

Covid-19 in 2021.

The virus, the myths, the evidence, and
the vaccine

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Background

- Respiratory viral infection (part of -the SARs family-1965)
- Strain described as Covid-19 was first recognized in 2019
- Linked to China and then to Europe



A world map is centered on the slide. A red dot is placed in the United States, and a blue dot is placed in Europe. The word "Pandemic" is written in large, bold, black letters across the center of the map. The background is a solid teal color with a large, semi-transparent teal circle on the right side.

Pandemic



Covid-19 then and now

Alpha strain (2019)

- ❖ fever cough x 4 day
- ❖ prodromal phase
- ❖ Loss of smell
- ❖ D&V
- ❖ Gradual to acute illness

(CDC. 2020)

Mutations (now)

- ❖ Acute infection
- ❖ Younger population
- ❖ Increased risk for intensive
- ❖ Pregnant women

125,000 confirmed cases in pregnant women
22,000 hospitalized
161 deaths
22 deaths alone in august
< 1/3 pregnant women are fully vaccinated
Pregnancy is also considered underlying health condition
Risk of Preterm birth /stillbirth/admission of neonate to ICU





The different strains of Covid-19

- Virus mutates to survive in geographical locations
- Alpha (B.1.1.7) England
- Beta (B.1.351) South Africa
- Gamma (P.1) Brazil
- Mu (B.1.621) Columbia
- R1 – Japan
- Delta – India



(National Institutes of Health |
Coronavirus, n.d.)



Delta Mutation

Delta: (dominant strain in the US currently)

First identified in India in 2021

- Acute resp illness
- Rapid decline
- Younger population



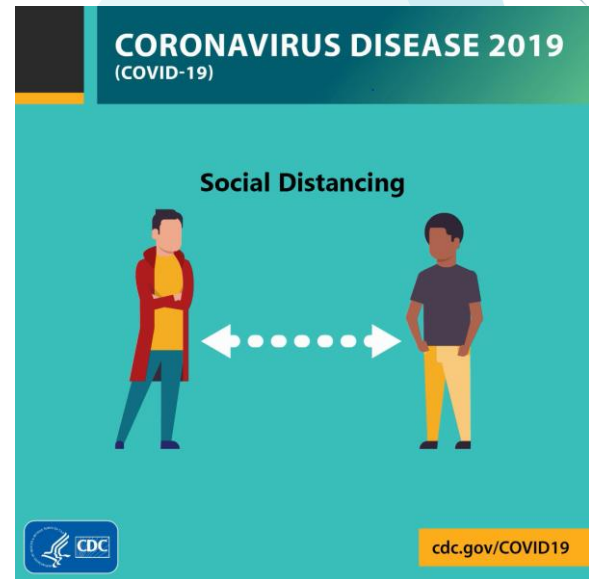


Mechanical Barriers and Sanitizing

Masks



Handwashing



How Do We Manage Covid-19 Infection

- **Vaccines/Mechanical barriers**
- **Vaccine types:** types (in US)
- Studied as safe in the general population.

FDA approval(pregnant/lactating/adolescents)

- (preparedness/funding)
- Not yet approved for children under 12 yrs of age.
- Contra-indicated in cases of allergy or unusual medical issue.
- Fpizer-92%
- Modera- 94%
- J&J (Janssen) 66% - 72%.
- Astra Zenika – UK 74%





Covid-19 Complications

Long Haulers:

- Significant organ damage
- Neurological (nerve involvement)
- Cardiac, brain, kidney



Vaccine Hesitancy

- Historical health care abuses in minority populations
- Lack of adequate medical information
- Deliberate misinformation
- Exercise of personal rights
- Speed/content of vaccine
- Ignorance/non-acceptance

WHO 2021, CDC 2020



What Can Church Leaders Do



Responsible to lead:

- Leaders are influencers with a public platform
- Maintain trust and communication
- Avoid dispensing personal opinions
- Stay informed - be educated on the evidence
- Be able to access adequate resources
- Guide congregates to help/experts.
- You can save lives. Brother's keeper
- Its ok to not know



Available Resources

WHO - *The race for a COVID-19 vaccine, explained.* [Www.who.int](http://www.who.int).

<https://www.who.int/news-room/feature-stories/detail/the-race-for-a-covid-19-vaccine-explained>

HHS - [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) | HHS.gov](#)

NIH- [Home | NIH COVID-19 Research](#)

IHI - [COVID-19 Guidance and Resources | IHI - Institute for Healthcare Improvement](#)

CDC - <https://www.cdc.gov>

Departments of Health

[NY Coronavirus Update: Sept. 23 \(mytwintiers.com\)](#)

[Connecticut Department of Public Health](#)

<https://www.gov.bm/coronavirus>





Tributes:

Frontline workers

Essential workers

International leadership of COGOP

COCOP NE region



That's all folks.....





Citations

A simple breakdown of the ingredients in the covid vaccines - covid-19, health topics. Hackensack Meridian Health. (2021, April 29). Retrieved September 29, 2021, from <https://www.hackensackmeridianhealth.org/HealthU/2021/01/11/a-simple-breakdown-of-the-ingredients-in-the-covid-vaccines/>.

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Tenforde MW, Self WH, Naioti EA, et al. Sustained Effectiveness of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna Vaccines Against COVID-19 Associated Hospitalizations Among Adults — United States, March–July 2021. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2021;70:1156-1162. DOI: [http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm7034e2external icon](http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm7034e2externalicon).

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CDC. (2020, February 11). Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; CDC. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/how-they-work.html>

World Health Organization. (2021, January 12). The race for a COVID-19 vaccine, explained. *Www.who.int*. <https://www.who.int/news-room/feature-stories/detail/the-race-for-a-covid-19-vaccine-explained>

