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Thread by Dr. Jeff Gilchrist, PhD (@jeffgilchrist), Sep 15

COVID-19: Real impact on children We were told early in the pandemic that children don't spread the virus, it is mild and later that schools were not...



Studies have also found babies infected in-utero showed "lower levels in communication, gross movement, fine movement, problem solving, and personal-social domains ... [and] an increased risk of development of neurological disorders." (iflscience.com/covid-19-infec...). 28/

Health experts such as those at Michael Garron Hospital sent this letter to principals that despite masks no longer being mandated, all school staff, students, and families should continue wearing masks at school and in other indoor public settings (

They were emailed out by the TDSB. I've shared copies here: <https://t.co/aWqIHx6tUt>

— Sam Kaufman (@uhwuhna) September 7, 2022





Dear East Toronto principals and school communities,

I hope you are keeping safe and well. My name is Dr. Janine McCreedy and I am an infectious diseases physician at Michael Garron Hospital (MGH).

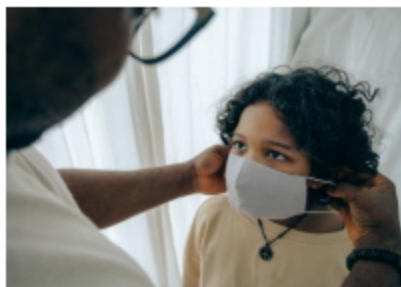
Many of you have come to know myself and MGH as a trusted source for COVID-19 information and infection prevention and control (IPAC) guidance during the pandemic. For those I haven't yet met, it's nice to meet you and I look forward to partnering with you to ensure safe in-person learning!

As we enter the start of another school year amid the COVID-19 pandemic, I wanted to reach out to share some important information about masking, testing and vaccines, and how MGH will be supporting schools in facilitating safe in-person learning this year.

The recommendations outlined below are based on guidance from the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI), as well as evidence-based studies, real-world data and measures that are proven effective in preventing the spread of COVID-19.

I encourage you to share this information with your school communities. Some of this information is also available on the [MGH website](https://www.mgh.ca).

Recommendations for masking



Although the province is no longer mandating masking in many settings, including schools, we encourage all school staff, students and families to continue wearing masks at school and in other indoor public settings.

Masking is one of our strongest tools in preventing the spread of COVID-19. They offer an extra layer of protection against COVID-19 and other viruses like the flu, which will be circulating alongside COVID-19 during fall and winter.

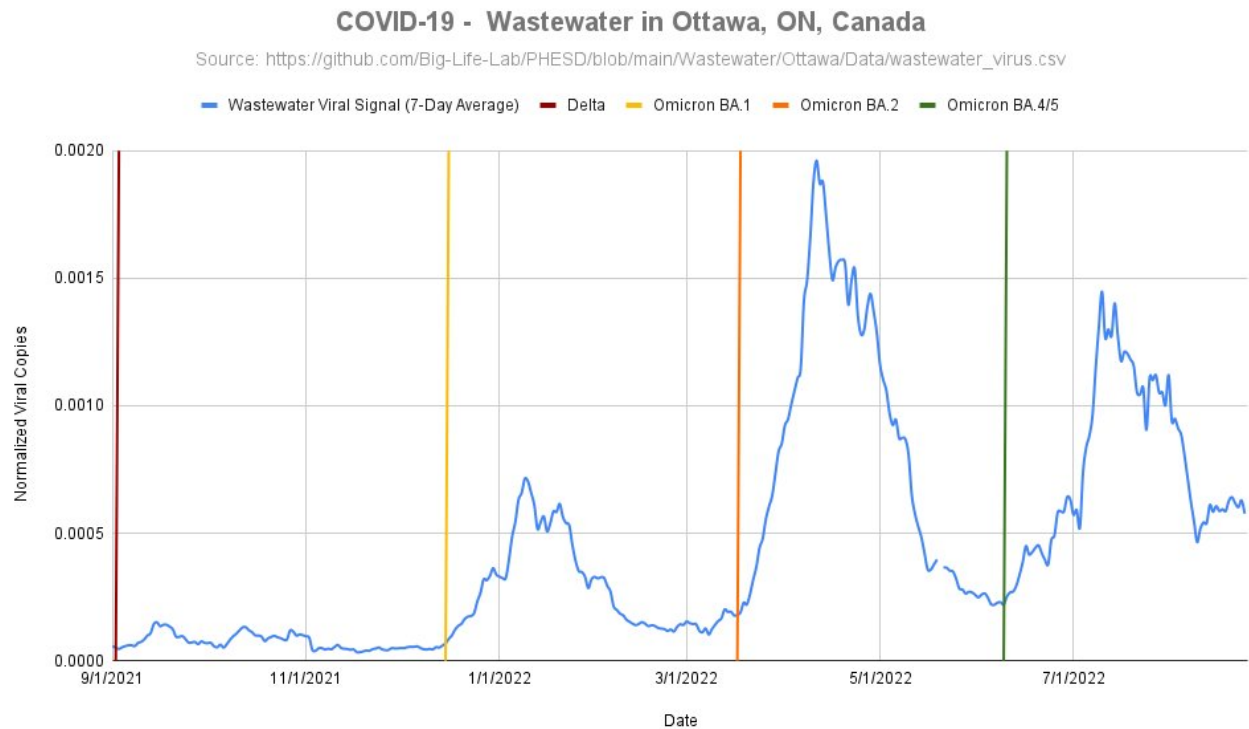
Wearing a well-fitted, quality mask also reduces the risk of children missing school and having their learning disrupted due to illness.

Recommendations for self-isolation for individuals who have symptoms or test positive for COVID-19

As you may be aware, the province has removed the five-day isolation rule for individuals with a confirmed COVID-19 infection. **Despite this, the virus has not changed and individuals can still spread COVID-19 to others for 10 days starting from the first day of symptoms.**

Unfortunately they never went back down to low levels. You can see from the graph that after the last few variant waves (Delta, BA.1, BA.2, and now BA.5) that the new baseline level keeps

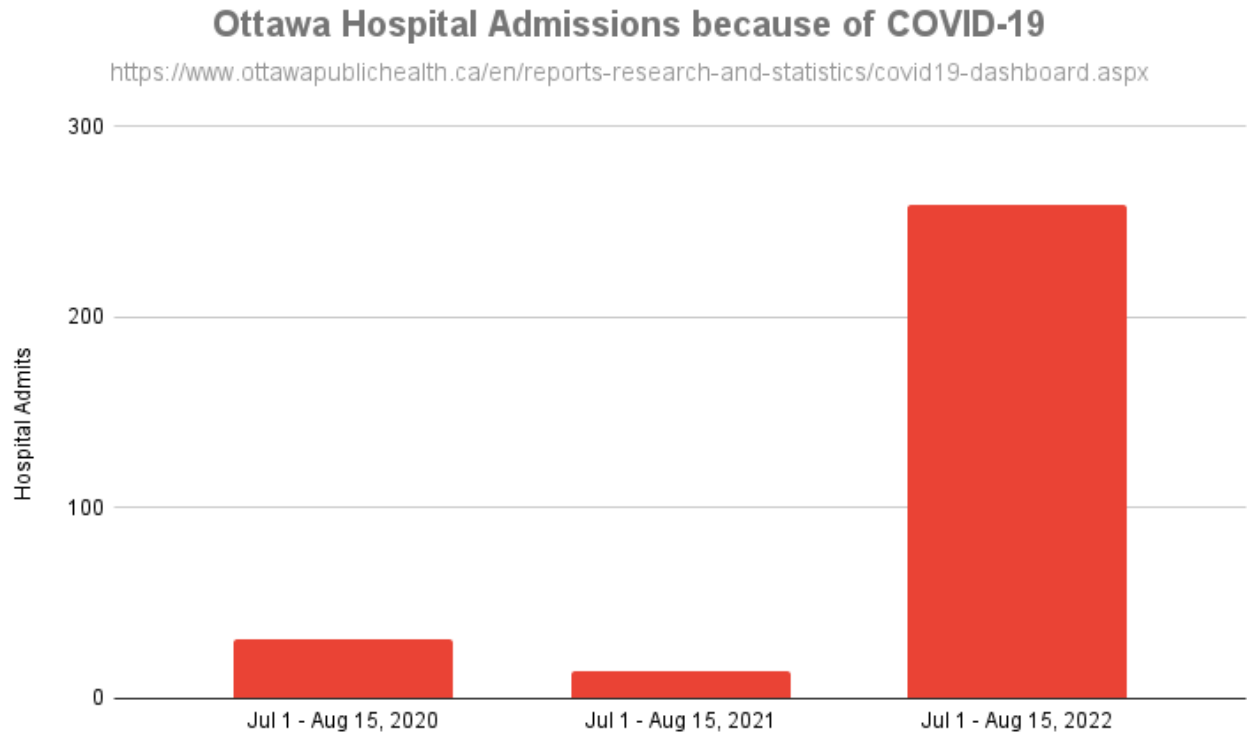
getting higher and higher between waves. 2/



COVID-19: Hospital Admissions Better or Worse Now?

In the 3rd summer of the pandemic, are things better or worse? Looking at the # of hospital admissions because of COVID-19 in Ottawa from July 1st to August 15 in 2020, 2021, and

2022 things are definitely worse. 🧵 1/



...Canada, Romana Didulo, will imminently declare martial law across the land. But Ford wouldn't coordinate with the federal Liberals to settle the occupation;

Ford is unconscionably (and stupidly) absent from 3 tripartite meetings beginning Day 11 of the Mad Max occupation../4

COVID-19: Upgrading to an elastomeric respirator

Now that so few other people are wearing masks indoors I have been looking to upgrade my disposable N95 earloop mask to something better and have finally found one that both fits, is comfortable, and very breathable. 🧵 1/

Dean French, forced to resign as Ford's chief of staff for cronyism and patronage in June 2019, becomes his former boss's emissary on behalf of the Mad Max/Duck Dynasty convoy in meetings with federal government and City of Ottawa officials;

The behind-the-scenes intrigue../2

Even the Chief Scientist at the WHO has stated, "We need to prepare for large increases in cardiovascular, neurological & mental health disorders in countries affected by the pandemic" (

We need to prepare for large increases in cardiovascular, neurological & mental health disorders in countries affected by the #SARSCoV2 #pandemic <https://t.co/9Lx0320Qy4>

— Soumya Swaminathan (@doctorsoumya) August 30, 2022

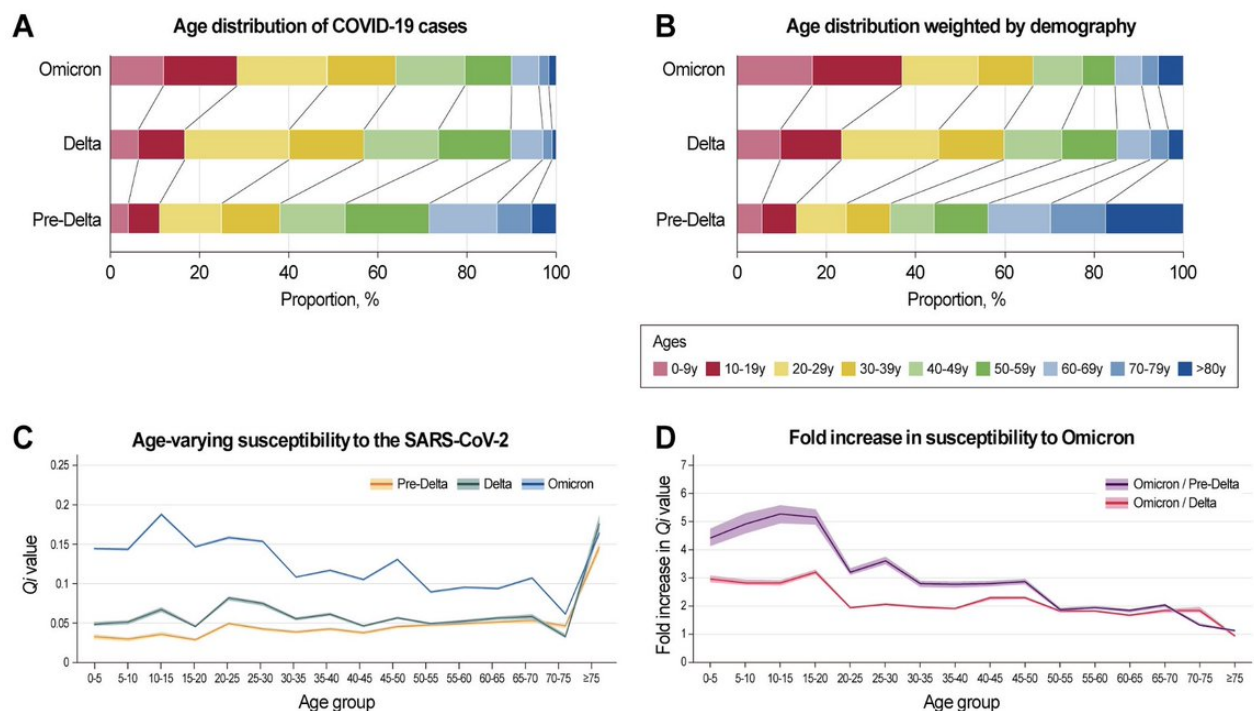
). 29/

The author of the study included some updated figures, showing the significantly higher proportion of COVID-19 cases among children compared to Delta and Pre-Delta periods of the pandemic (

Dr. David, I sincerely thank you for sharing the study. Attached are updated figures with recent national seroprevalence data in South Korea. 😊 pic.twitter.com/5hs2WrZM3g

— June Young Chun (@June_MD) September 13, 2022

). 5/



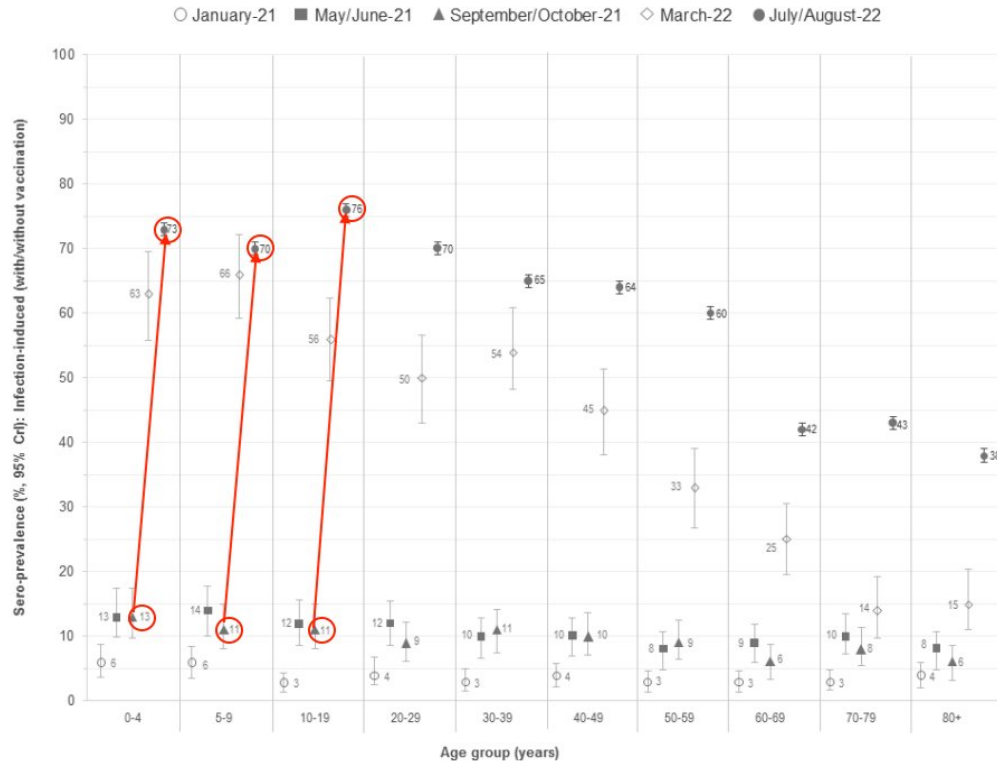
The study showed that in BC schools in September 2021 at the start of the school year 11-13% of children had been infected with COVID-19 but by the end of the school year in July 2022 that had increased to 70-76% of children (

This should have been the first tweet in the thread given the gravity of these numbers that the authors, who said schools were not infection hubs, are now try to spin as positive news. Right now, these “primed” kids are getting reinfected. Right now. <https://t.co/r2xxMAO90w>

— Diego Bassani, PhD (@DGBassani) September 13, 2022

). 7/

Figure 4. Change in infection-induced sero-prevalence by age group and sero-survey, March 2020 to July/August 2022, Lower Mainland, British Columbia, Canada



95% CrI = 95% credible interval Displayed sero-prevalence estimates are for infection-induced antibody, stratified by age group and based upon Bayesian model estimation, standardized for age, sex and health authority (HA) within the Lower Mainland (Fraser HA and Vancouver Coastal HA), British Columbia, Canada. See **Supplementary Table 5** for crude tallies and Bayesian estimates with CrIs.

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They found reinfection causes a recurrence of Long COVID in 58% of children who were in recovery or remission (

🚀 A world research first in partnership from @long_covid @LongCovidKids

🌟 How do #COVID reinfections affect Long Covid in adults, children and young people?

🌟 <https://t.co/Tm09ATSnbx> 🌟

@Daltmann10 #LongCovidKids #LongCovid #research

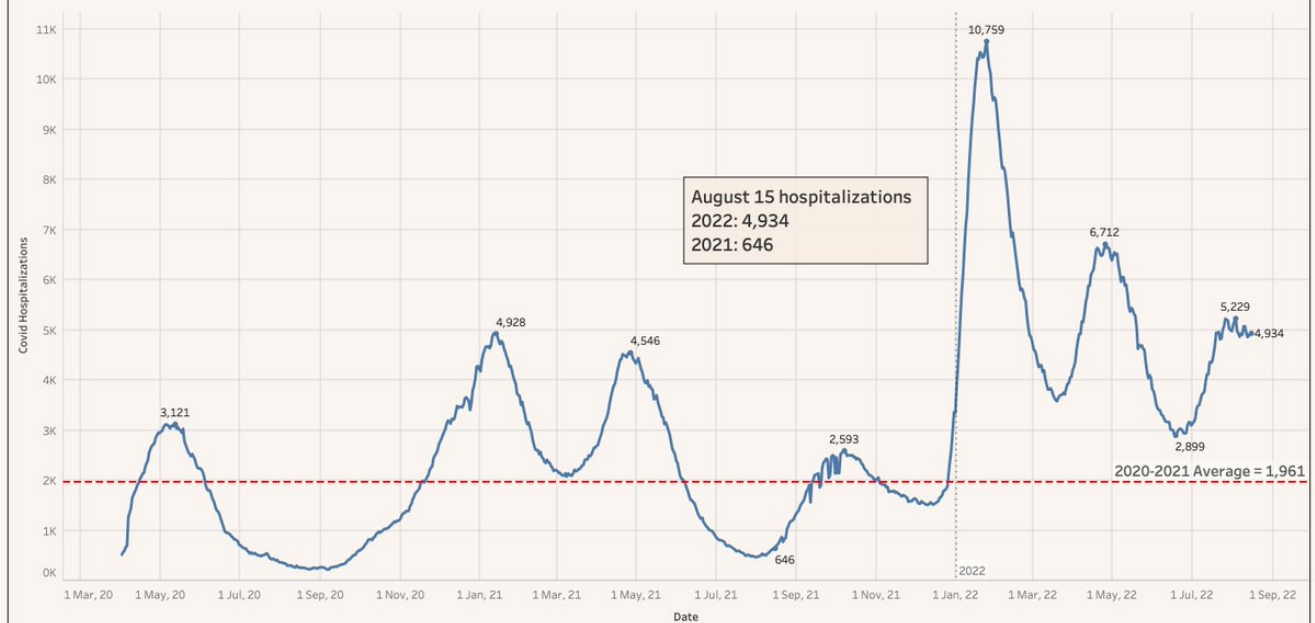
— Long Covid Kids HQ #LongCovidKids #ProtectAllKids (@LongCovidKids) September 8, 2022

). Reinfection worsens the symptoms of Long COVID in the majority of children who are still symptomatic. 22/

Similarly looking at Canada as a whole, hospitalizations are 7.6x higher now than they were this time last year and every day in 2022 has been above the average for 2020-2021 (). 3/

Canadian hospitalizations are at 4,934, 7.6 times higher than the 646 on this day last year.

- Every day in 2022 has seen covid hospitalizations above the pre-Omicron average of 1,961



Bill Comeau @Billius27 src: GoC Covid19 daily epidemiology update csv. Total covid hospitalizations (with + for) (no data available for split between with and for)