



CORONAVIRUS BRIEFING: MAY 12, 2022

THE CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS BRIEFING FOR THE TOWN OF WELLESLEY

Health Officials Remind Residents to Take COVID Precautions



Wellesley Health officials are reminding residents to determine and follow the COVID-19 virus protection efforts that make the most sense for them individually. Currently our community and the State is seeing an increase in reported cases of the [Ba2 Omicron subvariant](#). This variant is highly contagious and transmissible and seems to be the dominant strain of COVID in the United States. In general, most cases result in mild to moderate symptoms that can be managed at home with over-the-counter medications or with anti-viral therapies such as [Paxlovid](#).

While officials currently do not plan to reinstate a mask mandate in Wellesley, masking for crowded indoor events is encouraged. As well, some people may continue to need or want to wear a mask, please be respectful of these choices. Also, remember to **stay at home if you are experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms**. Self-testing, followed by a PCR test is recommended if you are experiencing COVID symptoms and/or think you may have been exposed to COVID.

More About Paxlovid. The anti-viral therapy [Paxlovid](#) is free and widely available to people who test positive for COVID-19 and have symptoms, even mild ones. The sooner you start treatment the better. Contact your health provider for information.

COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic on May 17. Being vaccinated against COVID-19 is safe and offers the best protection against severe disease. The Health Department is holding a free, public vaccine clinic on **Tuesday, May 17 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.** First, second, and booster doses of the Moderna vaccine are available; you do not have to be a Wellesley resident. Sign up for an appointment in advance by using the [online registration link](#).

Council on Aging Vaccine and Mask Provision: A reminder that due to the vulnerable population served by the COA, individuals participating in in-person COA programs and activities at the Tolles Parsons Center must be vaccinated and continue to wear masks at this time.

Mental Health Awareness in May

The Health Department and the Wellesley Free Library are raising awareness about taking care of your mental health. Residents are invited to take part in a virtual program on **Thursday, May 19 at 7:00 p.m.** on Nutrition and Mental Health. [Register here](#).

If you pass by the Wellesley Free Library main branch, we hope you pause and notice the display of signs and flags on the front lawn intended to decrease stigma and increase sensitivity around mental health issues.



COVID-19 data continues to be available on Wellesley's COVID-19 Information Hub at www.wellesleyma.gov/coronavirus