

THE

TRENDI WEEK

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EXCLUSIVE WEEKLY NEWS

Covid infection protection waning in double



Most people who catch Covid-19 won't become severely ill and get better relatively quickly. But significant numbers have had long-term problems after recovering from the original infection - even if they weren't very ill in the first place. As society reopens, there are fears long Covid could disproportionately affect those not yet fully vaccinated. Guidance for UK health workers describes long Covid as symptoms continuing for more than 12 weeks after an infection - severe or mild - and can't be explained by another cause.

use. According to the NHS, symptoms include: Surveys have identified tens and even hundreds of other complaints. Probably the largest study so far, by University College London (UCL), identified 200 symptoms affecting 10 organ systems in people with long Covid, at higher levels than in people who were fully recovered. They include hallucinations, insomnia, hearing and vision changes, short-term memory loss and speech and language issues. Others have reported gastro-intestinal and bladder problems, changes to periods and skin conditions. How severe these symptoms are varies, but many have been left unable to perform tasks like showering, grocery shopping and remembering words. We don't yet know for sure. One possibility is the infection makes some people's immune systems go into overdrive, attacking not just the virus but their own tissues. That can happen in people who have very strong immune responses.

Oxygen firms accused of intimidating Mexican hospitals during pandemic

The medicines regulator has approved use of the first treatment in the UK using man-made antibodies to prevent and fight coronavirus. Health secretary Sajid Javid said approval of the first drug designed specifically for Covid-19 in the country is fantastic news and he hoped it could be rolled out for patients on the NHS as soon as possible. Advertisement The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) said the clinical trial data they had assessed has shown Ronapeve may be used to prevent infection, treat symptoms of acute Covid-19 infection and can reduce the likelihood of being admitted

to hospital due to the virus. Trials took place before widespread vaccination and before the emergence of virus variants. It is the first monoclonal antibody combination product approved for use in the prevention and treatment of acute infection from the virus for the UK. Advertisement Monoclonal antibodies are man-made proteins that act like natural human antibodies in the immune system. The drug, developed by pharmaceutical firms Regeneron and Roche, is given either by injection or infusion and acts at the lining of the respiratory system where it binds tightly to the virus and prevents it from gaining access to



the cells, the MHRA said. Advertisement Sajid Javid said: The UK is considered a world leader in identifying and rolling out life-saving treatments for Covid-19, once they have been proven safe and effective in our government-backed clinical trials.