

**April 13, 2022**

## **COVID-19 Health System Updates, April 13**

I want to give a short update this week, because I know many of you have seen reports that COVID-19 cases are on the rise again in our region. The reports are true, and here is what you need to know.

As of this morning, we had 58 inpatients with COVID-19 across the system, 9 of whom were in critical care. The New York State seven-day average test positivity rates as of yesterday were 2.8 percent for New York City, 4.8 percent for Long Island, and 3.9 percent for the mid-Hudson region.

All these numbers are up over the last couple of weeks, but the increases have been mainly slow and gradual. We are not at this moment seeing another sudden, huge spike as we saw with the first wave of Omicron in December. The numbers so far are well within our ability to handle, and we don't anticipate any significant changes to operations in the immediate future.

The best way to protect yourself remains to get a booster shot if you haven't yet, and pay attention to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations on masking. As a reminder, we do still require masks in all areas of our facilities where patients may be present. If you want to get a booster, our newly revamped [vaccine information page](#) has links to schedule one, both at Mount Sinai and elsewhere.

Also, you may have seen recently that the Food and Drug Administration and the CDC [authorized](#) a second booster shot for people over 50 and those who are immunocompromised. I encourage you to speak to your own doctor if you have questions about these second boosters. After that, if you decide you want one, you can schedule it using the link in the previous paragraph.

Thank you once again for everything you have been doing—for your patients, your colleagues, and our communities. Whether the current increase in COVID-19 cases becomes another wave or just a ripple, I will keep you informed.

