



COVID-19:

The importance of helping to keep patients informed

COVID-19 is still an ongoing concern.¹ Discussing its potential impact can help your eligible patients recognize the importance of updated vaccinations.²

Understand the impact

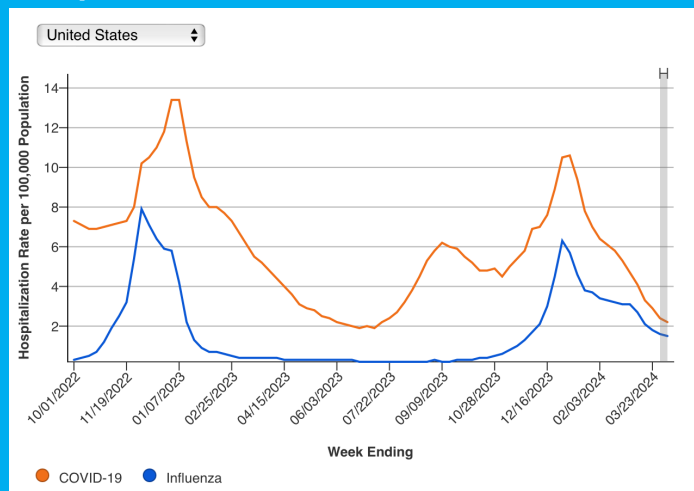
While some of the effects of COVID-19 have been felt by all of us, not everyone may know the numbers.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) COVID Data Tracker, between August 2, 2020 and April 13, 2024, there were

>6.9 million

COVID-19-RELATED HOSPITALIZATIONS
(all ages) in the United States³

COVID-19 and Influenza: Estimated new US hospital admissions by week in all ages, as reported to the CDC⁴



Data presented through 4/13/2024; as of 4/18/2024.
Data source: CDC's National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/covid19/hospital-reporting.html>
Data are preliminary and subject to change as more data become available.

According to the CDC's COVID Data Tracker, in all ages, between September 2, 2023 and March 2, 2024, there were

558K+

COVID-19-associated hospitalizations and ~42K estimated deaths

due to COVID-19 and its complications—that's over 1600 deaths per week^{3,5}

2023-2024 formula vaccines are underutilized⁶⁻⁸

According to the CDC, in 2023-2024,

>95%

of adults hospitalized with COVID-19

HAD NOT RECEIVED A 2023-2024 FORMULA COVID-19 VACCINE

Despite the prevalence of the disease, as of April 6, 2024, only 22.8% of eligible patients 18 years of age and older received a 2023-2024 formula COVID-19 vaccine since September 14, 2023; by comparison, 48.9% of that same group received a flu shot.

Help patients make informed decisions

- COVID-19 continues to cause severe illness and hospitalization throughout the year^{1,9}
- Protection from previous COVID-19 vaccination wanes over time, and new variants continue to emerge^{6,10}
- Updated COVID-19 vaccines are designed to help protect against circulating variants¹¹



What you can do

Turn hesitancy into confidence

With COVID-19 still making an impact, you play an important role in helping your patients make informed health decisions.^{2,12} They may not fully understand the risk factors for severe COVID-19 or trends in hospitalization data, so **consider discussing with eligible individuals how staying up to date with COVID-19 vaccination recommendations can help protect against serious illness.**^{6,12,13}

References: 1. COVID-19 update for the United States. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Updated April 22, 2024. Accessed April 24, 2024. <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#datatracker-home> 2. Talking with patients about COVID-19 vaccination. Updated November 3, 2021. Accessed April 24, 2024. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/hcp/engaging-patients.html> 3. Trends in United States COVID-19 hospitalizations, deaths, emergency department (ED) visits, and test positivity by geographic area. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Updated April 24, 2024. Accessed April 24, 2024. https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#trends_cumulativehospitalizations_select_00 4. Severe viral respiratory illness. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Updated April 18, 2024. Accessed April 24, 2024. <https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/data-research/dashboard/illness-severity.html> 5. Trends in United States COVID-19 hospitalizations, deaths, emergency department (ED) visits, and test positivity by geographic area. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Updated April 24, 2024. Accessed April 24, 2024. https://www.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#trends_totaldeaths_select_00 6. Background for CDC's updated respiratory virus guidance. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Accessed April 24, 2024. <https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/background/index.html> 7. Weekly COVID-19 vaccination dashboard. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Accessed April 24, 2024. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz-managers/coverage/covidvaxview/interactive/vaccination-dashboard.html> 8. Weekly flu vaccination dashboard. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Updated April 19, 2024. Accessed April 24, 2024. <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluview/dashboard/vaccination-dashboard.html> 9. Trends in United States COVID-19 hospitalizations, deaths, emergency department (ED) visits, and test positivity by geographic area. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Accessed April 24, 2024. https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#trends_weeklyhospitaladmissions_select_00 10. Menegale F, Manica M, Zardini A, et al. Evaluation of waning of SARS-CoV-2 vaccine-induced immunity: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *JAMA Netw Open*. 2023;6(5):e2310650. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2023.10650 11. Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Updated March 7, 2024. Accessed April 24, 2024. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html#print> 12. Fisher KA, Nguyen N, Fouayzi H, Singh S, Crawford S, Mazor KM. Impact of a physician recommendation on COVID-19 vaccination intent among vaccine hesitant individuals. *Patient Educ Couns*. 2023;106:107-112. doi:10.1016/j.pec.2022.09.013 13. Underlying medical conditions associated with higher risk for severe COVID-19: information for healthcare professionals. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Updated April 12, 2024. Accessed April 24, 2024. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/clinical-care/underlyingconditions.html>