

# UPDATE: Ohio medical schools help lead frontline fight against COVID-19

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Ohio's seven colleges of medicine continue to push forward, working together to harness all available resources and knowledge to have a meaningful impact that supports our state and our leaders in the fight against COVID-19.



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
CASE WESTERN RESERVE  
UNIVERSITY

## **How to prove whether one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine could save lives**



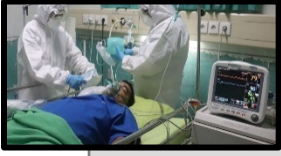
One vaccine dose is better than none, right? Well, that depends. Dr. Mark Cameron, Case Western Reserve University professor and immunologist, explains that based on COVID-19 vaccine clinical trials, we won't know how effective that first dose is without the second until the vaccine is administered more widely.

## **Should You Be Concerned About Allergies And The COVID-19 Vaccine?**

There have been some cases of nurses and others getting vaccinated with the COVID-19 shot and having allergic reactions. Dr. Mark Cameron weighs in on concerns about allergic reactions to the COVID-19 vaccines and what to consider when making decisions about getting vaccinated.



### **Knowledge is power: The science behind COVID-19**



Students at the University of Cincinnati are exploring the science behind the COVID-19 pandemic in a new class that debuts in late January. The class includes a series of 13 lectures addressing the disease's virology, impact on organ systems, detection and treatment, epidemiology, vaccination and psychosocial impact on society.

### **Hey, doc? How will I prove I got the COVID-19 vaccine? Where will I need proof?**

The COVID-19 vaccination card looks almost vintage: A rudimentary, wallet-sized ticket of sorts, with some handwritten information and dates of inoculation. It's also a reminder to get your second dose. But its existence has stirred a lot of discussion about how this proof of vaccination might be used for other COVID-19 pandemic purposes. Regional medical experts share their thoughts about the card and what you'll need to do with it.



### **Black leaders, residents want culturally competent messaging on COVID-19 vaccine for communities harboring distrust**



Health experts and community leaders worry that more Black people and people of color will die due to vaccine hesitancy if public health officials do not openly address and repair the broken trust between them and their community. "It's a situation where it really takes a village," said Dr. Amy Lee, professor of family and community medicine at NEOMED. "It's not really the responsibility of one entity to help take care of the community."

### **Here's How Many Car Windows Should Be Open to Minimize COVID-19 Risk, Per a New Study**

To reduce the spread of COVID-19, you know you should be wearing a face mask in public and keeping a six-foot distance from people who don't live in your home—but that's pretty difficult to do when you have to get into a car. NEOMED experts weigh in on what you can do to better ventilate the small space during your ride.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

### **Researchers Discover New Variant of COVID-19 Virus in Columbus, Ohio**



Scientists at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center and College of Medicine have discovered a new variant of SARS-Cov-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. The new variant carries a mutation identical to the U.K. strain, but it likely arose in a virus strain already present in the United States.

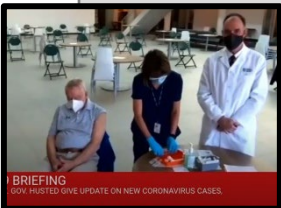
### **Protecting lungs from ventilator-induced injury**

An unfortunate truth about the use of mechanical ventilation to save the lives of patients in respiratory distress is that the pressure used to inflate the lungs is likely to cause further lung damage. Cases of acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) have skyrocketed because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. A team of OSU researchers is working on exploiting a natural process in pursuit of a therapy that could lower the chances for lung damage in patients on ventilators.



Heritage College of  
Osteopathic Medicine

### **OUHCM partners with local health department to distribute COVID-19 vaccines**



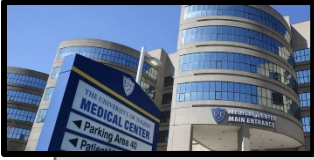
Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine has partnered with the Athens City-County Public Health Department to distribute Covid-19 vaccines, starting with a 104 year-old Athens County resident who received his first vaccination during Gov. DeWine's Jan 19 briefing. Dr. Ken Johnson shared how are proud and honored OUHCM is to be proactive against this disease and to be part of the history of fighting it.

### **OHIO researchers ID potential target for anti-viral drugs to battle COVID**

While the world awaits broad distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, researchers at Ohio University just published highly significant and timely results in the search for another way to stop the virus — by disrupting its RNA and its ability to reproduce.



### **UTMC begins participation in national coronavirus treatment study**



The University of Toledo Medical Center has begun recruiting patients to participate in a National Institutes of Health study seeking to identify which coronavirus treatments are most effective and deserve more attention in clinical trials.

### **UToledo works to alleviate food insecurity among medical students**

Research suggests that between a third and a half of college students experience food insecurity, meaning they struggle to access affordable, nutritious food. It's an issue that has intensified during the COVID-19 pandemic as students have lost jobs and access to some campus resources during shutdowns. Universities across the country have responded by mobilizing to connect students with food through a variety of interventions.



### **Experts optimistic despite slow start to COVID-19 vaccine distribution**



Experts and leaders, like WSU's Dr. Gary LeRoy, say this vaccine rollout is unprecedented in American history and providers are doing the best they can within an underfunded public health system. "It will get faster," LeRoy said. "I think that now since there's more discussion about, OK, what has gone right, what hasn't gone so well, now, I think we will see a bit more traction with this thing."

### **WSU faculty member recognized for tirelessly fighting COVID-19 in local community**

"I went straight into fight mode at the start of the pandemic, I realized very early that this was not going to be a short-term problem," said Dr. Mamle Anim. "In mid-February, I was already educating staff on what was to come, infection control, mode of transmission, PPE education etc. I read everything I could find on COVID-19 and tried to use a common-sense approach to make decisions and recommendations to keep us safe."