November 11th is Veterans Day

VETERANS



NOVEMBER 3, 2021

Question: Is the spread of COVID-19 still a concern?

Answer: While it is important to celebrate how far we have come in our knowledge of how to protect our families and communities from COVID-19, it is also critical that we *understand the risks* that are still around us. According to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services:

- Milwaukee County's COVID-19 transmission rate is currently rated as: HIGH
- Indoor medium and large gatherings ARE contributing to the spread of COVID-19

If you are feeling completely exhausted from making continuous health decisions, you are not alone. It is a lot of information to try to keep up with day to day. Here are a few questions you could ask yourself when it comes to trying to figure out if an activity is **RISKY OR SAFE?**

- *Is there high transmission in my community?*
- Will I be in close contact with someone who is sick and not wearing a mask or asymptomatic?
- Am I or someone I am around at increased risk of severe illness or unable to be vaccinated?
- Do I take everyday actions to protect myself?
- Am I fully vaccinated?
- Will I be in close contact with individuals who are not fully vaccinated?

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SAFE

Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services

COVID-19 TRANSMISSION UPDATE

"It really indicates that the virus is evolving to become more efficient at transmitting through the air."

How long can the virus remain in the air?

Up to 3 hours!

How long can the virus live on surfaces?

Up to 72 hours!



 Newer variants of the coronavirus like Alpha and Delta are highly contagious, infecting far more people than the original virus.

RISK

- Two new studies offer a possible explanation:
 The virus is evolving to spread more efficiently through air.
- Most researchers now agree that the coronavirus is mostly transmitted through large droplets that quickly sink to the floor and through much smaller ones, called aerosols, that can float over longer distances indoors and settle directly into the lungs, where the virus is most harmful.