

PFT COVID Update 6-1-22: Masks Return - PA Site Simplified - Then & Now -Links

CORONAVIRUS



Updates

Masks Are Back: What Have We Learned?

Every weekday, *The New York Times* publishes a free newsletter “diary” of the day’s news, a communication piece delivered by email you can customize by tailoring your newsletter to topics that interest you. From our seat, COVID-19 has been a keen interest for over 2 years now.

The first article in yesterday’s edition tackled the conundrum of mask-wearing in America — particularly pertinent given the recent significant spike in Covid-19 cases and the return of mask mandates in many districts across the country, including ours.

This story is an absolute must-read to help you get to the bottom of what sometimes seems to be contradictory information about masks. Click here to read “[**Masks work. So why haven’t Covid mask mandates made much difference?**](#)”





NOTE: *The newsletter we receive every Tuesday tends to “lead” with a medical or health-related story. On Wednesdays or Thursdays, we usually get “education” at the top of our newsletter – [**see for yourself, and customize your own subscription for free, here.**](#))*

Covid Understanding and Response – Simplified.

With colors and content subtly reminiscent of the simplicity of yesteryear’s “*Schoolhouse Rock*”, PA.gov recently rolled out an initiative to simplify Covid-related responses, treatment options and information across four “categories” beneath the umbrella of a single promise:

Vax. Max. Test. Let’s Put Covid To Rest.

While still quite detailed in its sheer amount of available information, the website and mobile instance of the site has done an admirable job in providing useful answers, quicker — to an audience that is by all accounts suffering from “Covid Fatigue.”

			
<p>VAX.</p> <p>Vaccines are working. They are our best defense against COVID-19. But protection from your initial shot may decrease over time. That's why we have boosters. It's an easy way to keep your vaccine – and protection – going strong.</p> <p>→ Get the boost</p>	<p>MASK.</p> <p>We can protect ourselves, our families, businesses, neighbors, and communities from COVID-19 through simple actions. Wearing a mask is a proven way to reduce your risk of catching or spreading COVID.</p> <p>→ Stop the Spread</p>	<p>TEST.</p> <p>If you have COVID symptoms or think you were exposed to someone with COVID, you should get tested.</p> <p>You have many options for getting tested for COVID, both at home and at a public testing site.</p> <p>→ Find a test</p>	<p>Kids & Teens Vaccines</p> <p>COVID-19 vaccines are the best way to protect your child from the virus. They're as safe as other childhood vaccines. Give your child the power to learn, play, and be a kid.</p> <p>Talk to your pediatrician if you have questions.</p> <p>→ Vaccines for kids & teens</p>

It's a fresh and engaging way to refresh your COVID knowledge should you need to — [check out the whole site, here.](#)

“Five Things” Article Updated to Reflect New Information on Variants, Treatments & More.

Yale Medicine has once again updated an article first released on January 29, 2020 to include up-to-date information on what we know about Coronavirus.

We've returned to this article from time-to-time as a sort of touchstone inclusive of nearly 2.5 years of battling a virus that has taken the lives of over a million Americans.

Click here to reacquaint yourself with the [5 Things Everyone Should Know About the Coronavirus Outbreak.](#)

1. What we know about COVID-19 has changed rapidly
2. Strict measures are critical for slowing the spread of the disease
3. Infection prevention is key
4. Experts are working rapidly to find solutions
5. If you feel ill, here's what you should do

It's a forward-looking review of what we know from then to now — and it concludes with a reminder about seeking out valid, trusted sources of information.

Information Links That Bear Repeating:

Below please find additional links providing helpful information you can bookmark and count on as the COVID-19 situation changes and evolves.

[AFT/AFTPA Coronavirus Resources & Updates for Members](#)

[Find a Vaccine Provider Near You](#)

[AFT/PFT Employee Assistance Program \(EAP\)](#)

-- A Negotiated, Free Benefit to Members

[Click for EAP Information Flyer](#) (includes login info)

[Click for Life Skills Solutions Website](#) (login upper right)

[AFT Share My Lesson Stress Management Resources](#) (searchable)

[Download the PA COVID-Alert Tracking App](#)
[National Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\) Coronavirus Resources](#)
[CDC Data Tracking Page](#)
[CDC Vaccine Information Landing Page](#)
[PPS Coronavirus Resources and Links](#)
[PA Department of Health Coronavirus Resources](#)
[PA-Specific Resources from Senator Casey](#)
[Student Debt Relief Resources](#)
[Federal Emergency Management Agency \(FEMA\) Rumor Control](#)
[Coronavirus Testing Locations \(view interactive map mid page\)](#)



Coronavirus Self-Checker

A guide to help you make decisions and seek appropriate medical care

**** PFT Coronavirus Updates Released Periodically As Needed ****

Missed an update or message? [View our archive of COVID-19 Updates here](#).

Please keep in touch—keep sharing your ideas, your questions and your concerns.

In solidarity—

Dan Evans

PFT Communications Director

[Click to comment via email.](#)