



THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF  
IMMUNOLOGISTS

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In response to recent questions about whether the COVID pandemic is over, AAI Committee on Public Affairs Chair Peter Jensen, M.D., released the following statement:

Since the COVID pandemic was first declared in March of 2020, scientists and public health officials have made extraordinary progress in combatting this deadly and disruptive disease. Rapidly developed vaccines against SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) have [saved tens of millions of lives](#). And other vital tools, including antiviral treatments and some rapid antigen tests, together with important mitigation measures like masking, have enabled us to better protect ourselves. In fact, worldwide COVID deaths have dramatically declined and are now at one of the [lowest weekly levels](#) since the pandemic began.

While remarkable progress has been made, hundreds of Americans are still dying from COVID-19 each day and millions are suffering from symptoms of Long COVID. Despite this, vaccination rates remain low in some populations, especially among young children and those eligible for the new bivalent booster. While we are all anxious to put the pandemic fully behind us, we must continue to do all we can to control COVID and to protect those who are most vulnerable. AAI therefore urges all eligible Americans to get fully vaccinated and boosted against COVID-19, and to follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's [isolation and exposure](#) guidance when you have, or think you may have, COVID.