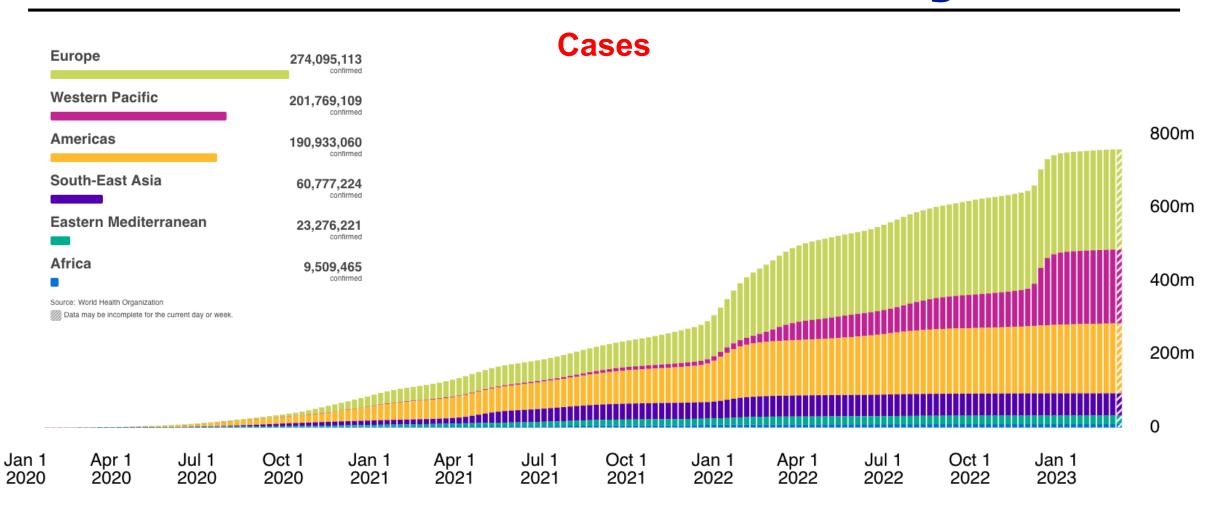
COVID UPDATES March 23, 2023

Raphael J. Landovitz MD MSc
Division of Infectious Diseases
David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA
Camp Ta-Kum-Ta, South Hero, VT

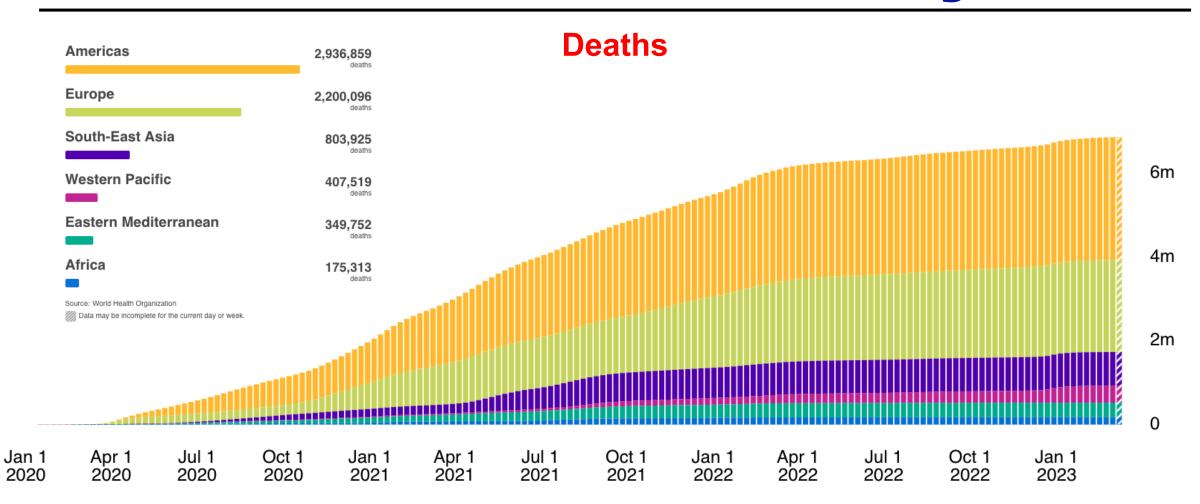
Overview

- COVID Globally
- COVID in the US
- Current Variants
- Vaccinations and Boosters
- Origins of the virus

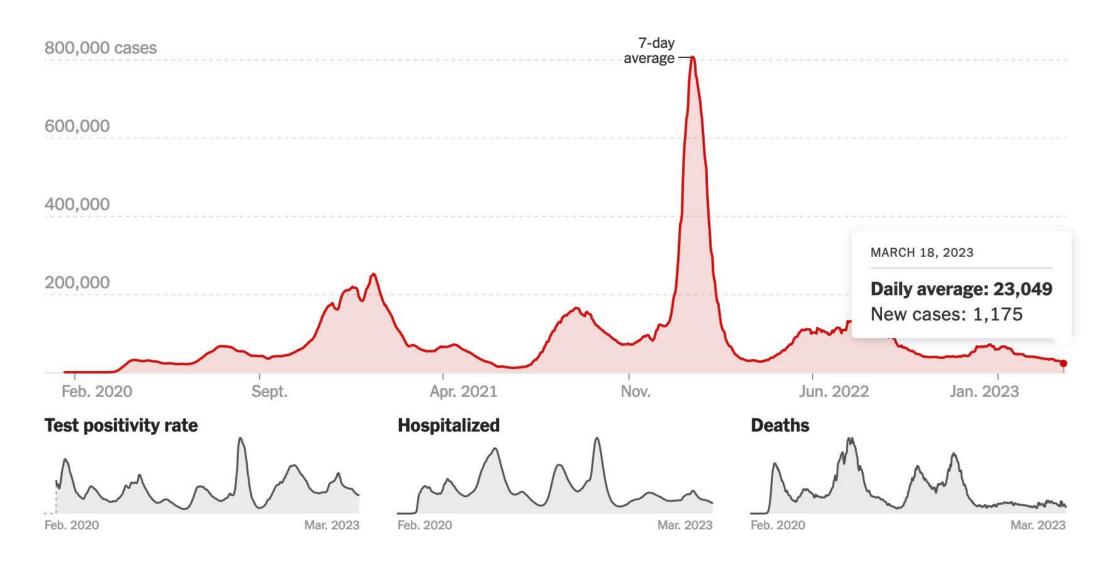
Coronavirus Globally



Coronavirus Globally



Coronavirus in the U.S

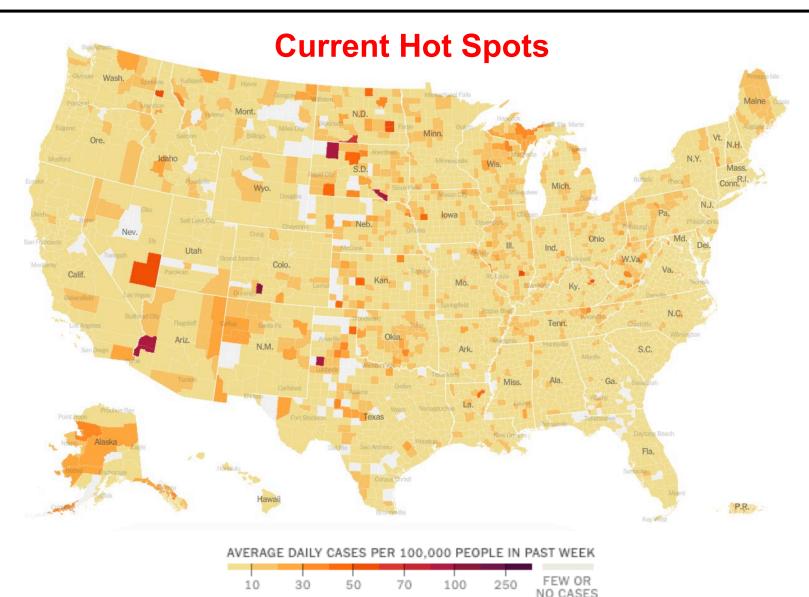


Coronavirus in the U.S

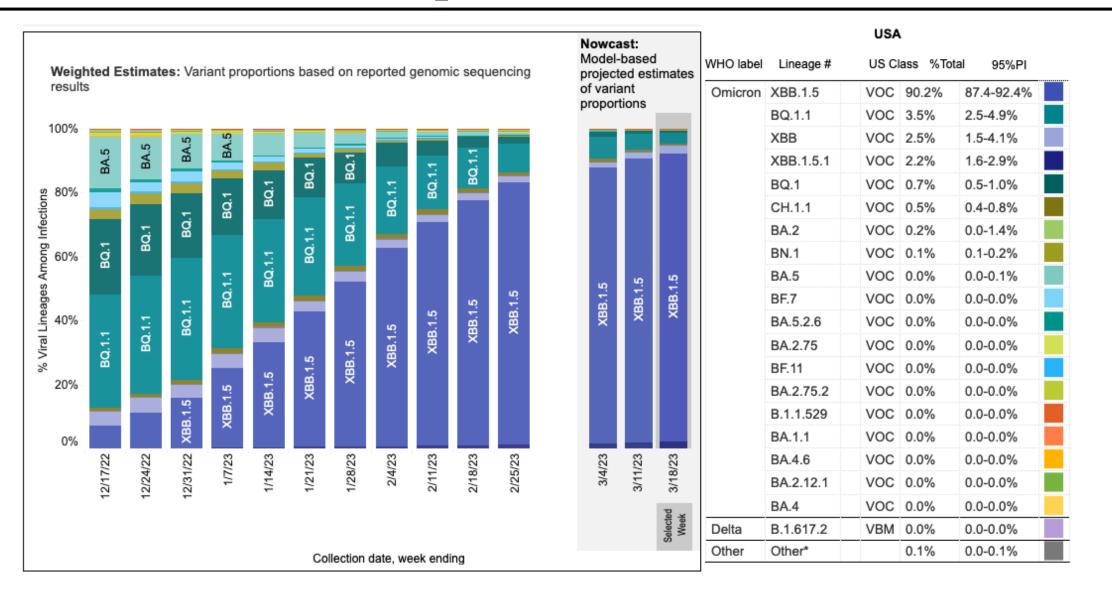
- Reported cases, test positivity, hospitalizations, and deaths have all decreased nationally in the past two weeks
 - Hospitalizations have been falling steadily for several weeks and are now just below 23,000 nationwide, the lowest rate seen since May
 - In some states, for example Alabama and Montana, hospitalizations have fallen by more than 35 percent since early March

	Daily Average (3/20)	Per 100,000	14-day Change
Cases	22,591	7	-32%
Test positivity	7.2%		-14%
Hospitalizations	22,522	7	-14%
ICU	3,013	<1	-11%
Deaths	290	<1	-44%

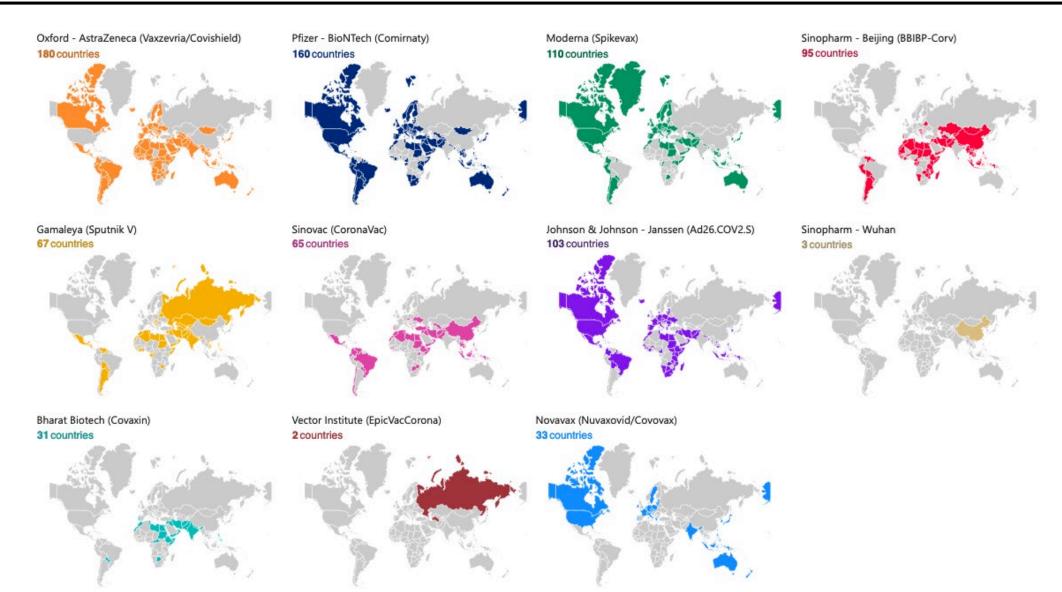
Coronavirus in the U.S



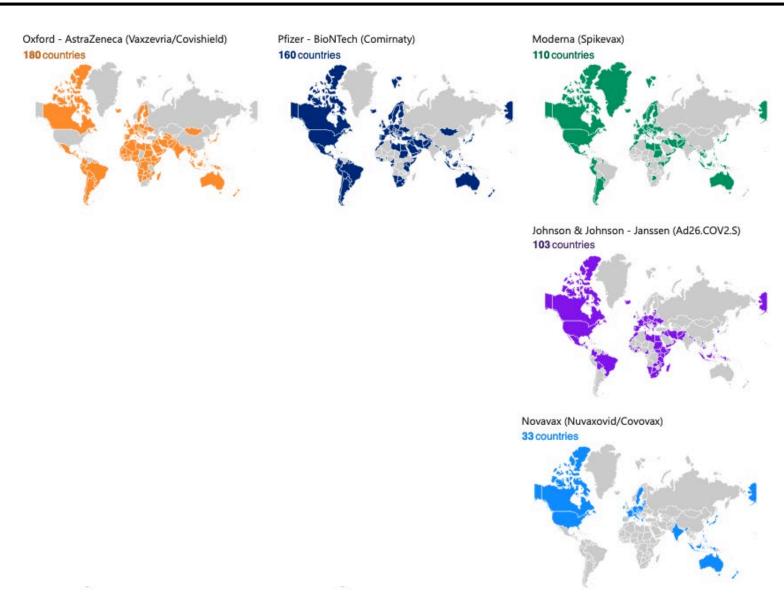
Variant Proportions in the US



Vaccine Administration

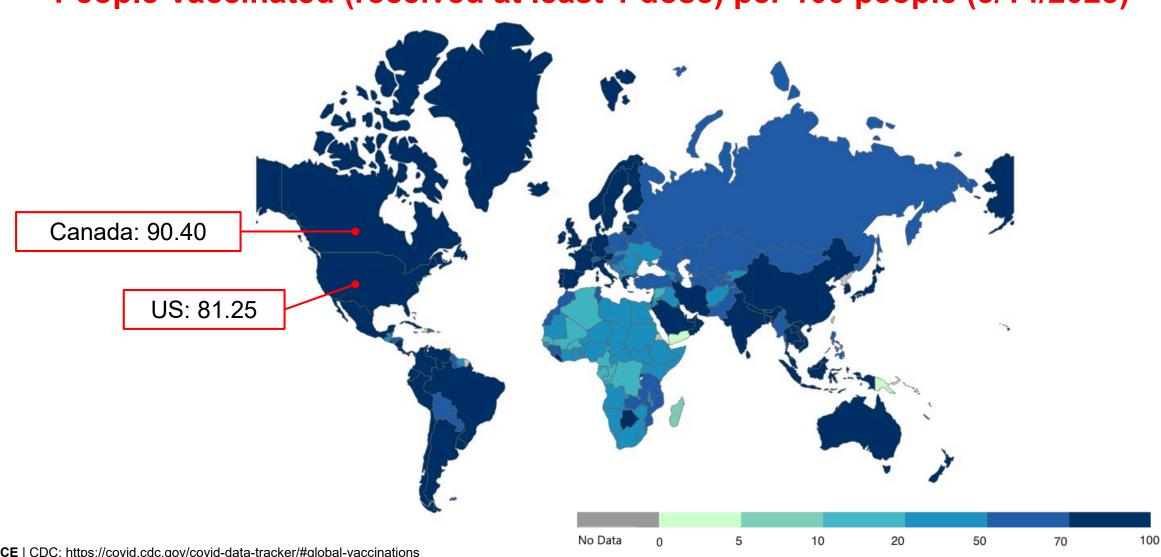


Vaccine Administration in the US



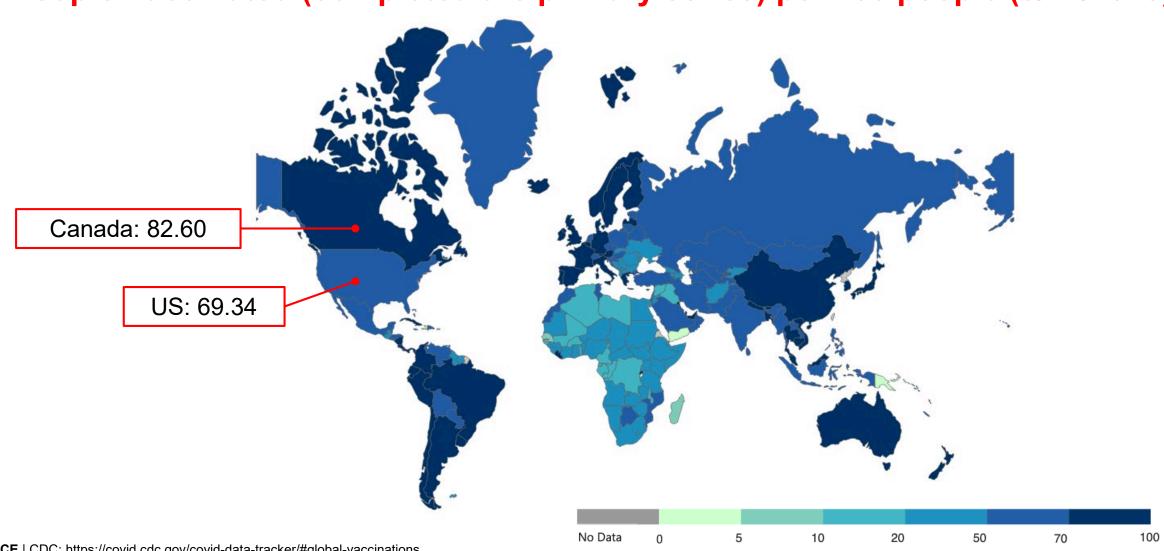
Global Vaccination Rates

People Vaccinated (received at least 1 dose) per 100 people (3/14/2023)



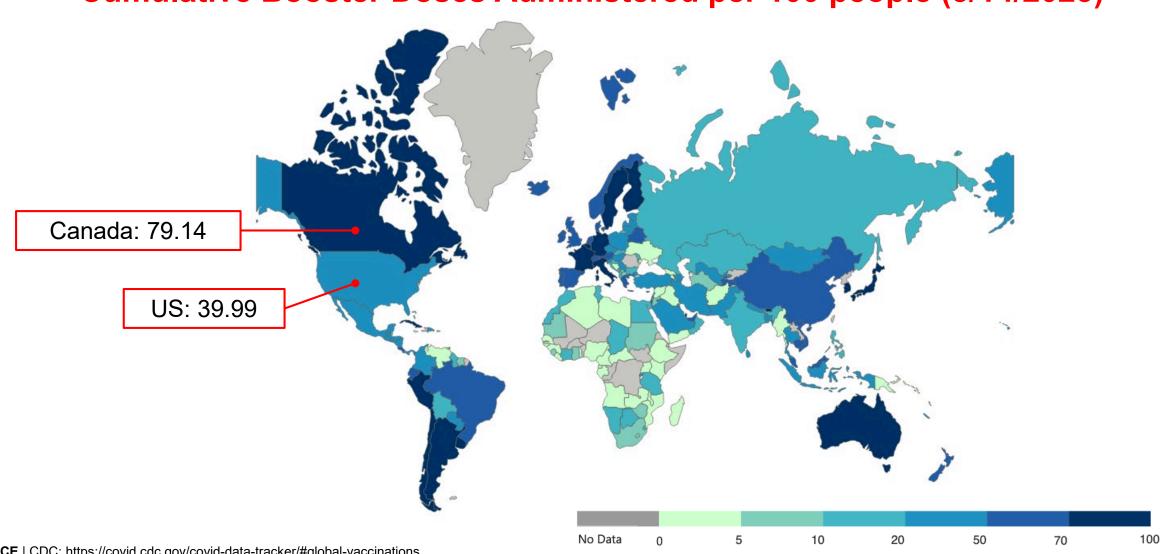
Global Vaccination Rates

People Vaccinated (completed the primary series) per 100 people (3/14/2023)



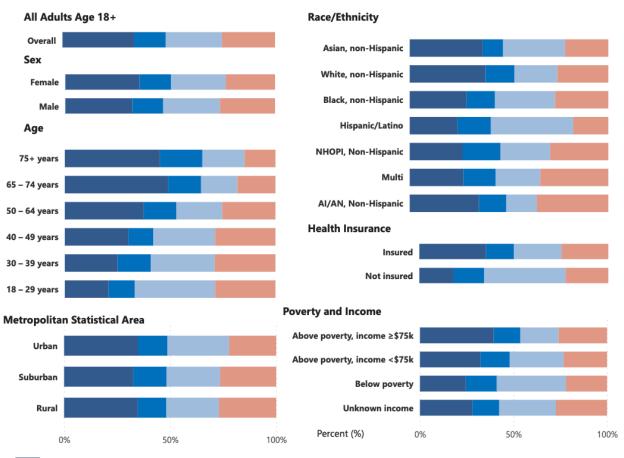
Global Vaccination Rates

Cumulative Booster Doses Administered per 100 people (3/14/2023)



Bivalent Booster Intentions in the US

Among adults who completed the primary series



Received updated bivalent booster dose

Definitely will get an updated bivalent booster

Probably will get an updated bivalent booster or are unsure

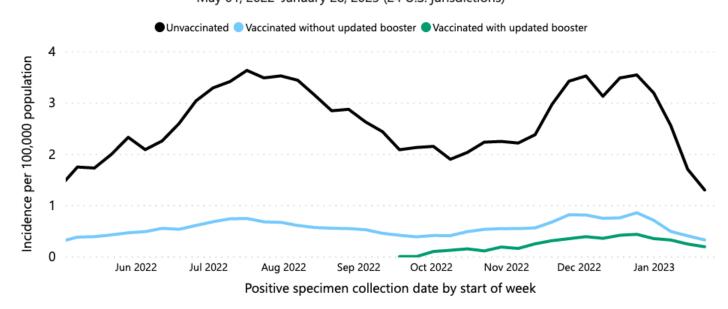
Probably or definitely will not get an updated bivalent booster

- Overall, 48.4% either received the updated bivalent booster dose (33.6%) or reported that they will definitely get an updated bivalent booster (14.8%)
 - 26.5% will PROBABLY get the updated bivalent booster
 - 25% PROBABLY or DEFINITLY WILL NOT get the updated bivalent booster.

Vaccination Effectiveness

Ages 18 Years and Older





- As of January 2023, people 18+ fully vaccinated with the bivalent booster had:
 - 7.9x lower risk of dying from COVID-19 compared to unvaccinated people
 - 1.7x lower risk of dying from COVID-19 compared to vaccinated people without the the bivalent booster

Effect of COVID-19 on Pediatric Oncology

- Slightly increased rate of severe disease (23.5%)
 - Persistently low WBC counts
 - 8.3% required intubation
- Delays in cancer chemotherapy in 67%
 - 2-87 days
 - Both symptomatic and asymptomatic

Summer Forcast 2023

New Surge in India driven by Omicron XBB.1.16

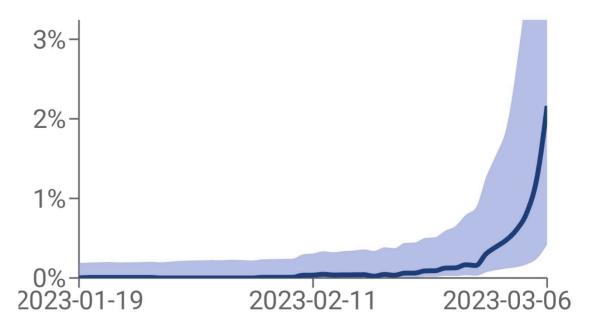
- First detected in January 2023 (2 cases)
- February 2023, 59 cases
- March 2023 ??

In India, single day case diagnosis rates have gone from < 300/day to

now > 1000/day

No deaths (to date)

I'm more afraid of H3N2



The Origins of the COVID Pandemic

What we know and do not know



Samples known to be positive for SARS-CoV-2 found to have Racoon Dog DNA as well

Racoon dogs traded at Huanan Seafood Market in Wuhan, China

Does NOT mean SARS-CoV-2 came from Racoon Dogs, but may implicate them as an intermediate host

Most evolutionary biologists who have looked at the genetic sequences believe SARS-CoV-2 emerged as a zoonosis

It will be impossible to fully exonerate the possibility of a laboratory leak

Experience at Camp Ta-Kum-Ta

 As best as we can, exclude undetected COVID19 cases in staff and campers coming into camp

"Closed Bubble" during camp week

Best practices to limit spread if undetected
 COVID19 in Summer Week Staff/Campers

Excluding COVID19 cases in Staff and Campers

COVID19 incubation period is 2-10 days

- Pre-camp testing required
 - Rapid antigen within 72h
 - In Week prior to camp
 - Minimize travel, large social gatherings
 - Mask in group settings (indoors and outdoors)
 - Alert Camp leadership if you or any close* contacts test positive for COVID19 within 10 days of camp arrival
 - Alert Camp leadership if you yourself feel unwell**

Excluding COVID19 cases in Staff and Campers

- Upon arrival, all staff and campers were tested by PCR on mid-nasal swab
 - More sensitive than rapid antigen
 - Can stay positive for longer after recovery
 - Any positive test will be disqualifying from participation

Excluding COVID19 cases in Staff and Campers

- Staff
 - Responsible for daily self-testing (antigen)
 - Honor system (sort of... trust but verify)

- Campers
 - Medical team each took ownership of one camper cabin

Plans for suspected COVID19 cases in Staff and Campers

- Immediate quarantine
 - Separate camper/staff quarantine trailers
 - Testing by PCR
 - Positive test result = home immediately

Closed Bubble During Camp Week

- No visitors
- Deliveries will be remote hand-off or campstaff evacuated
- No leaving camp grounds except for medical/appropriations runners (who will remain KN95 masked for entirety of offcampus time)
 - Morning activities ok, avoid contact with non-camp

Limit spread if undetected COVID19 in Summer Week Staff/Campers

- PODS
 - Think of it as 6 "mini" camps
 - Principle: You can be unmasked around your POD members; if any non-POD members are present, MASK
 - Sleeping arrangements will be with POD members
 - All eating/pavilion experiences will be by POD

What happens if someone tests positive?

- *In addition to immediate dismissal to home
- That person's POD will immediately quarantine
 - Procedures and details forthcoming
- All POD members will be tested by PCR
 - Asyptomatic and test-negative = can stay at camp
 - Symptomatic OR test-positive = home
- 3 or more total incident cases of COVID19 during the week (TOTAL) = camp ends early

2022 Outcomes

- A number of staff and campers excluded pre-camp week for exposures and/or symptoms
- Zero positive PCR tests upon arrival among staff and campers
- 3 individuals tested for symptoms during camp week all COVID negative
- Zero positive antigen tests on daily testing

The rules we operate under outside of camp are insufficient here

Experience at Camp Ta-Kum-Ta: Summer 2023

- Level of immunity in community is higher than last year
 - Natural disease
 - Vaccination
- Currently (and subject to change), low levels of SARS-CoV-2 activity
- Current strains, although MORE transmissible, are less virulent
 - Does not mean a more virulent strain could emerge

Current plans

- All campers and staff required to be fully vaccinated as per CDC guidelines (including bivalent boosters)
 - Medical exceptions only with Medical Staff approval
- Home Ag test within 72 hrs of arrival
- Exclusion for any URI symptoms active upon arrival
- PCR test all campers and staff upon arrival
 - No further testing unless symptomatic
- Masking optional
- No "POD"s***

Questions/Discussion