



To Protect, Promote and Prioritize the Health of Our Entire
Community

For Immediate Release: February 11, 2021

COVID-19 Questions Answered

With over 60,000 total COVID-19 vaccinations administered so far, the Douglas County Health Department (DCHD) has naturally received many questions regarding the vaccines. Here are the answers to a few of them,

- I already had COVID-19. Do I still need the vaccine? **Yes. It is possible to catch and spread COVID-19 more than once. Recovery from infection may provide some short-term protection but medical experts are still unsure for how long.**
- How soon after receiving the vaccine am I safe? **About two weeks after second dose. Some protection develops weeks after the first dose. The greatest protection develops weeks after the second dose, but chances of infection and illness are never zero.**
- Does getting the vaccine mean I no longer need a mask? **No. The vaccines help to fight off infection more quickly with fewer and lighter symptoms, but it is still unclear how much they prevent spread from one person to another. Please continue to protect yourself and your loved ones from infection until the rates of transmission in the community are much lower.**

On Thursday, February 11, the Douglas County Health Department (DCHD) reported 127 new cases of COVID-19 received by midnight. The total number of cases in the county since the start of the pandemic in March is 62,304. During the last 14 days, 153 cases, 57 staff and 96 students, were reported in K-12 schools. One-hundred and twenty-one are in quarantine and 701 are self-monitoring.

The Health Department received six new death certificates related to the pandemic. We have lost three men and three women, all in their 70s and 80s. The number of deaths in the county connected to the pandemic is now 634. DCHD reports that 51,096 Douglas County residents have recovered from the disease.

According to the most recent local hospital report received Wednesday evening, medical and surgical beds were at 77% occupancy with 357 beds available and adult ICU beds are occupied at a 73% rate with 92 beds available. There were 126 individuals hospitalized who have been diagnosed with COVID-19, with 56 of them receiving adult ICU level care. There are also 17 more persons of interest (generally waiting for test results). Twenty-five individuals who were confirmed or suspected of having COVID-19 were on ventilators.

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