associated illness* among adults aged ≥18 years, by age group — Premier Healthcare Special COVID-19 Release (PHD-SR),[†] United States, March–December 2020[§]



Higher number of comorbidities associated with poor outcomes



Large list of comorbidities associated with poor outcomes

Higher Risk | *Meta-Analysis or Systematic Review Demonstrated Good or Strong Evidence*

- Asthma
- Cancer
- Cerebrovascular Disease
- Chronic Kidney Disease*
- Chronic lung diseases limited to:
 - Interstitial lung disease, pulmonary embolism, pulmonary hypertension, bronchiectasis, COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
- Chronic liver diseases limited to:
 - Cirrhosis, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, alcoholic liver disease, autoimmune hepatitis
- Cystic Fibrosis
- Diabetes mellitus, type 1 and type 2*†
- Disabilities‡:
 - Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), cerebral palsy, congenital malformations (birth defects), limitations with self-care or activities of daily living, intellectual and developmental disabilities, learning disabilities, and spinal cord injuries
- Heart conditions (such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, or cardiomyopathies)
- HIV (human immunodeficiency virus)
- Mental health disorders limited to:
 - Mood disorders (including depression) and schizophrenia spectrum disorders
- Neurologic conditions limited to dementia†
- Obesity (BMI ≥ 30 kg/m² or ≥ 95 th percentile in children)*†
- Primary Immunodeficiencies
- Pregnancy and recent pregnancy
- Physical inactivity
- Smoking, current and former
- Solid organ or hematopoietic cell transplantation
- Tuberculosis
- Use of corticosteroids or other immunosuppressive medications

Suggestive Higher Risk | *Evidence supported by mostly cohort, case-control, or cross-sectional studies (systematic reviews are available for some conditions in children with underlying conditions)*

- Overweight (BMI ≥ 25 kg/m², but < 30 kg/m²)
- Sickle Cell Disease
- Substance use disorders
- Thalassemia

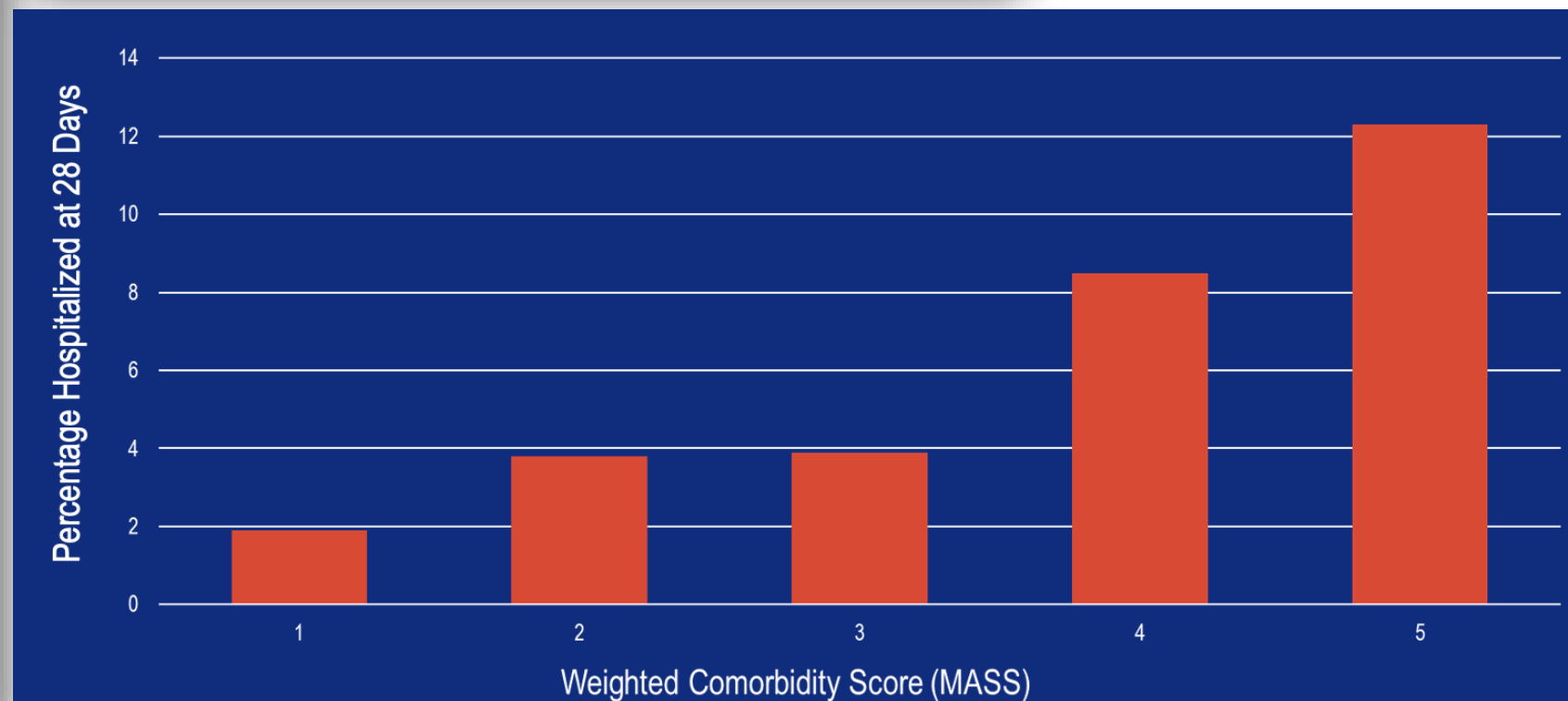
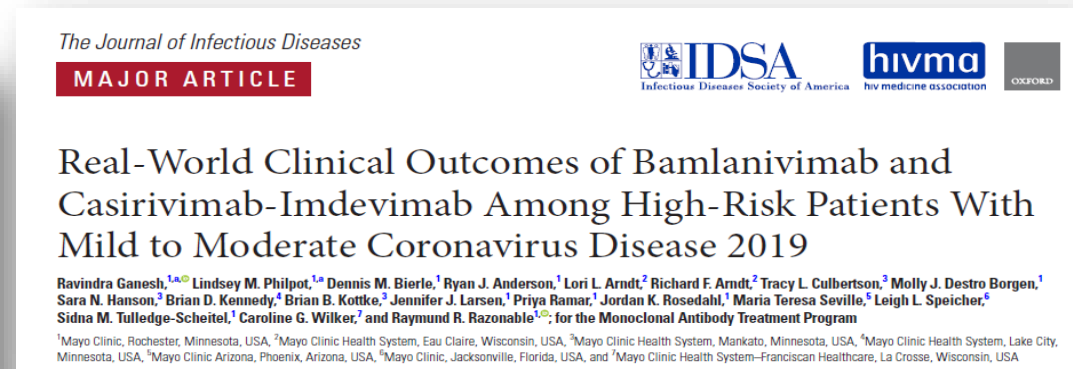
Mixed Evidence | *Meta-analysis or systematic review is inconclusive*

- Alpha 1 antitrypsin deficiency
- Bronchopulmonary Disease
- Hepatitis B
- Hepatitis C
- Hypertension*

COVID-19 therapeutics - Prioritization

- MASS score

| Category | Points |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Age > 65 yo | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 |
| BMI > 35 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 |
| DMII | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 |
| CKD | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 |
| CVD <u>disease</u> + age > 55yo | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 |
| Resp. Disease + age > 55yo | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 |
| HTN + age > 55yo | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 |
| Immunosuppression | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 |
| Total <u>Points</u> = _____ | |



People with Certain Medical Conditions

<https://doi.org/10.1093/infdis/jiab377>; Bierle Met al J Prim Care Comm Health 2021

<https://www.fda.gov/media/155050/download>;

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html>

COVID-19 therapeutics - Prioritization



COVID-19 Treatment Guidelines



[Home](#) / [Overview](#) / Prioritization of Therapeutics

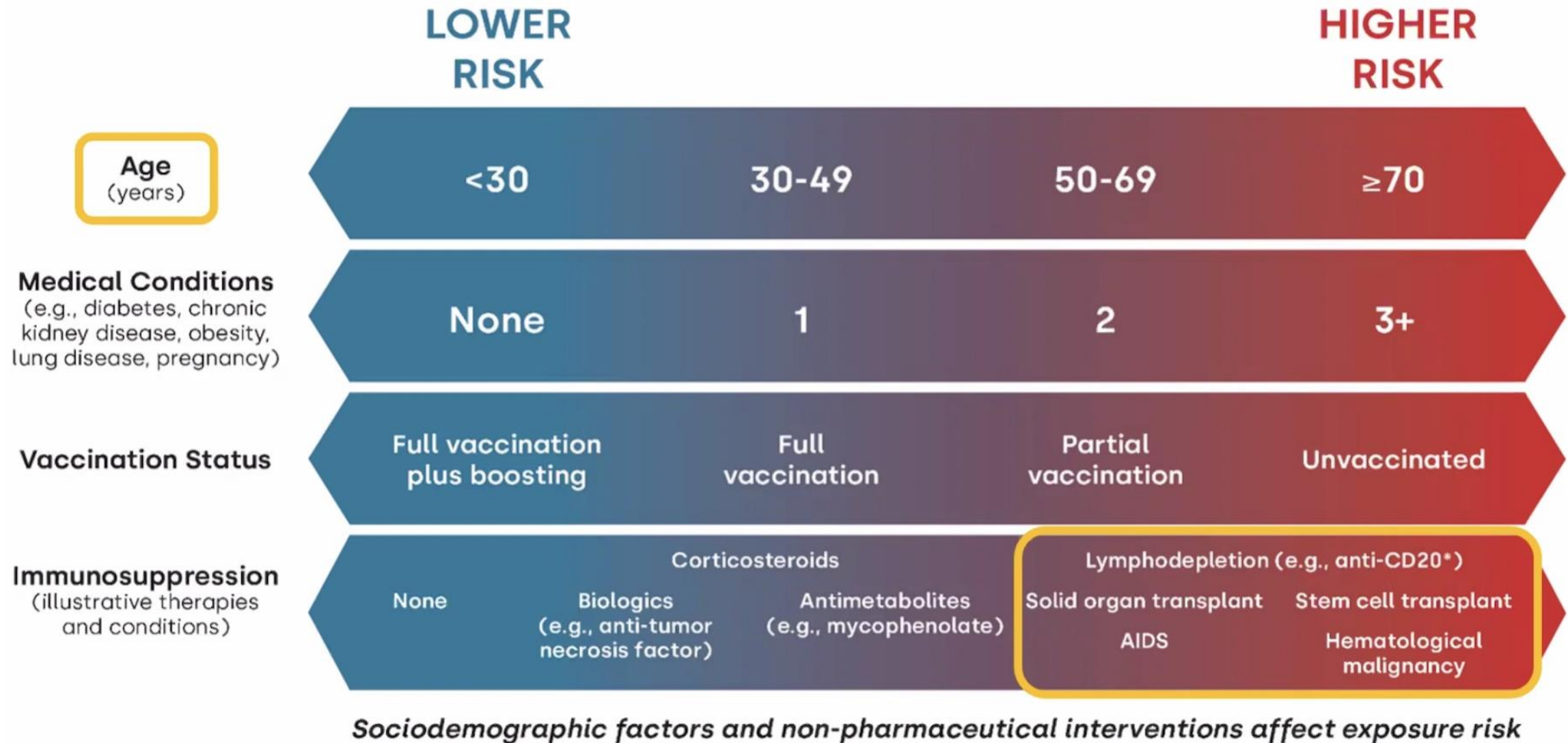
Prioritization of Anti-SARS-CoV-2 Therapies for the Treatment of COVID-19 in Nonhospitalized Patients When There Are Logistical Constraints

Last Updated: December 1, 2022

The prioritization guidance in this section should be used **only** when logistical constraints limit the availability of therapies. When there are no logistical constraints, the COVID-19 Treatment Guidelines Panel (the Panel) recommends that therapies for treatment of SARS-CoV-2 be prescribed for **any** eligible individual as recommended in these Guidelines.

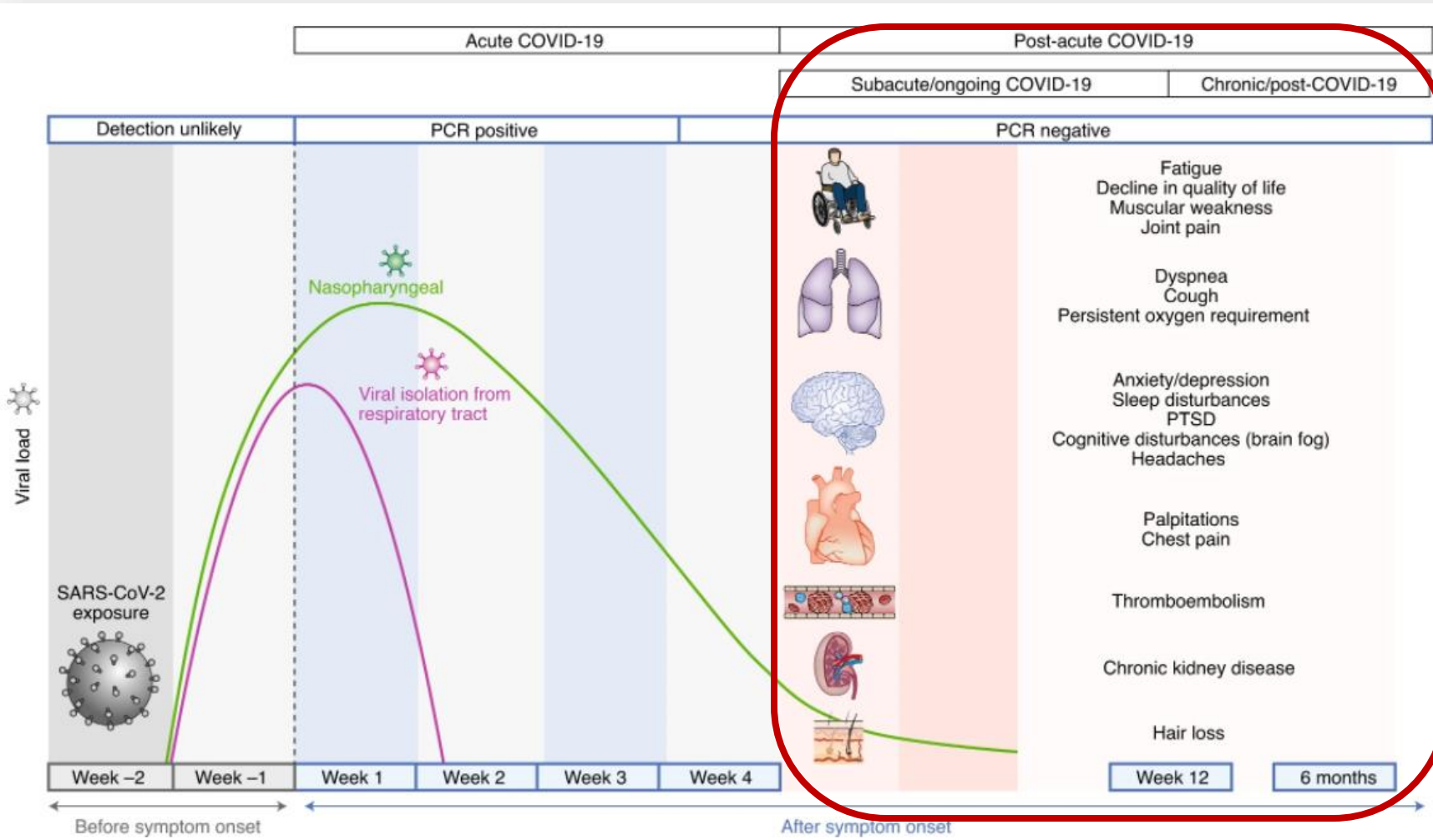
| Tier | Risk Group |
|------|---|
| 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Immunocompromised individuals not expected to mount an adequate immune response to COVID-19 vaccination or SARS-CoV-2 infection due to their underlying conditions, regardless of vaccine status (see Immunocompromising Conditions below); <i>or</i>Unvaccinated individuals at the highest risk of severe disease (anyone aged ≥ 75 years or anyone aged ≥ 65 years with additional risk factors). |
| 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Unvaccinated individuals not included in Tier 1 who are at risk of severe disease (anyone aged ≥ 65 years or anyone aged < 65 years with clinical risk factors) |
| 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Vaccinated individuals at risk of severe disease (anyone aged ≥ 65 years or anyone aged < 65 years with clinical risk factors) <p>Note: Vaccinated individuals who are not up to date with their immunizations are likely at higher risk for severe disease; patients within this tier who are in this situation should be prioritized for treatment.</p> |

COVID-19 Risk Continuum (age, immune status, co-morbidity, vax)



Original illustration by Dr. William Werbel. Adapted for the

Long-COVID, aka 'Post-Acute Sequelae of COVID-19' (PASC)



Most Common Symptoms:

- Shortness of breath
- Fatigue
- Post-Exertional malaise
- Brain fog
- Chronic cough
- Chest pain
- Headache
- Palpitations
- Muscle/joint aches
- Numbness/tingling
- Diarrhea
- Insomnia
- Fever/Temperature dysregulation
- Pain
- Loss of taste/smell

- Defined as persistent symptoms such as fatigue, shortness of breath, chest pain, brain fog, joint or muscle pains or general decline in quality of life beyond 4 weeks from onset of symptoms.
- Studies have shown that 10-30% of COVID-19 survivors meet criteria for PASC diagnosis
- Can occur with any disease severity

Summary: Pathophysiology & Clinical Risk Factors

- The clinical spectrum of COVID-19 is diverse including asymptomatic infections, inflammatory syndromes, and even longer-lasting post-COVID conditions
- COVID-19 is **bi-phasic** with an early viral phase and a late inflammatory phase
 - therapies must be tailored to disease phase: anti-viral agents are most effective when used early; anti-inflammatory agents are most effective when used late.
- Disease severity classification (mild, moderate, severe, critical) is an important clinical skill to provide patients with appropriate levels of care
- Age, immunosuppression, vaccination status, presence of obesity and medical comorbidities can predict which patients are more likely at high risk to progress to severe disease, hospitalization and death
- Anti-viral treatment is indicated for any patient with an elevated risk for severe disease



Recommended

1. Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (AIIa)

- ≤ 5 d symptoms, PO x 5d, 88% efficacy, active against all variants
- Renal dosing if eGFR 30-60 mL/min
- Complex DDI's; **manage** with Liverpool DDI app

2. Remdesivir (BIIa)

- ≤ 7 symptoms, IV x 3d, 87% efficacy, active against all variants
- Variable commercial insurance coverage

Alternative

~~3. Bebtelovimab (CIII)~~

- ~~• ≤ 7 symptoms, IV x 3d, 87% efficacy, active against all variants~~
- **Not recommended when BQ.1+BQ.1.1 > 50%**

4. Molnupiravir (CIIa)

- ≤ 5 d symptoms, PO x 5d, 30-50% efficacy, \geq age 18, teratogenic
- No DDI's, but lower efficacy limits use

For Treatment of Mild to Moderate COVID-19 in Nonhospitalized Adults Who Are at High Risk of Progressing to Severe COVID-19

- The Panel has recommended bebtelovimab as an alternative treatment for COVID-19 when neither of the preferred treatments (ritonavir-boosted nirmatrelvir [Paxlovid] or remdesivir) are available, feasible to use, or clinically appropriate. However, when resistant Omicron subvariants (e.g., BQ.1, BQ.1.1) represent the majority^a of infections in the region,^{b,c} clinicians cannot rely on bebtelovimab to be effective for the treatment of COVID-19. Ritonavir-boosted nirmatrelvir, remdesivir, and molnupiravir are expected to be active against these resistant subvariants.
- The Panel continues to recommend the following anti-SARS-CoV-2 therapies as preferred treatments for COVID-19. These drugs are listed in order of preference:
 - Ritonavir-boosted nirmatrelvir (Paxlovid) (AIIa)
 - Remdesivir (BIIa)
- The following alternative therapies should be used **ONLY** when neither of the preferred therapies are available, feasible to use, or clinically appropriate. These drugs are listed in alphabetical order:
 - ~~Bebtelovimab, but **ONLY** when the majority^a of circulating Omicron subvariants in the region^{b,c} are susceptible (CIII)~~
 - Molnupiravir (CIIa)

Basic Principles of Test to Treat for COVID-19

1. **Confirm** positive SARS-CoV-2 PCR or Antigen test and high risk for progression to severe disease
2. **Classify** severity of disease (**mild/moderate** vs. **severe/critical**)
3. **Determine** onset of symptoms (< 5 or < 7 days)
4. **Consider** clinical features (renal function, pregnancy, age, DDI's)
5. **Select** oral or IV anti-viral therapy

- **Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir** (Paxlovid) PO x 5 days
- **Remdesivir** (Veklury) IV x 3 days

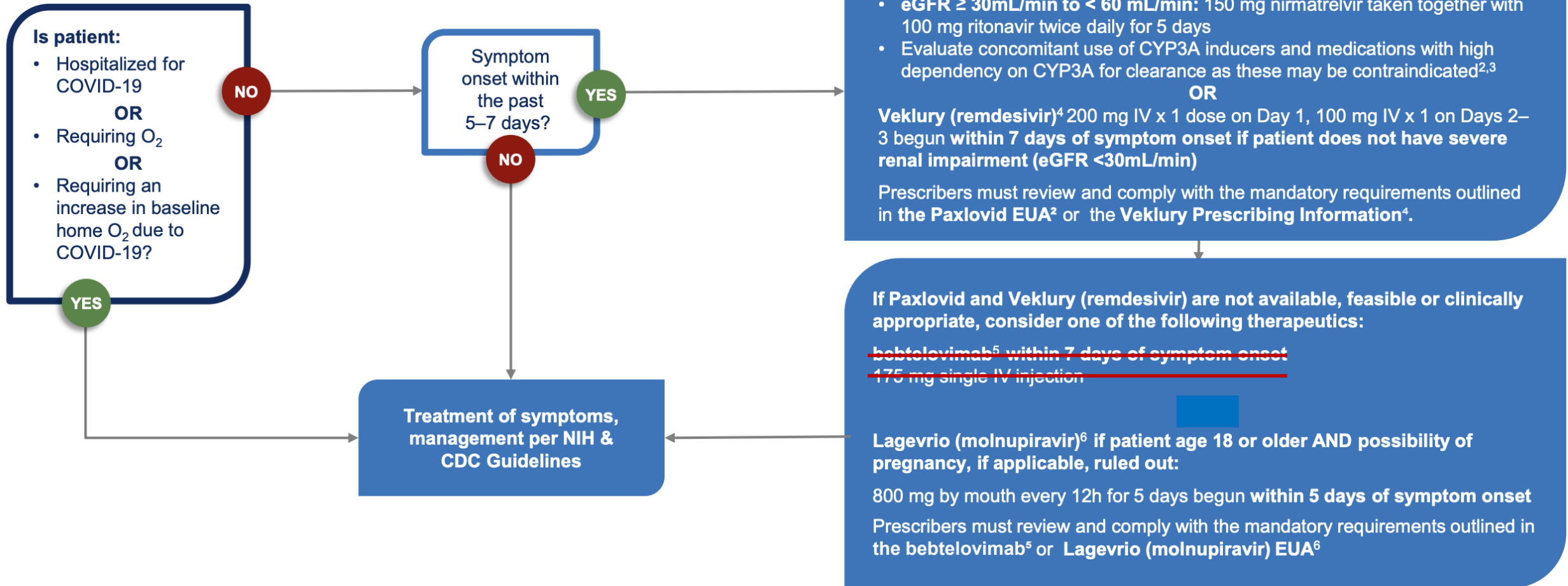
Only if above not available:

- **Molnupiravir** (Lagevrio) PO x 5 days

COVID-19 Outpatient Therapeutics

Clinical Decision Aid for Ages 12+ years

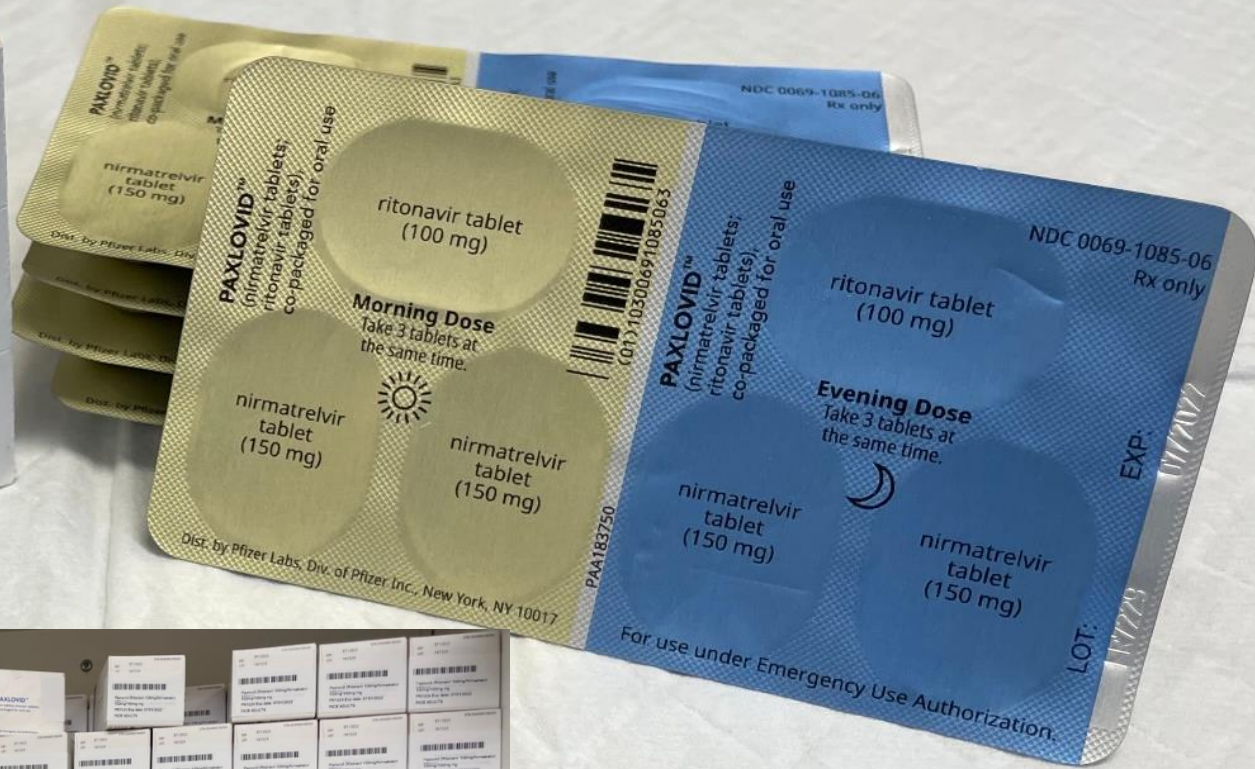
Adult or pediatric patient (ages 12 and older weighing at least 40 kg) with mild to moderate COVID-19 and at high risk for progression to severe disease



References:

- ¹ NIH COVID-19 Treatment Guidelines Therapeutic Management of Nonhospitalized Adults With COVID-19. <https://www.covid19treatmentguidelines.nih.gov/therapies/statement-on-therapies-for-high-risk-nonhospitalized-patients/>
- ² Paxlovid EUA. <https://www.fda.gov/media/155050/download>
- ³ NIH's COVID-19 Treatment Guidelines Panel: Ritonavir-Boosted Nirmatrelvir (Paxlovid). [https://www.covid19treatmentguidelines.nih.gov/therapies/antiviral-therapy/ritonavir-boosted-nirmatrelvir--paxlovid-/](https://www.covid19treatmentguidelines.nih.gov/therapies/antiviral-therapy/ritonavir-boosted-nirmatrelvir--paxlovid/)
- ⁴ Veklury (remdesivir) Prescribing Information. https://www.gilead.com/-/media/files/pdfs/medicines/covid-19/veklury/veklury_pi.pdf
- ⁵ Bebtelovimab EUA. <https://www.fda.gov/media/156152/download>
- ⁶ Lagevrio (molnupiravir) EUA. <https://www.fda.gov/media/156152/download>





Pfizer Announces Additional Phase 2/3 Study Results Confirming Robust Efficacy of Novel COVID-19 Oral Antiviral Treatment Candidate in Reducing Risk of Hospitalization or Death

Tuesday, December 14, 2021 - 06:45am



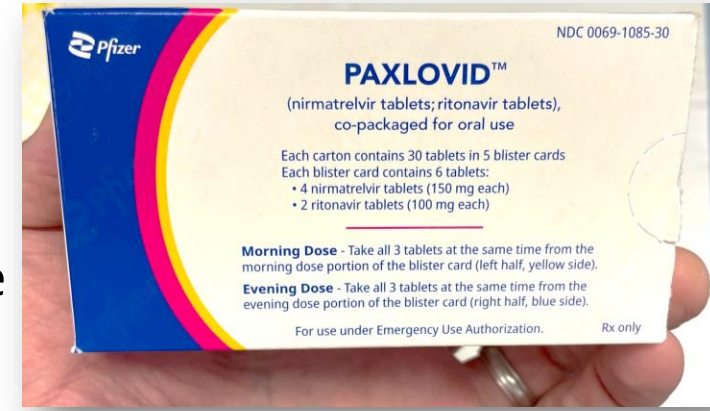
Paxlovid (Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir) SARS-CoV-2 3CL Protease Inhibitor

- **Phase 2/3 EPIC-HR trial:** N = 2,246 Non-hospitalized adult patients with mild-to-moderate COVID-19 and at least 1 risk factor for progression to severe COVID-19
- 3 pills given BID x 5 days
 - If within 3 days: Paxlovid reduced risk of hospitalization/death by **89%** from placebo (6.5%, 44/682 → 0.7%, 5/697)
 - If within 5 days: Paxlovid reduced risk of hospitalization/death by **88%** from placebo (6.3%, 66/1046 → 0.8%, 8/1039)
 - **ZERO** deaths in Paxlovid group; to **TWELVE** (1.2%) in the placebo group.

US Government has procured 20 million courses

COVID-19 therapeutics – Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid)

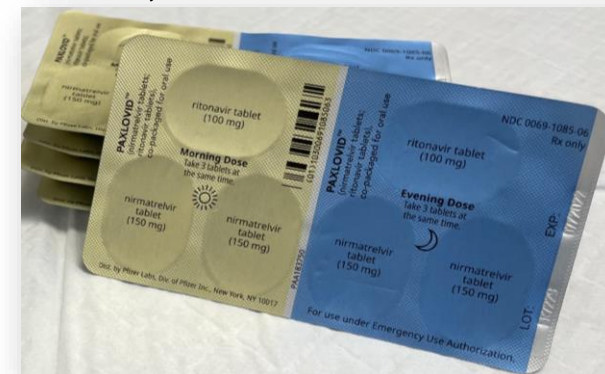
- Nirmatrelvir 300 mg/ritonavir 150 mg PO BID x 5 days
- SARS-CoV-2 main protease (Mpro, a.k.a. 3CLpro or Nsp5) inhibitor
- **FDA EUA:** ‘For the treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19 in adults and pediatric patients (≥ 12 yrs and ≥ 40 kg) with positive results of direct SARS-CoV-2 viral testing, and who are at high risk for progression to severe COVID-19, including hospitalization or death’



88% reduction in hospitalization if started within 5 days of symptom onset

Clinical Considerations

- **Drug-Drug interactions** with CONTRAINDICATIONS (see www.covid19-druginteractions.org) for coadministration with drugs highly dependent on CYP3A for clearance and some potent CYP3A inducers
- Dose reduction for **moderate renal impairment** (eGFR 30-60 mL/min; CKD stage \geq III)
- Not recommended for **severe renal impairment** (eGFR < 30 mL/min; CKD stage IV or V)
- **Indications for Treatment**
- **Use in Pregnancy**
- **‘Paxlovid Rebound’**



Ritonavir Drug-Drug Interactions

- Ritonavir is an HIV Protease Inhibitor that was also observed to be a strong inhibitor of Cytochrome P450 enzymes (CYP3A4) resulting in dramatically slower metabolism of P450-metabolized drugs

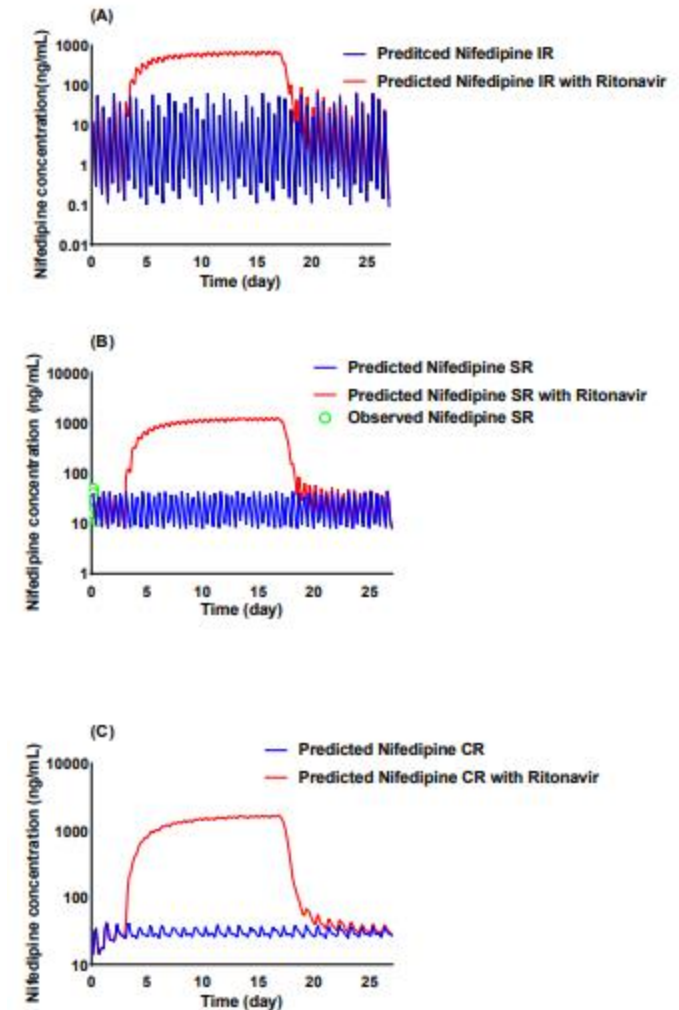
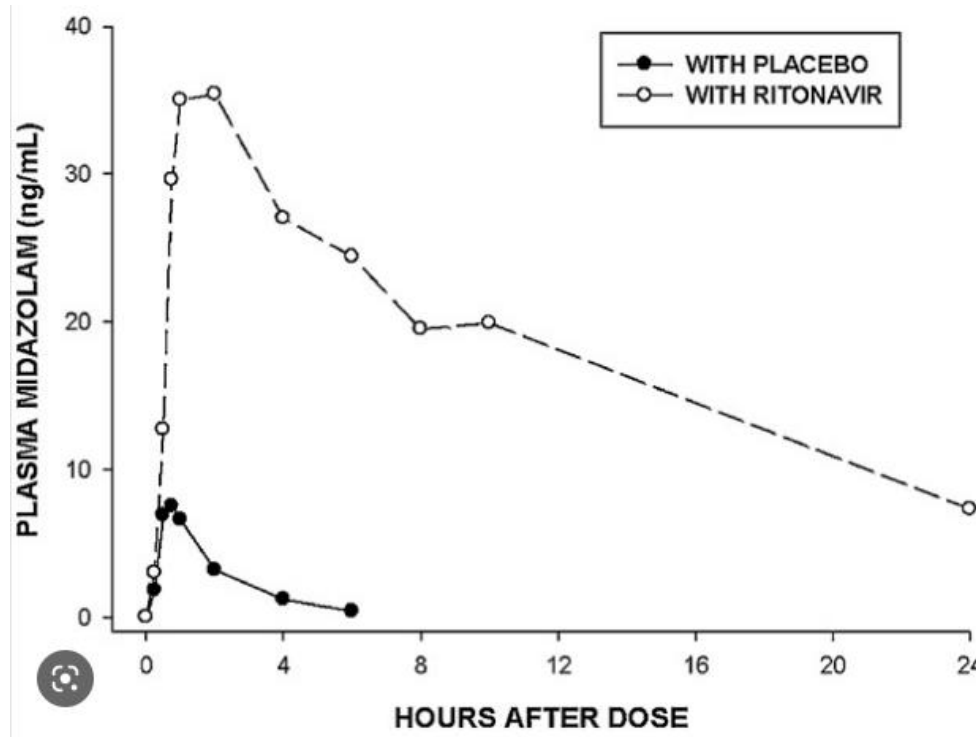
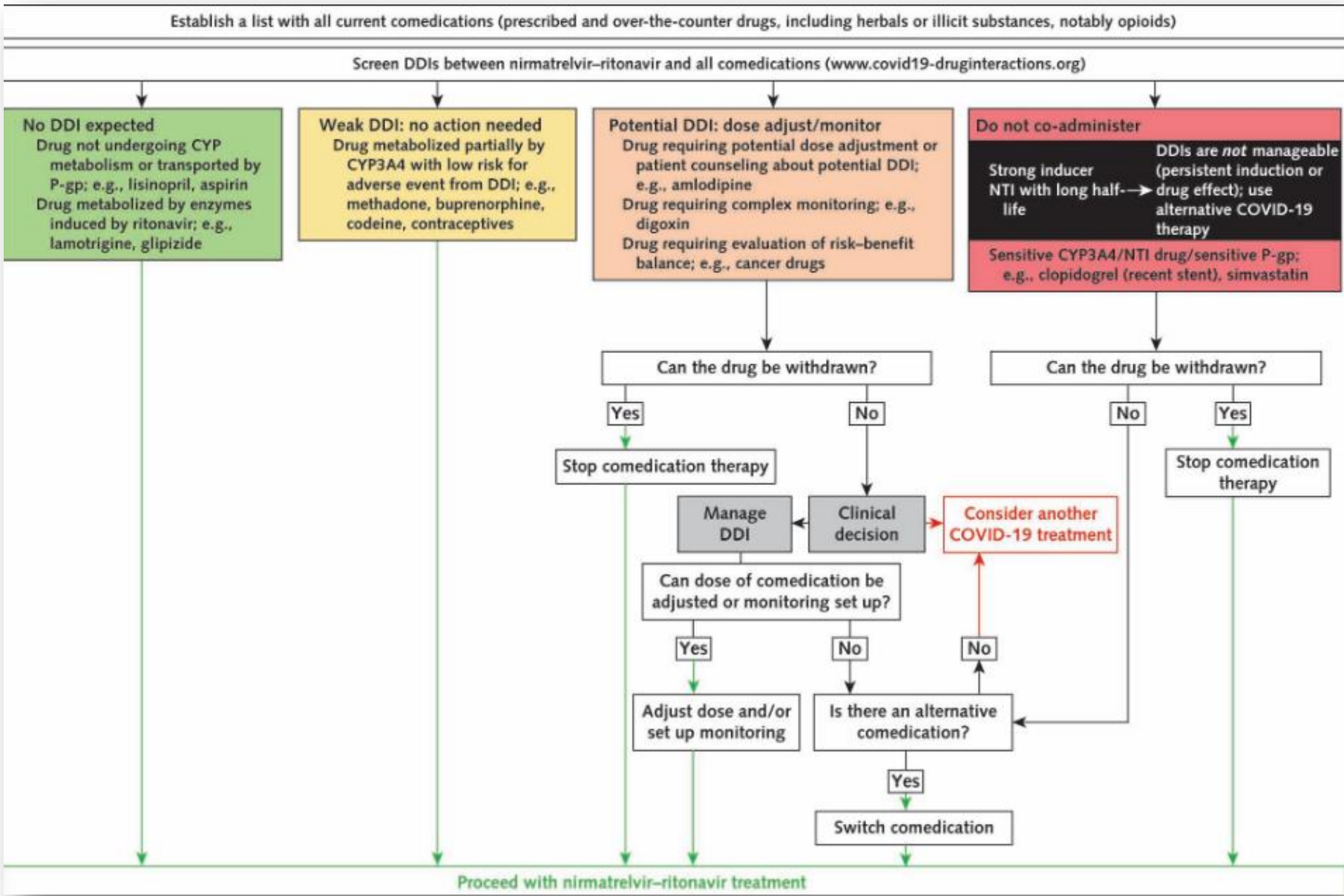


Figure 6 Model prediction of time-based changes in the drug–drug interaction (DDI) magnitude of nifedipine and ritonavir (RTV) over multiple days. (A) IR nifedipine 10 mg every 12 hours (Q12H) \times 3 days + (nifedipine 10 mg Q12H + RTV 100 mg Q12H) \times 14 days + nifedipine 10 mg Q12H \times 10 days. (B) SR nifedipine 30 mg Q12H \times 3 days + (30 mg Q12H + RTV 100 mg Q12H) \times 14 days + nifedipine 30 mg Q12H \times 10 days. (C) CR nifedipine 60 mg Q24H \times 3 days + (60 mg Q24H + RTV 100 mg Q12H) \times 14 days + nifedipine 60 mg Q24H \times 10 days. The red and blue solid lines represent the concentration curves of combined nifedipine with RTV and nifedipine alone, respectively.

Approach to Ritonavir-based drug-drug interactions (DDI's)



- Q: Can co-medication be temporarily with drawn/held?
- Q: Can dose adjustment be achieved?
- Q: Is clinical monitoring safe and appropriate

Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid) DDI's

Management Strategies for Drug-Drug Interactions

Consider the magnitude and significance of the potential interaction when choosing management strategies for patients who are to receive ritonavir-boosted nirmatrelvir. Potential strategies include:

- Temporarily withholding the concomitant medication,
- Increasing monitoring for potential adverse reactions to the concomitant medication,
- Adjusting the dose of the concomitant medication,
- Using an alternative to the concomitant medication, *or*
- Using alternative COVID-19 therapies (see [Therapeutic Management of Nonhospitalized Adults With COVID-19](#)).

Use the chosen strategy for the 5-day duration of ritonavir-boosted nirmatrelvir treatment and for at least 2 to 3 days after treatment completion. The strategy may need to continue for a longer duration if ritonavir-boosted nirmatrelvir is initiated in an elderly patient or if the interacting medication has a long half-life.

Prescribe Alternative COVID-19 Therapy

For these medications, management strategies are not possible or feasible, or the risks outweigh the potential benefits.

Anticonvulsants

- Carbamazepine
- Phenobarbital
- Phenytoin
- Primidone

Anti-infective agents

- Glecaprevir/pibrentasvir
- Rifampin
- Rifapentine

Immunosuppressants

- Voclosporin

Cardiovascular agents

- Amiodarone
- Clopidogrel^{a,b}
- Disopyramide
- Dofetilide
- Dronedarone
- Eplerenone
- Flecainide
- Ivabradine
- Propafenone
- Quinidine

Neuropsychiatric agents

- Clozapine
- Lumateperone
- Lurasidone
- Midazolam (oral)
- Pimozide

Pain medications

- Meperidine (pethidine)

Pulmonary hypertension medications

- Sildenafil
- Tadalafil
- Vardenafil

Miscellaneous

- Bosentan
- Certain chemotherapeutic agents^c
- Ergot derivatives
- Lumacaftor/ivacaftor
- St. John's wort
- Tolvaptan

Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid) DDI's

Temporarily Withhold Concomitant Medication, if Clinically Appropriate

Withhold these medications during ritonavir-boosted nirmatrelvir treatment and for at least 2–3 days after treatment completion. They may need to be withheld for longer if the patient is an adult of advanced age or the medication has a long half-life. If withholding is not clinically appropriate, use an alternative concomitant medication or COVID-19 therapy.

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Anticoagulants | Immunosuppressants^e | Neuropsychiatric |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rivaroxaban^d | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Everolimus Sirolimus Tacrolimus | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suvorexant Triazolam^g |
| Anti-infectives | | Erectile dysfunction |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Erythromycin | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avanafil |
| BPH | Lipid-modifiers | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alfuzosin Silodosin | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atorvastatin^f Lomitapide Lovastatin^f Rosuvastatin^f Simvastatin^f | Respiratory |
| Cardiovascular | | Miscellaneous |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aliskiren Ranolazine Ticagrelor^b Vorapaxar | Migraine | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certain chemotherapeutic agents^c Colchicine^h Finerenone Flibanserin Naloxegol |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eletriptan Rimegepant Ubrogepant | |

Adjust Concomitant Medication Dose and Monitor for Adverse Effects

Consult the [Liverpool COVID-19 Drug Interactions website](#) or the [Ontario COVID-19 Science Advisory Table](#) ¹ for specific dosing recommendations. If the dose of the concomitant medication cannot be adjusted, withhold the medication (if clinically appropriate) or use an alternative concomitant medication or COVID-19 therapy.

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Anticoagulants | Immunosuppressants | Pain |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apixaban Dabigatran Edoxaban | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cyclosporine^e Dexamethasoneⁱ Fedratinib Ruxolitinib Tofacitinib Upadacitinib | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fentanyl Hydrocodone Oxycodone |
| Anti-infectives | | Pulmonary hypertension |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarithromycin Itraconazole Ketoconazole Maraviroc Rifabutin | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Riociguat |
| BPH | Migraine | Miscellaneous |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tamsulosin | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Almotriptan^h | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certain chemotherapeutic agents^c Darifenacin Elexacaftor/tezacaftor/ivacaftor Eluxadolone Ivacaftor Solifenacin Tezacaftor/ivacaftor |
| Cardiovascular | Neuropsychiatric | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cilostazol Digoxin Mexiletine | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alprazolam^g Aripiprazole Brexipiprazole Bupropion Cariprazine Chlordiazepoxide^g Clobazam^g Clonazepam^g Clorazepate^g Diazepam^g Estazolam^g Flurazepam^g Iloperidone Lumateperone Pimavanserin Quetiapine Trazodone | |
| Diabetes | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saxagliptin | | |
| Erectile dysfunction | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sildenafil Tadalafil Vardenafil | | |

Continue Concomitant Medication and Monitor for Adverse Effects

Pre-emptive dose adjustment is not required but may be considered based on an individualized assessment of the patient's risk for adverse reactions. Educate patients about potential adverse effects. Consult the [Liverpool COVID-19 Drug Interactions website](#) ¹ or the [Ontario COVID-19 Science Advisory Table](#) ¹ for monitoring guidance and dose adjustment information as needed.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Anticoagulants | Cardiovascular | Pain |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Warfarin | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amlodipine Diltiazem Felodipine Nifedipine Sacubitril Valsartan Verapamil | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buprenorphine Hydromorphone Methadone Morphine Tramadol |
| Anti-infectives | | Miscellaneous |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brincidofovir^k Cobicistat-or ritonavir-boosted antiretrovirals Isavuconazole Posaconazole Voriconazole | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certain chemotherapeutic agents^c Certain conjugated monoclonal antibodies^l Oxybutynin |
| BPH | Migraine | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doxazosin Terazosin | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zolmitriptan | |
| Diabetes | Neuropsychiatric | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Glyburide | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Haloperidol Hydroxyzine Mirtazapine Risperidone Ziprasidone Zolpidem | |

COVID-19 therapeutics – Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid) DDI's

A new version of the COVID app for Apple devices is available - this fixes a problem which has affected some users following recent iOS updates.

If a drug is not listed below it cannot automatically be assumed it is safe to coadminister.

| COVID Drugs | Co-medications | Drug Interactions |
|---|--|---|
| remdesi | apix | <input type="checkbox"/> Check COVID/COVID drug interactions |
| Reset Checker | | |
| Switch to table view | Results Key | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A-Z <input type="checkbox"/> Class <input type="checkbox"/> Trade | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A-Z <input type="checkbox"/> Class | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (5 days) [Please read the interaction details as management of these interactions may be complex.] | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amlodipine | Do Not Coadminister |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Molnupiravir | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rosuvastatin | Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (5 days) [Please read the interaction details as management of these interactions may be complex.] |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Remdesivir | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flecainide | Flecainide |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Remdesivir | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Apixaban | More Info |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Apixaban | Potential Interaction |

Potential Interaction

Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (5 days) [Please read the interaction details as management of these interactions may be complex.]

Amlodipine

Quality of Evidence: Very Low ⓘ

Summary:

Coadministration has not been studied. Amlodipine is metabolized by CYP3A4. Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir is predicted to increase amlodipine exposure by ~2-fold based on drug-drug interactions studies with amlodipine and indinavir/ritonavir or paritaprevir/ritonavir leading to the recommendation to reduce amlodipine dosage by 50% or to take the dose every other day. However, a dose adjustment can be optional in the case of amlodipine given that patients can be advised to monitor for symptoms of hypotension and to temporarily pause the antihypertensive drug if needed. If the dose is adjusted, the usual dose of amlodipine should be resumed 3 days after the last dose of nirmatrelvir/ritonavir as the inhibitory effect of ritonavir is expected to last up to 3 days after completing nirmatrelvir/ritonavir.

Do Not Coadminister

Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (5 days) [Please read the interaction details as management of these interactions may be complex.]

Flecainide

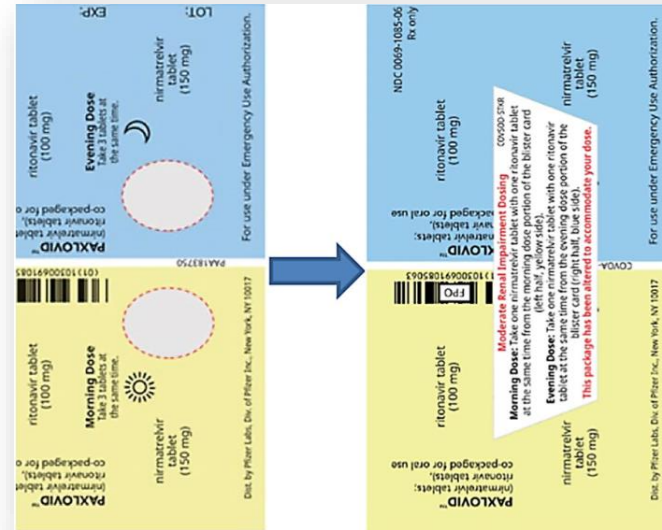
Quality of Evidence: Very Low ⓘ

Summary:

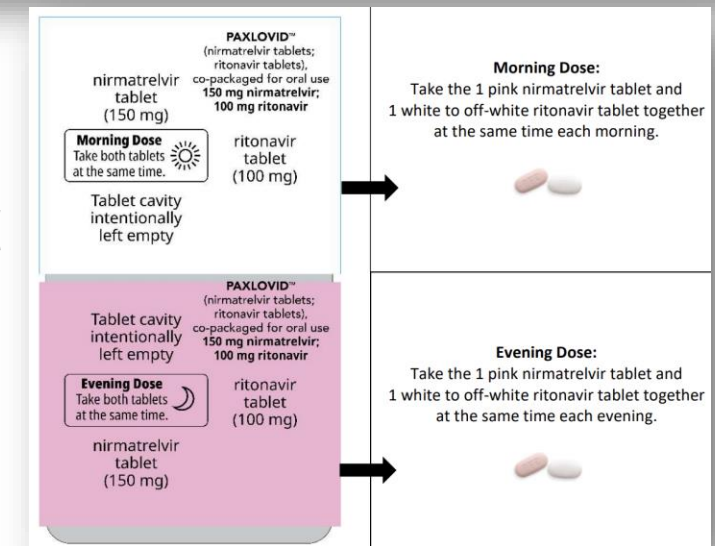
Coadministration has not been studied and is contraindicated. Flecainide and nirmatrelvir/ritonavir should not be coadministered as it is likely to increase flecainide concentrations and has the potential to produce serious and/or life-threatening reactions such as cardiac arrhythmias.

| | Molnupiravir | Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (5 days) [Please read the interaction details as management of these interactions may be complex.] | Remdesivir |
|--------------|--------------|---|------------|
| Amlodipine | ◆ | ■ | ▲ |
| Apixaban | ◆ | ■ | ◆ |
| Flecainide | ◆ | ● | ■ |
| Rosuvastatin | ◆ | ■ | ◆ |

Renal Dosing Considerations – Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid)



- **Dosing for normal renal function (eGFR >60 ml/min):**
Nirmatrelvir 300 mg (#2 150 mg tabs)/ritonavir 100 mg PO BID x 5d
- **Dosing for impaired renal function (CKD 3: eGFR 30-59 ml/min):**
Nirmatrelvir **150 mg**/ritonavir 100 mg PO BID x 5d
- Not recommended in severe renal impairment (CKD 4-5 eGFR < 30 ml/min)
- Not recommended in severe hepatic impairment (CPT class C)



Paxlovid in Pregnancy?



- ‘Pregnancy is included among the conditions that put individuals at high risk for clinical progression. This makes pregnant patients, including those with pregnancy as their only risk factor, eligible to receive outpatient oral SARS-CoV-2 protease inhibitor therapy, according to the EUA.’
- ‘There are no available human data on the use of nirmatrelvir during pregnancy to evaluate for a drug-associated risk of major birth defects, miscarriage, or adverse maternal or fetal outcomes. In an embryo-fetal development study with nirmatrelvir, reduced fetal body weights following oral administration of nirmatrelvir to pregnant rabbits were observed at systemic exposures approximately 10 times higher than exposure at the authorized human dose of PAXLOVID. Published observational studies on ritonavir use in pregnant women have not identified an increased risk of birth defects.
- ‘Lactation is not a contraindication for the use of this oral SARS-CoV-2 Protease Inhibitor. Lactating individuals with one or more risk factors for severe COVID-19 illness may receive SARS-CoV-2 protease inhibitor for treatment’

Q: Should oral SARS-CoV-2 protease inhibitor therapy be used as a treatment option for pregnant patients? (REVISED)

Last updated January 10, 2022 at 12:44 p.m. EST.

Recently, an oral severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) protease inhibitor, PAXLOVID (which includes nirmatrelvir, a SARS-CoV-2 main protease inhibitor, and ritonavir, an HIV-1 protease inhibitor and CYP3A inhibitor) became available only under emergency use authorization (EUA) ([EUA](#), [EUA Fact Sheet](#)). It is recommended for the treatment of outpatients with mild to moderate COVID-19 infection with a positive result of a SARS-CoV-2 viral test and who are at high risk of clinical progression as defined by the EUA criteria. Pregnancy is included among the conditions that put individuals at high risk for clinical progression. This makes pregnant patients, including those with pregnancy as their only risk factor, eligible to receive outpatient oral SARS-CoV-2 protease inhibitor therapy, according to the EUA. Obstetric care clinicians may consider the use of the oral SARS-CoV-2 protease inhibitor for the treatment of non-hospitalized COVID-19 positive pregnant individuals with mild to moderate symptoms, particularly if one or more additional risk factors are present (eg body mass index >25, chronic kidney disease, diabetes mellitus, cardiovascular disease). Clinicians should weigh the available data against the individual risks of COVID-19 in pregnancy in each situation.

There are no available human data on the use of nirmatrelvir during pregnancy to evaluate for a drug-associated risk of major birth defects, miscarriage, or adverse maternal or fetal outcomes. In an embryo-fetal development study with nirmatrelvir, reduced fetal body weights following oral administration of nirmatrelvir to pregnant rabbits were observed at systemic exposures approximately 10 times higher than exposure at the authorized human dose of PAXLOVID. Published observational studies on ritonavir use in pregnant women have not identified an increased risk of birth defects. Ritonavir has been used extensively during pregnancy in people living with HIV, which suggests that it has an acceptable safety profile during pregnancy. No other adverse developmental outcomes were observed in animal reproduction studies with nirmatrelvir or ritonavir at systemic exposures greater than or equal to 3 times higher than clinical exposure at the authorized human dose of PAXLOVID ([EUA Fact Sheet](#)). The short-term exposure to these medications must be balanced against the maternal and fetal risks associated with untreated COVID-19 in pregnancy.

If utilizing protease inhibitor (PAXLOVID) treatment, this treatment should be initiated orally as soon as possible after diagnosis of COVID-19 and within 5 days of symptom onset. PAXLOVID should be administered orally with or without food. The recommended dosage is 300 mg of nirmatrelvir (two 150 mg tablets) with 100 mg of ritonavir (one 100 mg tablet), with all three tablets taken together twice daily for 5 days.

Obstetric care clinicians should be aware that the concomitant use of PAXLOVID and certain other drugs (including medications used in obstetric settings such as nifedipine, methylergonovine, fentanyl, midazolam, or betamethasone) may result in potentially significant drug interactions. Prescribing clinicians should consult the full prescribing information prior to and during treatment for potential drug interactions ([EUA Fact Sheet](#)).

Lactation is not a contraindication for the use of this oral SARS-CoV-2 protease inhibitor ([EUA Fact Sheet](#)). Lactating individuals with one or more risk factors for severe COVID-19 illness may receive SARS-CoV-2 protease inhibitor for treatment. There are no available data on the presence of nirmatrelvir in human or animal milk, the effects on the breastfed infant, or the effects on milk production. A transient decrease in body weight was observed in the nursing offspring of rats administered nirmatrelvir. The developmental and health benefits of breastfeeding should be considered along with the mother's clinical need for PAXLOVID and any potential adverse effects on the breastfed infant from PAXLOVID or from the underlying maternal condition ([EUA Fact Sheet](#)).

Efforts should be made to ensure that communities most affected by SARS-CoV-2 have equitable access to these treatments.

‘Paxlovid Rebound’ or ‘COVID Rebound’?

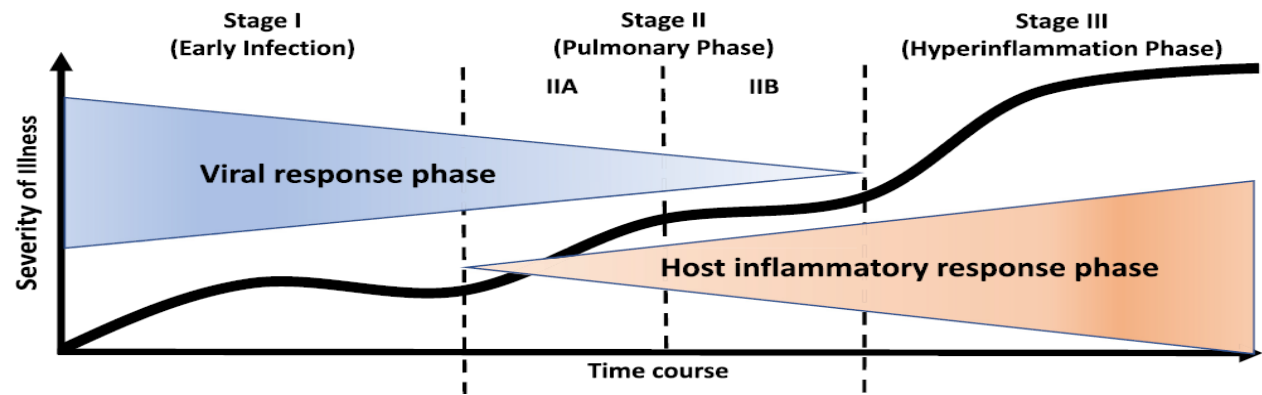
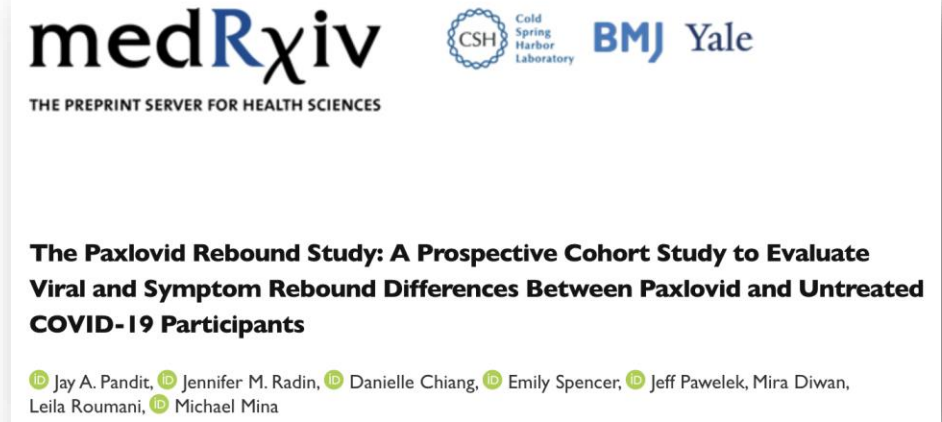
- Introduction: “The uptake of Paxlovid in individuals infected with COVID-19 has been significantly limited by concerns around the Paxlovid rebound phenomenon despite the scarcity of evidence around its epidemiology”
- Methods: Decentralized, digital prospective, observational cohort
 - Paxlovid (N = 127) vs. control (N = 43) defined by patients’ decision to take Paxlovid
 - Symptom surveys and 12 Ag tests collected via telehealth proctored exams

Results:

| | Paxlovid (n=127) | No Paxlovid (n=43) | p-value |
|--|------------------|--------------------|---------|
| COVID-19 Recovery | | | |
| Viral (Testing) Rebound | 18 (14.2) | 4 (9.3) | 0.41 |
| Symptom Rebound | 24 (18.9) | 3 (7.0) | 0.06 |
| Consistently Positive | 5 (3.9) | 0 (0.0) | 0.20 |
| Symptom Start to Test Negative, Days (SD)* | 6.4 (3.0) | 6.1 (2.9) | 0.53 |

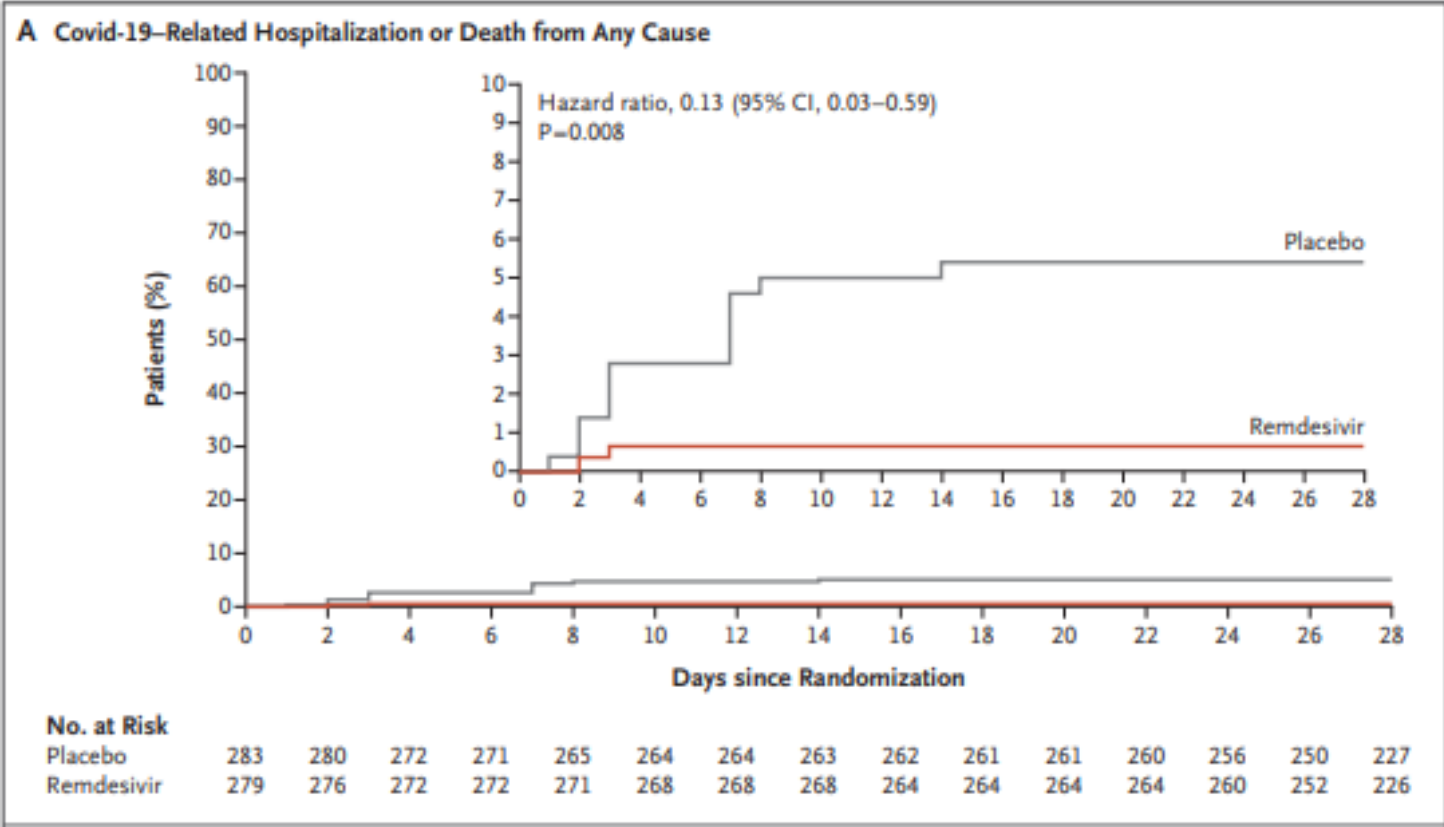
Conclusions:

- Rebound after clearance of test positivity is higher than previously reported
- However, a similar rate of rebound was observed in the Paxlovid and control arms (14.2% vs. 9.3%, P = 0.41)

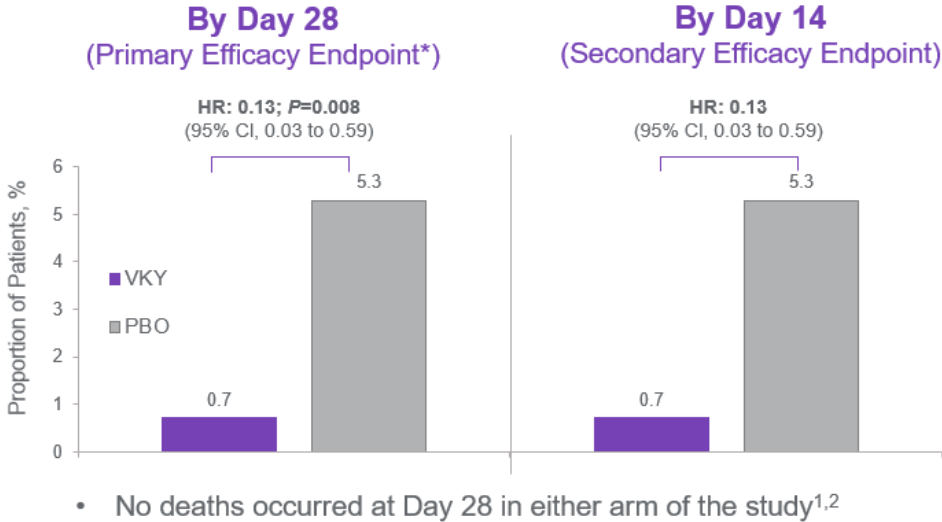


Re-Introducing... Remdesivir

- FDA-approved for use in hospitalized patients with SARS-CoV-2
- PINETREE – Double-blinded Placebo-controlled RCT (N = 562)
 - Outpatients with SARS-CoV-2, symptoms within < 7 days (unvaccinated)
 - At least one risk factor for severe disease (mean age 50, 61.6% DM II, 55% Obesity)
 - Results: **87% reduction in hospitalization or death**



Risk of COVID-19–Related Hospitalization or All-Cause Death¹

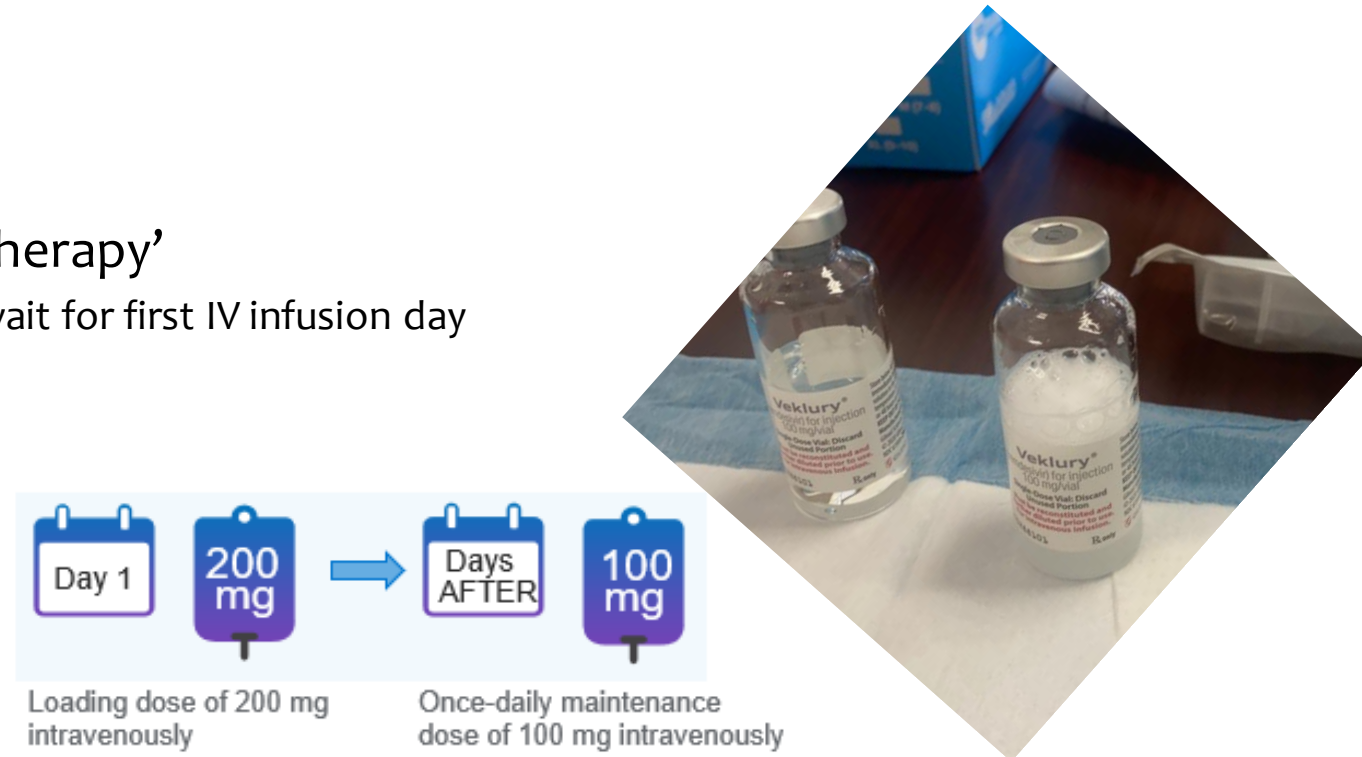


*Of the 8 patients who were adolescents, none had a COVID-19–related hospitalization or death from any cause by Day 28.
HR = hazard ratio; PBO = placebo; VKY = VEKLURY.
1. Gottlieb RL, et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2022;386(4):305–315. 2. VEKLURY. Prescribing Information. Gilead Sciences, Inc.; 2022.

Remdesivir – challenging, but possible

Implementation Considerations

- Indicated down to age 28 days/3 kg (FHCSA will give if > 18 yrs)
- eGFR must be > 30 mL/min
- IV administration x 3 consecutive days
 - Must initiate therapy on Tuesday/Wednesday at Hillcrest Annex
 - 30-120 minute infusion
- Must be ≤ 7 days from symptom onset
- Active against all known SARS-CoV-2 variants
- Limited data in pregnancy
- Currently no evidence supporting ‘combination therapy’
 - Could consider PO Molnupiravir if it will be several day wait for first IV infusion day
- **Variable Payer Coverage:**
 - Medi-cal: full coverage
 - ACA plans/Private: variable but mostly denials
 - MediCare: covered with 10-20% co-pay (~\$500)





COVID-19 therapeutics – Molnupiravir (Lagevrio)

- Molnupiravir 800 mg (iv 200 mg capsules) PO Q12 hrs x 5 days
- Nucleoside analogue that inhibits SARS-CoV-2 replication by viral mutagenesis
- FDA EUA: 'For the treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19 in adults with positive results of direct SARS-CoV-2 viral testing, and who are at risk for progression to severe COVID-19, including hospitalization or death, *and for whom alternate COVID-19 treatment options authorized by FDA are not accessible or clinically appropriate*'

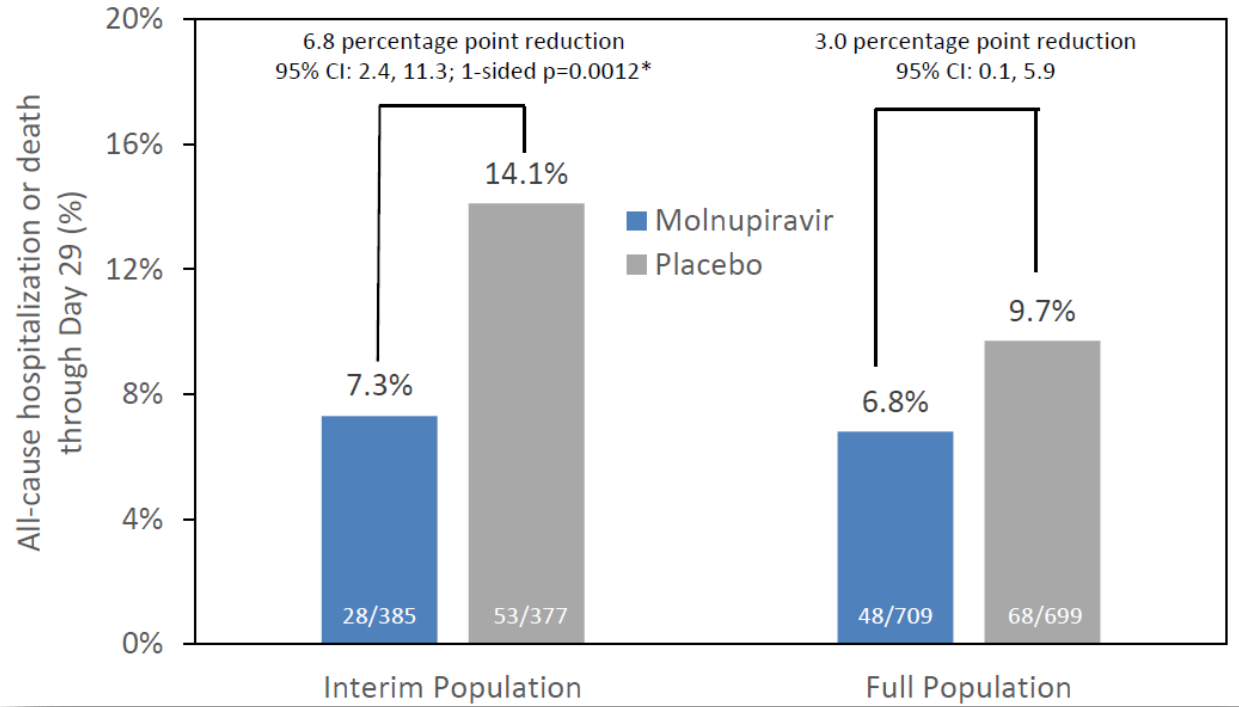


30-50% reduction in hospitalization if started within 5 days of symptom onset

Clinical Considerations

- Not recommended for use during **pregnancy** (embryo-fetal toxicity)
- Advise individuals of **childbearing potential** to use effective contraception correctly and consistently for the duration of treatment and for 4 days after last dose. Pregnancy surveillance program <https://pregnancyreporting.msd.com/>
- Breastfeeding not recommended during treatment and for 4 days after the last dose
- Non-clinical studies to fully assess potential to affect offspring of treated males not completed (if sexually active with individual of childbearing potential, contraception advised for at least 3 months after last dose)
- Not authorized for use in patients < **18 yrs** (may affect bone and cartilage growth)

Molnupiravir: Updated Efficacy Analysis



| | Relative Risk Reduction |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Interim analysis (N=775) | 49% |
| Full Population (N=1433) | 30% |

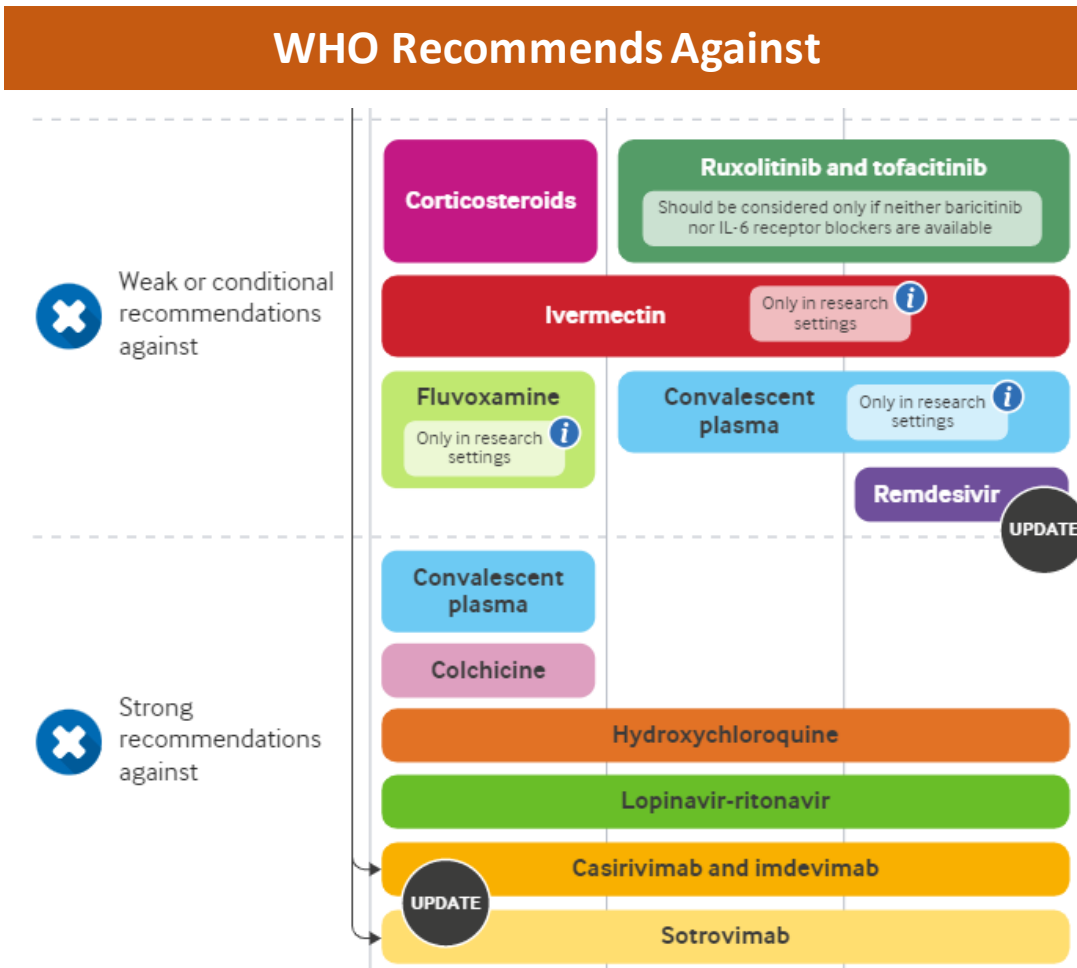
| | Relative Risk Reduction |
|--------------|-------------------------|
| Seropositive | N/A |
| Seronegative | 42% |

Incidence of Hospitalization or Death Through Day 29 by Baseline Antibody Status in P002, Part, 2 Full Analysis

| SARS-CoV-2 Baseline Antibody Status ^a | MOV 800 mg N=709 n/m (%) | Placebo N=699 n/m (%) | Difference (MOV – Placebo) % (95% CI) ^b |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Positive | 5/136 (3.7) | 2/146 (1.4) | 2.3 (-1.7, 7.1) |
| Negative | 39/541(7.2) | 64/520 (12.3) | -5.1 (-8.8, -1.6) |

<https://www.fda.gov/media/154418/download> ; <https://www.fda.gov/media/154473/download>

There are treatment options available which WHO recommends against

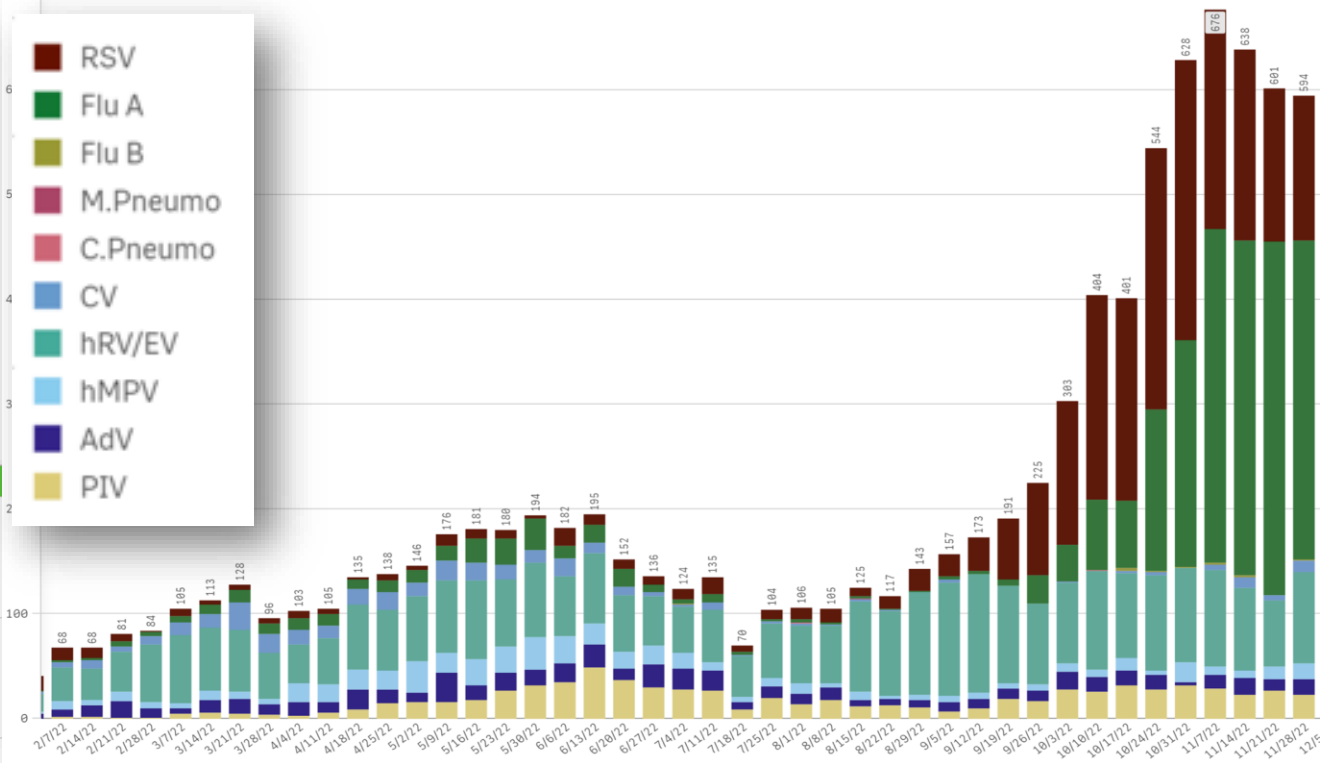


Context

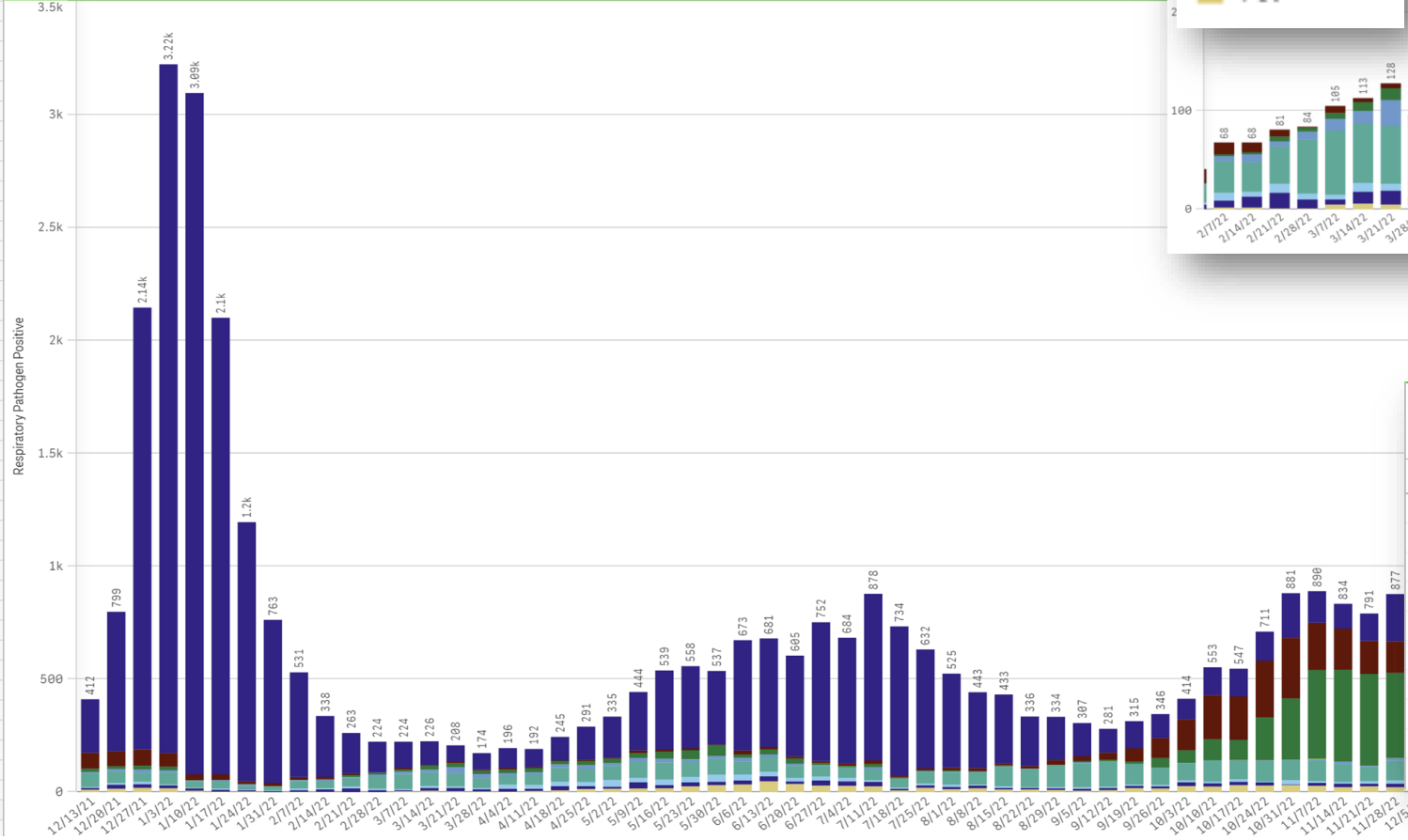
- **Corticosteroids/Dexamethasone:** Evidence of increased mortality when used in mild disease in RECOVERY trial.
- **Ivermectin:** Numerous trials have shown no benefit. Levels needed to exhibit an antiviral effect in vitro are not achievable in vivo.
- **Fluvoxamine:** No benefit observed in adequately powered clinical trials.
- **Antibiotics:** Numerous trials, including RECOVERY, found no benefit to azithromycin. Rates of antimicrobial resistance have been rising as a result of the pandemic.
- **Colchicine:** RECOVERY trial and others found no benefit.
- **Lopinavir/Ritonavir:** Multiple trials have shown no clinical benefit.
- **Hydroxychloroquine:** No benefit and potential harm.
- **Monoclonal Antibodies:** No longer active against majority of circulating strains.

Q&A

Rady Children's Virology Report



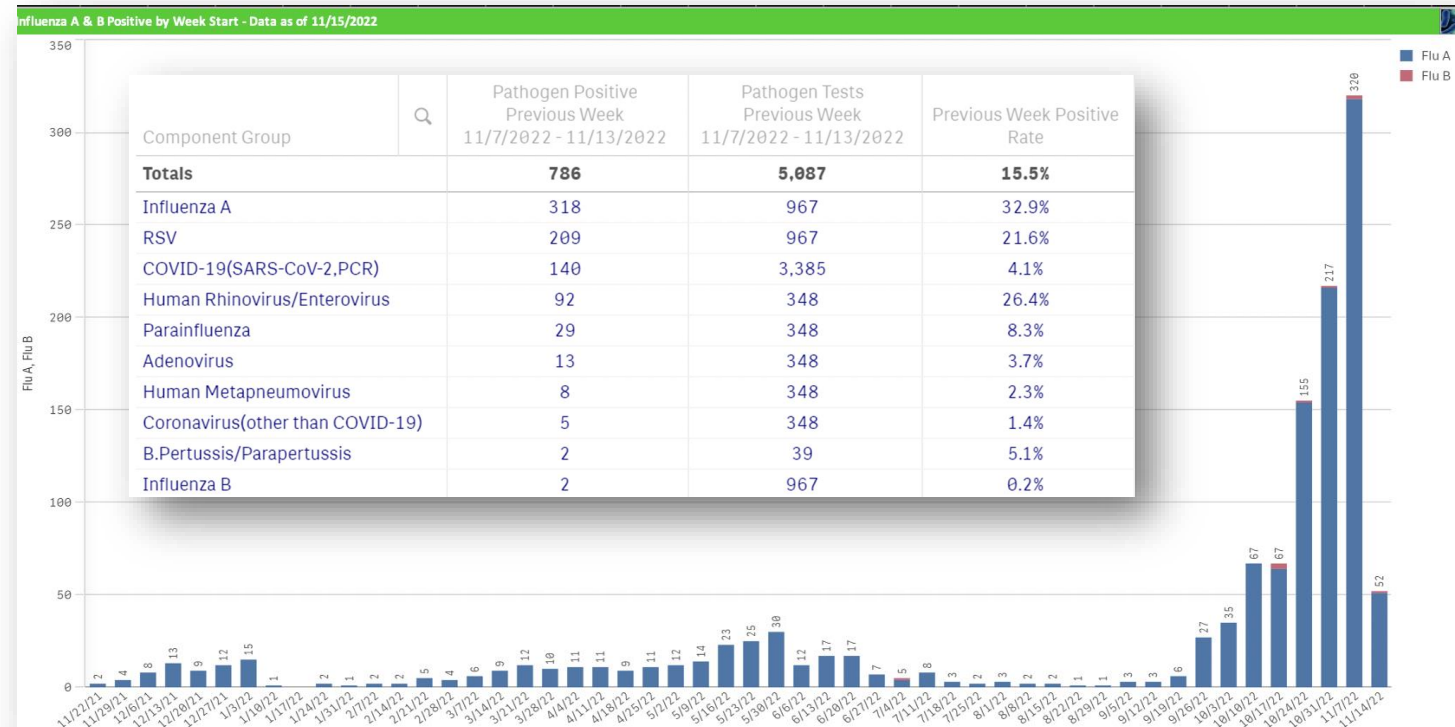
All Positive Respiratory Pathogens by Week Start - Data as of 12/5/2022



| Component Group | Pathogen Positive Previous Week 11/28/2022 - 12/4/2022 | Pathogen Tests Previous Week 11/28/2022 - 12/4/2022 | Previous Week Positive Rate |
|----------------------------------|---|--|-----------------------------|
| Totals | 785 | 4,829 | 16.3% |
| Influenza A | 304 | 1,048 | 29.0% |
| COVID-19(SARS-CoV-2,PCR) | 212 | 3,152 | 6.7% |
| RSV | 138 | 1,048 | 13.2% |
| Human Rhinovirus/Enterovirus | 87 | 370 | 23.5% |
| Parainfluenza | 23 | 370 | 6.2% |
| Adenovirus | 15 | 370 | 4.1% |
| Human Metapneumovirus | 15 | 370 | 4.1% |
| Coronavirus(other than COVID-19) | 11 | 370 | 3.0% |
| B.Pertussis/Parapertussis | 2 | 48 | 4.2% |
| Influenza B | 1 | 1,048 | 0.1% |

Influenza on the Rise

- Nearly all Influenza A (99.8%), H3N2 (66.3%); H1N1 (33.8%)
- This year's flu vaccine contains 4 strains: H3N2, H1N1, and two Influenza B strains
- Antigenic testing at CDC indicates that **this year's vaccine is a 92-95% match with the circulating strains.**
- Influenza vaccination is an expectation for healthcare workers. Those who decline vaccine are required to wear masks through the whole season and should not use FHCSD lunchrooms.
- Vaccination is clearly the best prevention, but for some groups chemoprophylaxis can be considered
- BD Veritor Rapid SARS-CoV-2/Influenza swabs available in most FHCSD clinics



<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/index.htm#VirusCharacterization>

<https://www.fda.gov/vaccines-blood-biologics/lot-release/influenza-vaccine-2022-2023-season>

Influenza Management

- Oseltamivir is effective at reducing complications, hospitalization, and mortality in some high-risk groups when given **within 48 hrs**.
- Approved down to age 0, for treatment, chemoprophylaxis (basically pre-exposure prophylaxis) or post-exposure prophylaxis
- 12/2018 IDSA practice guidelines **recommend** Oseltamivir for the following groups (irrespective of vaccination history):
 - Patients with influenza requiring **hospitalization**
 - Outpatients of any age with **severe or progressive influenza disease**
 - Outpatients of any age with **high risk for complications** due to chronic medical condition or immunocompromise
 - Children < 2 years old
 - Adults ≥ 65 years old
- Clinicians can ***consider*** Oseltamivir for the following patients:
 - Outpatients with any risk presenting < 48 hrs from symptom onset
 - Symptomatic household contacts of persons with high risk of complications (to minimize transmission)
 - Symptomatic healthcare workers who care for persons with high risk of complication (to minimize transmission)

Clinical Practice Guidelines by the Infectious Diseases Society of America: 2018 Update on Diagnosis, Treatment, Chemoprophylaxis, and Institutional Outbreak Management of Seasonal Influenza^a

Timothy M. Uyeki,¹ Henry H. Bernstein,² John S. Bradley,^{3,4} Janet A. Englund,⁵ Thomas M. File Jr,⁶ Alicia M. Fry,¹ Stefan Gravenstein,⁷ Frederick G. Hayden,⁸ Scott A. Harper,⁹ Jon Mark Hirshon,¹⁰ Michael G. Ison,¹¹ B. Lynn Johnston,¹² Shandra L. Knight,¹³ Allison McGeer,¹⁴ Laura E. Riley,¹⁵ Cameron R. Wolfe,¹⁶ Paul E. Alexander,^{17,18} and Andrew T. Pavia¹⁹

