



# McMurry University C 2022 **COVID UPDATE**

## **JULY COVID UPDATE**

The omicron variant BA.5 is now the dominant COVID-19 subvariant in the United States. According to CDC data, the new subvariants (BA.4 and BA.5) spread more quickly and have been on the rise for weeks. People, even those who might have protection from past infection or vaccination, have gotten COVID-19. A new [CDC Study](#) found that a second booster restores vaccine protection against hospitalization that might have dropped over time. If you haven't gotten your second booster, please consider getting boosted. McMurry University's current COVID-19 protocols are not changing at this time.

**Taylor County**

In recent weeks, Taylor County's COVID-19 Community Level has increased to **medium**. To determine the level risk and impact, the CDC looks at three metrics:

- New COVID-19 hospital admissions over the past seven days.
- Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients.
- Total new COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population in the past seven days.

Hendrick Health has moved the COVID-19 Community Safety Dial to Level 3: **High Risk**. This heightened safety awareness reflects the CDC's increase to medium level for Taylor and Brown Counties and the increase in active cases and current hospitalization rates in the community. This change alerts you to be more cautious and increase safety precautions if you feel you are at risk.

## **CDC Safety Precautions: COVID-19 Community Level Medium**

- If you are at high risk for severe illness, you may consider whether you need to wear a mask and take other precautions
- Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines
- Get tested if you have symptoms

## **Symptoms**

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches

- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

You may order Free At-Home tests by the clicking link below.

[FREE HOME-TESTING KITS](#)

If you have been exposed or have symptoms, please let Nurse Brenda know using the link below. She is here to support you and provide information on your return to campus. She can also be reached by phone at (325) 793-4857 or by email at [johnson.brenda@mcm.edu](mailto:johnson.brenda@mcm.edu).

[COVID SYMPTOMS REPORTING AND EXPOSURE](#)



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