



San Antonio Metropolitan Health District
UT Health Sciences Center San Antonio
COVID-19 Community Response and Equity Coalition

STATEMENT ON MASKING AND VACCINATION STATUS

June 8, 2021

San Antonians have done an amazing job protecting themselves and one another from COVID-19 by getting vaccinated. Recent guidance from the CDC and mandates by Governor Abbott can lead to confusion about what the best steps are to take to protect ourselves and loved ones from COVID-19.

The San Antonio COVID-19 Community Response and Equity Coalition encourages adherence to the CDC guidelines and the following:

For those who are not yet fully vaccinated* or who have conditions that lower your immune system/defenses:

- Please continue to wear a mask when you will be in close contact (within 6 feet) of people outside of your household.
- If you haven't received a COVID-19 vaccine yet and are 12 years or older, please get one! There are easy, walk in sites all over San Antonio where you can get your vaccination today: www.vaccines.gov or www.vacunas.gov in Spanish

For those who are fully vaccinated*:

- You are at low risk for any COVID-19 infection (including infections without symptoms) and very, very low risk for severe illness with COVID-19. You no longer need to wear a mask or distance yourself from people outside of your household.
 - o You should still wear a mask if it is required by the business or institution you are in, you are traveling on public transportation, or in a healthcare setting.
- If you wish to continue to wear a mask for additional protection for yourself or loved ones, this is fine too.

As more and more San Antonians are vaccinated, we can look forward to being able to do things that we did before the pandemic began. While there is no way to ensure zero risk of infection, it is important to understand potential risks and how to adopt different types of prevention measures to protect yourself and to help reduce the spread of COVID-19. More information and guidance can always be found at covid19.sanantonio.gov or at www.cdc.gov. Please remember that circumstances within the pandemic and our recommendations about masking may change as the virus changes.

People around us may make different decisions about their health, based on their own circumstances. The best way to encourage people to change behavior is to speak honestly but not shame people for their decisions.

Take care of yourselves and one another - Do it for SA!

Sincerely,

Anita kurian

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*Fully vaccinated means 2 weeks after the final dose of whichever vaccine you received. Pfizer and Moderna vaccines require two doses; Johnson and Johnson vaccine only requires one dose.