



**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
AND MENTAL HYGIENE**
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Commissioner

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**A STATEMENT FROM NYC HEALTH COMMISSIONER DR. ASHWIN VASANI ON
NYC'S INCREASED RISK ALERT LEVEL**

“New York City has transitioned to a high COVID alert level, meaning now is the time to double down on protecting ourselves and each other by making choices that can keep our friends, neighbors, relatives and coworkers from getting sick. As a city, we have the tools to blunt the impact of this wave, including distributing tests, masks and promoting treatments. Getting back to Low Risk depends on everyone doing their part and if we follow guidance, our forecasts anticipate this wave’s peak will not last long. What we do now can make all the difference.”

Background on Health Department Guidance

Vaccinations and boosters are as essential as ever. High-quality masks should be worn in all public indoor settings and crowded outdoor spaces. New Yorkers should consider avoiding higher-risk activities (such as crowded indoor gatherings) and any gatherings should be limited to small numbers. Those at higher risk, should avoid crowded settings, especially if indoors. Everyone should get tested if symptomatic, were exposed, traveled or were at a large event. And people should stay home if sick. Treatments are available via same day delivery so talk to your doctor if you test positive or call (212) COVID-19, if you don’t have a provider.

To learn more about the Risk Alert Levels, see:

<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/covid/covid-19-alert-levels.pdf>

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