

**February 26:** In a CDC telebriefing update on COVID-19, NCIRD Director Dr. Nancy Messonnier warns the nation to prepare for community spread. “It’s not so much a question of if this will happen, but when this will happen and how many people in this country will have severe illness.”

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**March 6:** President Trump indicates anyone who needs a COVID-19 test can get one.

**March 11:** The WHO declares COVID-19 a pandemic.

**March 15:** States begin to shut down to prevent the spread of COVID-19. New York City public school system shuts down, Ohio calls for restaurants and bars to close.

**March 28:** The White House extends social distancing measures until the end of April 2020.

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**April 3:** CDC recommends that all people wear a mask when outside of their home.

**April 11:** All 50 states, DC, USVI, CNMI, Guam, and Puerto Rico are under a disaster declaration simultaneously.

**April 30:** President Trump launches Operation Warp Speed, an initiative to produce a vaccine for the coronavirus as quickly as possible.

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**Mid 2020** **May 1:** The FDA issues an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for investigational antiviral drug remdesivir.

**May 2:** WHO renews emergency declaration from three months prior calling the pandemic a global public health crisis.

**May 28:** U.S. COVID-19 death toll surpasses 100,000.

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**July 27:** Pfizer and Moderna each announce the start of their phase 3 clinical trial for Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine BNT162b2 and Moderna mRNA-1273 vaccine.

**July 29:** Dr. Nancy Messonnier speaks to CDC ACIP about proposed plans for COVID-19 vaccine implementation.

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**Late 2020** **October 16:** Awardees must submit COVID-19 vaccine distribution and administration plans to the CDC.

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**December 3:** CDC ACIP recommends that health care professionals and residents of long-term care facilities be prioritized for the COVID-19 vaccine.