

Feature Story



Heart Health Month at Stanford

A year and counting of COVID-19 has taken a toll on our hearts both literally and figuratively. This Heart Health Month shines a light on the many ways in which Stanford Medicine has been working harder than ever to protect and uplift your cardiovascular health.

From delving into data on the cardiovascular risks of the coronavirus and ways to curb them, to addressing deadly inequities in health care, to the story of a heart transplant patient healing with precise surgery and love from a distance, we invite you to help us honor the endurance of the human heart. [Learn more >](#)

Stanford Medicine in the News

Stanford Medicine has been relentless in confronting the COVID-19 pandemic, partnering in global collaborations as well as innovating meaningful solutions. As we embark on the new year, we remain committed to supporting you through the current challenges, offering [updates](#), [safe and accessible care](#), and the latest research to [prevent and treat coronavirus](#).



How do the new COVID-19 vaccines work?

The Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines are the first to use RNA, an info-coding molecule, to prompt our bodies to fight the virus. Vaccine expert Bali Pulendran, PhD, explains what makes these vaccines different from previous conventional versions and how they successfully trigger an immune response. [Learn more >](#)



Large-scale surveillance of coronavirus variants launched in Bay Area

Researchers are screening diagnostic samples to identify known coronavirus variants circulating in the Bay Area, including those from the United Kingdom, South Africa, and Brazil. [Learn more >](#)



Stanford researchers pioneer nanoparticle vaccine for COVID-19

Researchers are in the preclinical stages of developing a nanoparticle vaccine for COVID-19. The vaccine, if successful, could be stored at less extreme temperatures than the mRNA vaccines currently in use, creating opportunities for distribution in lower-resourced settings. [Learn more >](#)



COVID-19 severity affected by proportion of antibodies targeting crucial viral protein, study finds

A comprehensive study of immune responses to SARS-CoV-2 associates mild disease with comparatively high levels of antibodies that target the viral spike protein. But all antibodies wane within months. [Learn more >](#)



Excess mortality rates early in pandemic highest among Blacks, study finds

Excess mortality rates during the early days of the pandemic varied significantly depending on race, ethnicity, and geography, researchers report. [Learn more >](#)



A look inside Stanford's new Biosafety Lab

A newly expanded, state-of-the-art Biosafety Level Three (BSL3) laboratory, made possible thanks in large part to philanthropy, will allow Stanford researchers to safely conduct laboratory studies with the live coronavirus to generate and test new medicines that can slow the spread of the disease. [Learn more >](#)

Stanford Health Care Spotlight



The latest on COVID-19 vaccine availability at SHC

SHC has received both the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines. This website provides the latest information on our current vaccination activities for approved groups and regular updates on changes in vaccine availability, all following the California Department of Public Health's guidelines. [Learn more >](#)



Stanford Medicine accepts hundreds of patient transfers to relieve regional hospitals during pandemic

The transfers occurred as part of a mutual aid agreement among local and regional hospitals as COVID-19 cases surge. [Learn more >](#)

Stanford Medicine Leaders and Faculty in the News

In the media and in weekly virtual forums, our leadership is working hard to ensure that you have the most accurate and up-to-date information regarding virus prevention, testing, and treatment.



Medicine Grand Rounds

In-depth discussions from Stanford health experts on the front lines of coronavirus care and research. Recent topics include Eric Topol, MD's updates and insights into the COVID-19 pandemic, the history of mRNA vaccine development, emerging virus variants, vaccine efficacy, and more. [Watch the videos >](#)



Stanford continues to adjust to the pandemic challenges

President Marc Tessier-Lavigne, Provost Persis Drell, and Medical School Dean Lloyd Minor brought the campus community up to date with news of the university's adjustments to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic. [Learn more >](#)



County supervisor honors two faculty members for work during COVID-19 pandemic

Infectious disease expert Yvonne Maldonado and psychiatrist Steven Adelsheim were awarded service medals by Santa Clara County Supervisor Joe Simitian. [Learn more >](#)



When doctors tell their stories

When a basic understanding of public health can save lives, the Stanford Global Health Media Fellowship is showing doctors how to best convey information to have impact beyond the clinic. [Learn more >](#)

Taking Care of Yourself and Others



5 Questions: Kevin Schulman on encouraging COVID-19 vaccination in a politically polarized country

COVID-19 vaccination rates must reach 80% to achieve herd immunity, but only about 60% of Americans are willing to be vaccinated, according to the Pew Research Center. Stanford physician and economist Kevin Schulman suggests marketing tactics to boost compliance. [Learn more >](#)



Reducing falls for older adults: What's different during the pandemic?

This final post in the Reducing Falls For Older Adults series offers tips for avoiding falls during the pandemic, such as online exercise programs. [Learn more >](#)



Why kids matter in the quest to stamp out COVID-19

In this *Wired* article, Grace Lee, MD, a professor of pediatrics at Stanford's School of Medicine and a member of the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, highlights possible reasons for placing more of an emphasis on distributing vaccines to children. [Learn more >](#)

Taking Action - How You Can Help

We are grateful for the expressions of generosity and desire to help coming from across our community. There are various ways in which you can support our response to this ongoing crisis.

• Give blood or plasma

The Stanford Blood Center urges those who are healthy, and who haven't been in contact with someone who has COVID-19, to make urgently needed blood donations. [Learn more >](#)

Are you a recovered COVID-19 patient? If so, you may qualify to participate in Stanford's Convalescent Plasma Donation Program to help critically ill COVID-19 patients. [Learn more >](#)

• Participate in COVID-19 research

Vaccine trial volunteers needed: Find out if you are qualified to participate in the vaccine clinical trial currently underway at Stanford. [Learn more >](#)

Our Research Registry connects people like you with teams conducting research to make advances in health care. If you are eligible for a study, researchers may contact you to provide additional details on how to participate. [Learn more >](#)

• Take part in the National Daily Health Survey for Novel Coronavirus

Join thousands of individuals from the United States and around the world who have participated in a Stanford-led research study to help understand the social and behavioral impact of the evolving COVID-19 pandemic. [Learn more >](#)

• Make a gift

The Stanford Medicine community has reached out in unprecedented ways to offer support for researchers and caregivers on the front lines fighting the COVID-19 pandemic. In response, we have expedited the creation of two newly established funds to aid in advancing clinical care and research. [Learn more >](#)

As we enter the next phases of recovery and reopening, our priorities here at Stanford Medicine remain the same—to keep our community safe, informed, and in good health. We are grateful for your continued support of that mission.

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