SARS-CoV-2: state of the pandemic

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Seven day rolling averages

https://ourworldindata.org/covid-vaccinations

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https://virological.org/t/selection-analysis-identifies-significant-mutational-changes-in-omicron-that-are-likely-to-influence-both-antibody-neutralization-and-spike-function-part-1-of-2/771



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!!Half as severe but twice as transmissible would yield the same pressure on the health system... and staffing issues are ubiquitous

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Vaccines will not be enough - we need to be able to manipulate transmission e.g., via rapid tests - for Omicron & future pandemic threats

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Necessary for planning interventions and vaccination (boosters, updates)

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Possible futures

to evade immune protection from **infection**.

• **Optimistic** - this is the start of a bumpy path to **endemicity**. There are still questions around the unvaccinated (children, etc). However, T-cell immunity, which will reduce severity, is constantly building up in the population and could drive severe outcomes further and further down, even if the virus drifts

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The virus will be doing all the experiments, unless we can reduce transmission - international vaccination, including of immunosuppressed individuals is likely key.

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Thank you

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