

Riding the waves: (De)implementation of public health mitigation layers

Purpose: To leverage various public health tools to decrease the risk of individual-level infection. But also, perhaps more importantly (particularly among fully vaccinated), empower individuals to reduce transmission in a community, so hospital systems and the vulnerable are not at undue risk in the event of future waves.

Vaccination rate (primary series) in the community		>=85%: Remove precautions regardless of case rates (until a variant of concern or high consequence) <85%: Use the tools below dependent on community transmission			
Public Health Mitigation Layer		Red	Orange	Yellow	Blue
	County-level cases per 100,000 in 7 days	>=100	50-99	10-49	<10
	Test Positivity Rate*	>10%	8-9.99%	5-7.99%	<5%
	Mask** indoors in public	Yes	Yes	No	No
	Antigen testing (Symptomatic)	Positive? Trust result Negative? Retest in 24 hours		Positive or Negative? Retest	Negative? Trust Positive? Retest
	Isolation (if positive test)	Test-to-exit***			
	Exposure****	Not boosted: Quarantine for 5 days Boosted: No quarantine, test 5 days after exposure			No quarantine, test 5 days after exposure
	Community-level action	Improve ventilation in spaces, improve equitable access to antigen tests, ramp up supply of antivirals, continue vaccination campaigns locally and globally, strengthen surveillance, research long COVID19 and treatments, & fight disinformation.			
Examples of activities if not sick	-Avoid indoor, crowded public areas where not 100% masked and vaccination status unknown -Avoid flying, if possible - <i>Extra</i> vigilant around vulnerable, like grandparents -Avoid indoor dining -Avoid indoor high-exertion public activities, like trampoline parks	-Avoid indoor, crowded public areas where not 100% masked and vaccination status unknown -Flying okay -Vigilant around vulnerable, like grand/great-grandparents -Indoor dining okay	-Indoor, crowded public events okay if majority masked -Flying okay -Vigilant around vulnerable, like grand/great-grandparents -Indoor dining okay	No limitation on activities	

*If the two indicators suggest different transmission levels, the higher level is selected. Currently, cases and TPR are an adequate measure for surveillance. However, this may change with the increase in antigen testing. When cases and TPR significantly diverge we will need to integrate another metric for behavior, like wastewater surveillance. **Quality, well-fitting mask, like N95, KN95, KF94 ***Do not leave isolation before receiving a negative rapid antigen test. If not possible due to employment, leave isolation after 5 days and mask with a N95 ****A close contact is someone who was less than 6 feet away from an infected person (laboratory-confirmed or a clinical diagnosis) for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period. For example, three individual 5-minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes. People who are exposed to someone with COVID-19 after they completed at least 5 days of isolation are not considered close contacts.