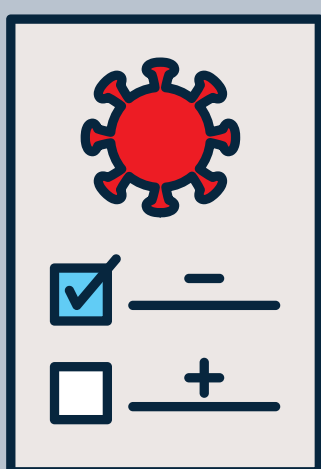
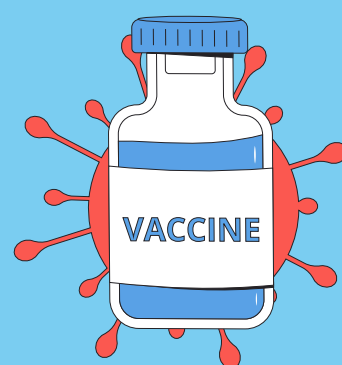


HOW TO MAKE HOLIDAY GATHERINGS SAFER: 6 THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND

REMEMBER, RISK REDUCTION IS ADDITIVE SO USING ALL THESE STRATEGIES TOGETHER WILL PROVIDE THE SAFEST HOLIDAY

VACCINATION

The best way to make any in-person gathering safer is by getting fully vaccinated. Full protection is provided two weeks after the last dose.

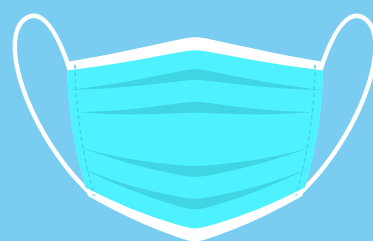


TESTING

Getting tested 3 days before the gathering and again on the day of the event is a great way to see if you are actively infected with the virus, regardless of vaccination status. Coupling testing with quarantining 3 days ahead of time can add another layer of protection.

MASK

Wearing a high-quality mask is important when around others who are unvaccinated or at risk for severe illness. Masking becomes even more important when indoors, and in areas with substantial to high community transmission.



PEOPLE

While COVID-19 can infect and cause severe illness regardless of age and health status, those that are at highest risk for severe illness include older adults and those with underlying medical conditions, especially if they are unvaccinated. Children who are unvaccinated and persons who are immunocompromised are also vulnerable. Pay special attention to such groups that may be part of the gathering and ensure risk reduction measures are in place to make the gathering safer.

PLACE

Well ventilated places add on an extra layer of protection. Gathering outdoors is the safest, but indoor gathers can be made safer with increasing fresh air and ventilation.



TIME AND SPACE

Try to minimize time in crowded, indoor spaces where masking and ventilation are varied. Putting space between yourself and others can also help.