

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.



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What COVID-19 Is Doing to the Heart, Even After Recovery

Dr. Mina Chung, professor at the School of Medicine, discusses the growing trend of many COVID-19 survivors experiencing some type of heart damage, even if they didn't have underlying heart disease and weren't sick enough to be hospitalized.

Black Physicians Help Build Trust After Decades Of Community Skepticism

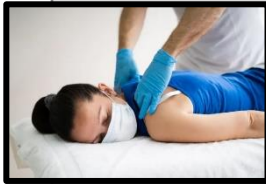


Having Black patients included in clinical trials and medical studies is critical to reducing current health disparities in Black communities, said CWRU's Dr. Jackson Wright. That includes the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 in America's Black and Latinx communities, where people have been three times as likely as their white neighbors to be infected by the coronavirus and are nearly twice as likely than whites to die from it.

UC researchers identify potential COVID-19 treatment

Researchers from the University of Cincinnati's (UC) Department of Surgery, have identified a potential treatment for COVID-19. Working with German researchers, experts from UC found that sphingosine, a lipid known to eliminate respiratory infections, may also be able to prevent viral infections, namely COVID-19.

Is It Safe To Get A Massage During The COVID-19 Pandemic? Experts Weigh In



Living through a pandemic is incredibly unnerving, so it's only natural to crave a soothing massage to help ease the tension. And now that many parts of the country no longer have COVID-19 restrictions – even though cases are rising and we're entering a third wave – some people may want to act on that urge. UC's Dr. Carl Fichtenbaum won risks and ways to stay safe.

Will a Face Mask Protect Against Both The Flu And COVID-19? Here's What Doctors Say



People wear face masks these days mostly to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. But now experts say there might be an added benefit of wearing your mask when out in public: It could lower your odds of contracting the flu. Dr. Richard Watkins said that because COVID-19, the flu is a virus that's mainly spread through infected respiratory droplets, wearing a mask will likely decrease transmission of the flu as well.

When Can You Stop Wearing A Face Mask To Protect Against COVID-19?

Wearing a face covering every day can be daunting, but health experts like Richard Watkins, M.D., an infectious disease physician and professor of internal medicine at Northeast Ohio Medical University, say to buckle down – we're in it for the long haul.



Ohio State public health researchers estimate statewide COVID-19 prevalence



“What we can say with confidence is that some hundreds of thousands of Ohioans have had COVID-19, and millions of Ohioans remain susceptible,” Abigail Norris Turner, associate professor at the Colleges of Medicine and Public Health and an infectious disease epidemiologist. “The same public health efforts which have worked to keep the prevalence of disease low are still needed to prevent ongoing transmission.”

Ohio State Researchers Cross Disciplines to Establish National STOP-COVID Center

Why are some people more at risk for COVID-19 infection than others? Why do some display symptoms, while others do not? Why are some cases mild and others severe? These and other critical questions will be addressed in a five-year, longitudinal study to be conducted by an interdisciplinary team of researchers at The Ohio State University College of Medicine and Wexner Medical Center under a \$10M grant from the National Cancer Institute (NCI).



OHIO COVID-19 Dashboard scores “A” rating

Ohio University launched its COVID Dashboard earlier this school year to keep its faculty, employees, and surrounding communities informed. The dashboard updates every Tuesday and Friday with the latest data, which includes the number of students and employees that have been tested on each of its campuses, as well as positive and pending results. It also includes charts that visualize various trends in the data.

Dr. Ken Johnson discusses the importance of ‘Knowing Your Patients as a Person’ in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic



“If a patient feels like their doctor knows them as a person, they’re eight to nine times more likely to follow through with their treatment instructions,” says Dr. Ken Johnson. Creating that kind of connection is more challenging in a virtual visit, he worries, not to mention the reduced opportunity to take the actual “hands-on” approach to care that osteopathic physicians practice.



UToledo Hosts Lecture Focused on Social Inequalities and Health Disparities Connected to COVID-19

“COVID-19 has shown that our country is divided, fractured and vulnerable to misinformation,” Keynote Speaker Dr. Brian Dolsey said. “Healthcare providers should focus on education regarding mitigation for this virus and preventative medicine as we work to ensure the health of our entire community.”

Research of ‘Love Hormone’ Shows It Could Hold Key to Treating COVID-19

Dr. Elissar Andari, assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry, used a National Institutes of Health database to analyze characteristics of genes treated with drugs closely related to oxytocin. They found that one drug in particular, carbetocin, has similar characteristics (called a signature) to genes with reduced expression of the inflammatory markers that trigger cytokine storm in COVID-19 patients.



WSU students contribute in fight against COVID-19 spread



Wright State University students have been contributing to the fight against COVID-19 by working in contact tracing. Contact tracing is an effective disease control strategy that involves identifying cases and their contacts, then working with them to interrupt disease transmission.

Strengthening faith during coronavirus: An Islamic perspective

Boonshoft School of Medicine third-year psychiatry resident physician, Zainab Saherwala, D.O., discusses her thoughts on strengthening faith during the coronavirus. “Although COVID-19 has limited some social and physical religious practices, this pandemic has helped to strengthen faith and spirituality not only among Muslims, but also people of other faiths. During periods of stress, change, and uncertainty, it is important to remember that ‘With every difficulty, there comes an opportunity to gain a new perspective.’”