

8-27-2020

## **Covid-19 Clinical Update 8/27/2020**

George Washington University

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1. EPIDEMIOLOGY

2. TESTING

3. PATHOPHYSIOLOGY

4. TREATMENT

5. GW UPDATES

# COVID-19 UPDATE

HANA AKSELROD, MD, MPH

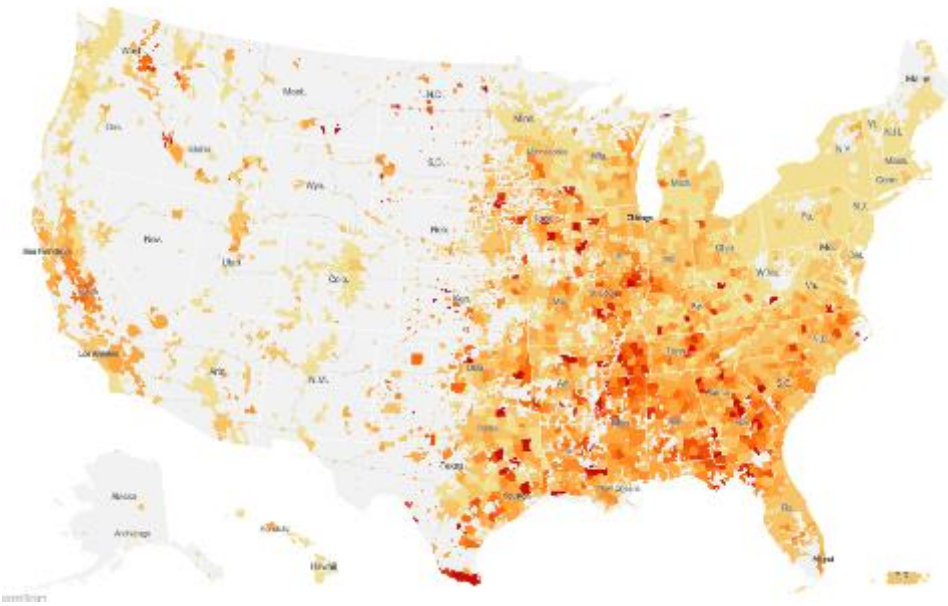
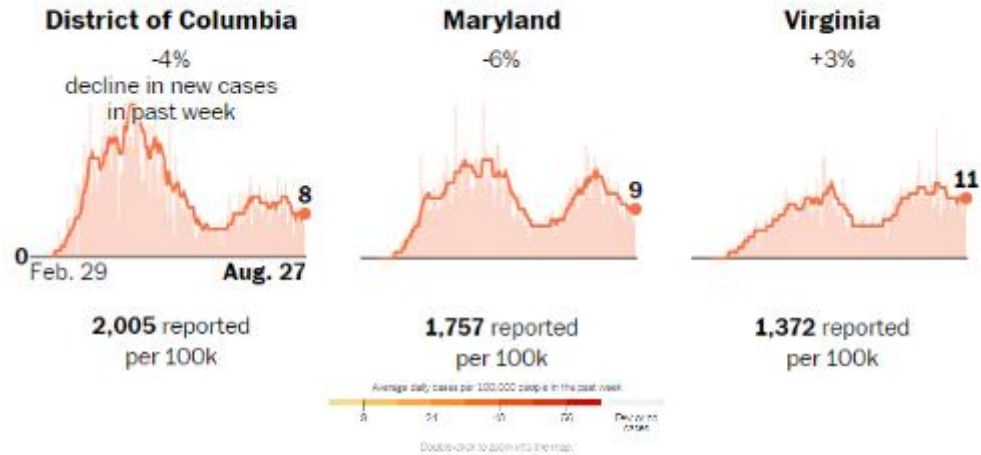
GW DIVISION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

8/27/2020

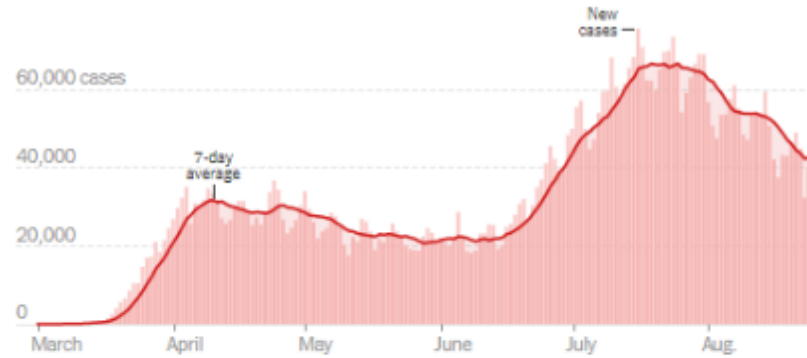


Data as of August 27 at 9:15 a.m.

### 7-DAY AVERAGE OF DAILY NEW REPORTED CASES PER 100K

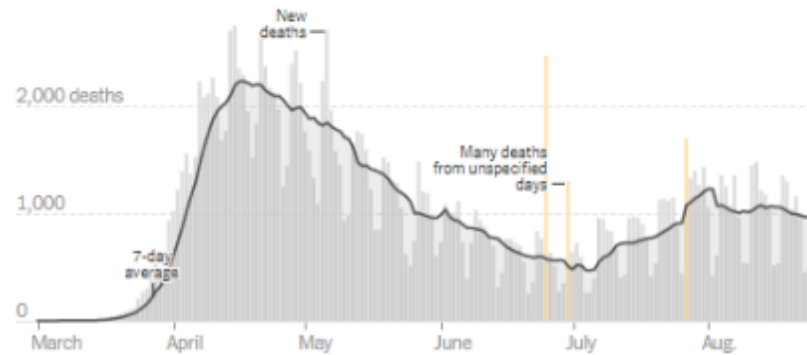


### New reported cases by day in the United States



Note: The seven-day average is the average of a day and the previous six days of data.

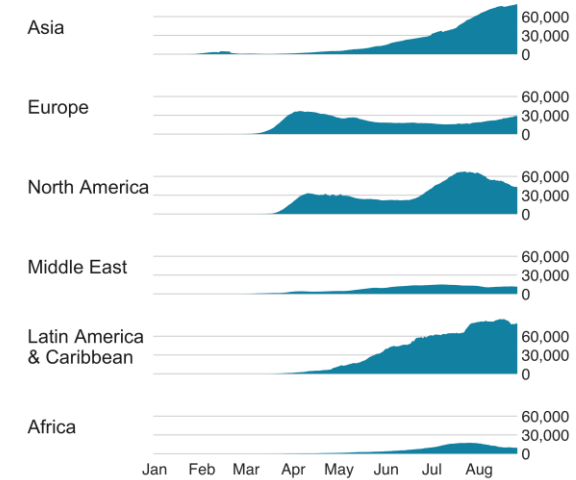
### New reported deaths by day in the United States



These are days with a data reporting anomaly. Read more [here](#).

### Covid-19 cases compared by continent

Number of cases per day, seven-day rolling average



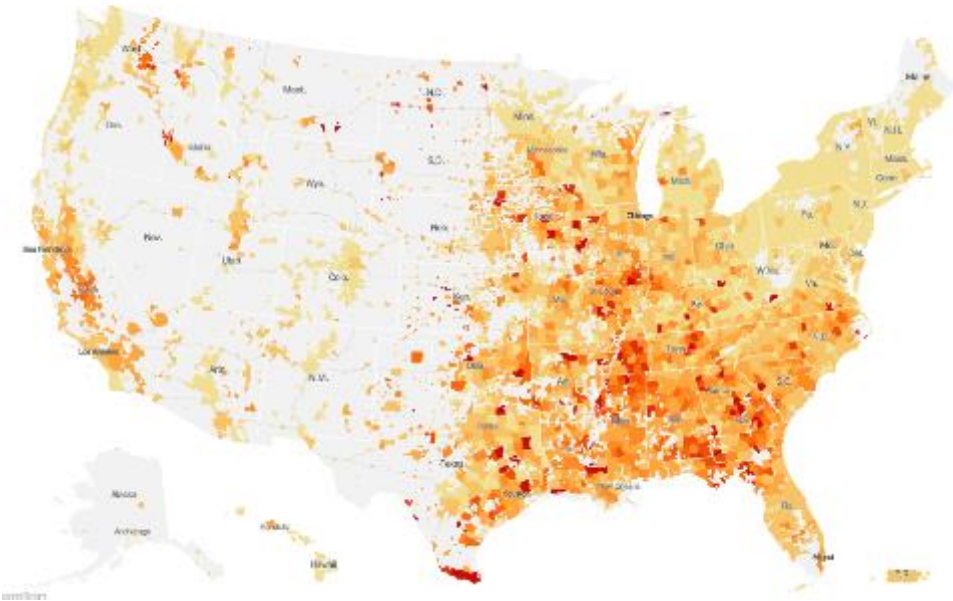
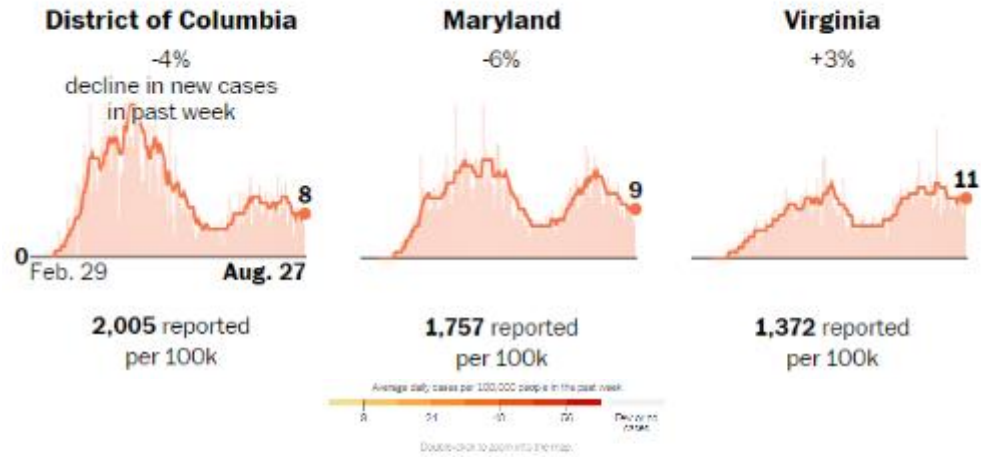
Oceania cases excluded as too low to register on scale

Source: ECDC and national public health agencies, data to 26 August

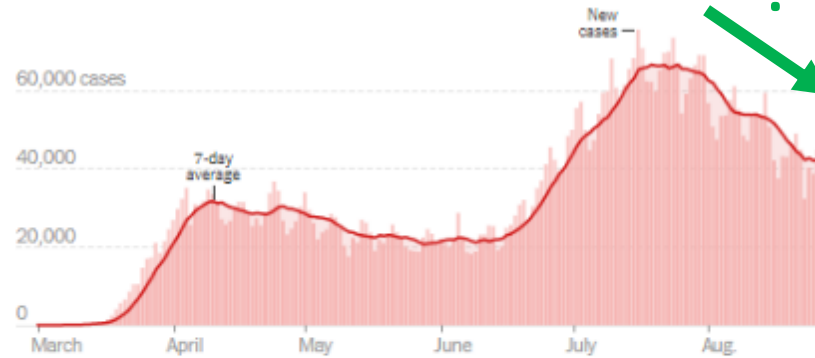


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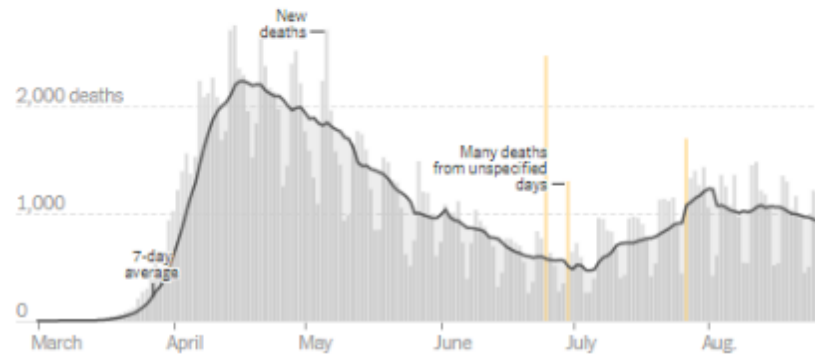


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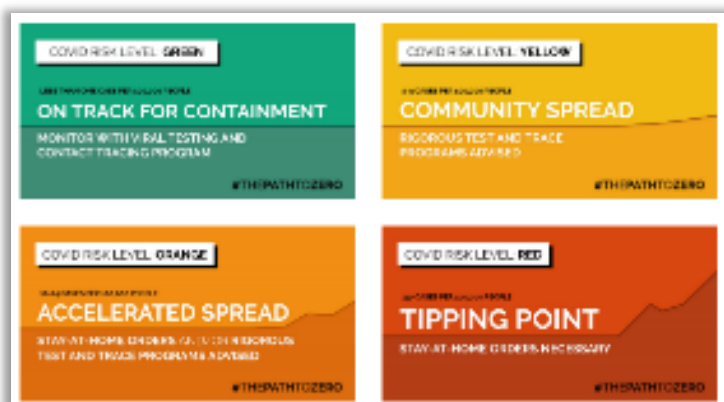
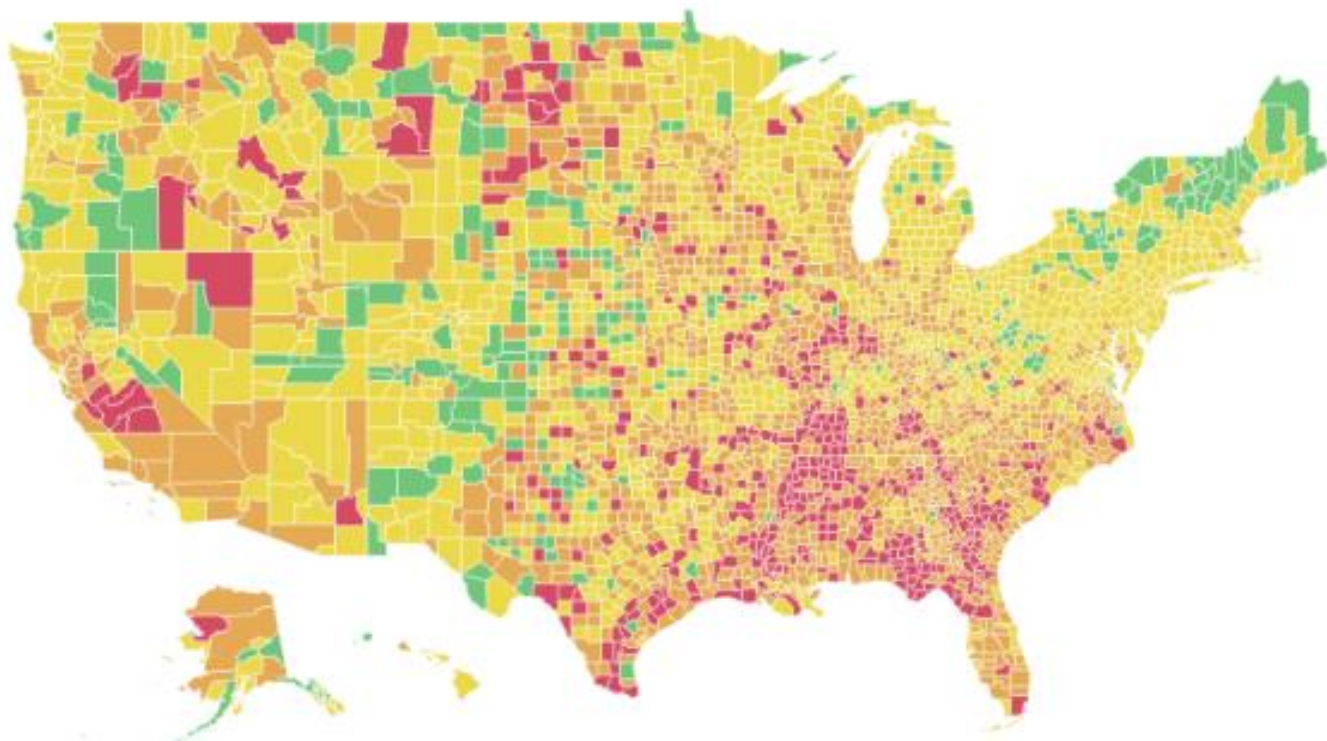


These are days with a data reporting anomaly. Read more [here](#).

- Data reporting
  - Testing capacity
  - State/local orders
  - Behavior change
- 
- Mortality rate ↓
  - Population tested
  - Population infected



# Risk Map



## Updated COVID-19 Testing Insurance Requirements

DC-licensed insurers are **NOW REQUIRED** to cover COVID-19 testing for **high-risk** individuals.

Under the new order, insurers must cover COVID-19 testing for asymptomatic people who:

- work in high risk settings
- are at high risk for complications from COVID-19
- have been exposed to a recently diagnosed person

Covers testing once per week, with no cost for the patient, and without prior approval from a doctor.

CORONAVIRUS.DC.GOV

August 26, 2020



DC HEALTH  
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

U.S. GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

High-risk states that require 14 days of self-quarantine:

- Alabama
- Alaska
- Arizona
- Arkansas
- California
- Florida
- Georgia
- Idaho
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Minnesota
- Mississippi
- Missouri
- Montana
- Nebraska
- Nevada
- New Mexico
- North Carolina
- North Dakota
- Oklahoma
- South Carolina
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Utah
- Wisconsin

IT'S SIMPLE: WHEN YOU LEAVE HOME, YOU MUST **WEAR A MASK.**



Common allowable exceptions:

- You are a child age 2 or younger
- You are vigorously exercising outdoors and not close to anyone else
- You are actively eating or drinking
- You are in an enclosed office and alone

**Wear a mask. Save lives. Stop the spread.**

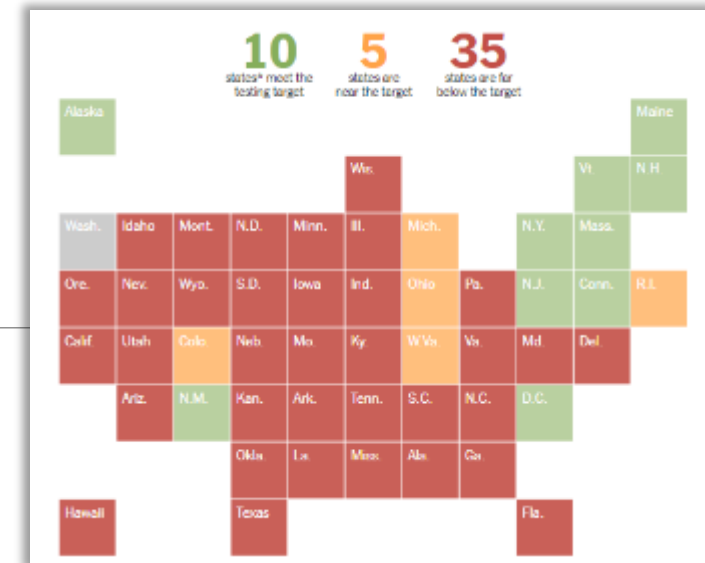


DC HEALTH  
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# Testing News

## The Bad



## The Good

- Growing selection of antigen tests
- Most require NP or nasal turbinates
- Most require laboratory processing
- Abbott Binax Now lateral flow assay approved by FDA (Sn 97.1%, Sp 98.5% c/w gold standard PCR)
- “Lower barrier” but may miss infection with lower virus; prone to false-positives in a low-prevalence population
- May be useful for mass testing to identify and isolate those at highest risk of transmitting virus



## The Ugly

**(CNN)** — In a shift that perplexed some doctors, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has changed its Covid-19 testing guidelines to say some people without symptoms may not need to be tested, even if they've been in close contact with someone known to have the virus.

Previously, the CDC said viral testing was appropriate for people with recent or suspected exposure, even if they were asymptomatic.



**Related Article:** CDC was pressured 'from the top down' to change coronavirus testing guidance, official says

Dr. Leana Wen, an emergency physician and public health professor at George Washington University who was previously Baltimore's health commissioner, said on CNN's New Day on Wednesday that the testing guideline changes make no sense.

"These are exactly the people who should be tested," Wen said, giving the example of a person exposed at work who wants a test so they can protect their family at home.

# Reinfection Case Reports

- 33 yo M with no chronic medical problems
- Diagnosis by SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR both times
- First symptomatic episode in March 2020
  - Sore throat, cough, fever, headache; hospitalized for 2 weeks
- Second asymptomatic episode 142 days later (August 2020)
  - Diagnosed at airport screening while traveling from Spain → UK → HK
  - Elevated CRP, positive SARS-CoV-2 IgG
- Whole-genome sequencing showed two different clades/lineages of virus between episodes
- Compared to viral genomes in GISAID, the first virus genome has a stop codon at position 64 of orf8 leading to a truncation of 58 amino acids, and was phylogenetically closely related to strains collected in March/April 2020, while the second virus genome was closely related to strains collected in July/August 2020.
- Another 23 nucleotide and 13 amino acid differences located in 9 different proteins, including positions of B and T cell epitopes, were found between viruses from the first and second episodes.

ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

**COVID-19 re-infection by a phylogenetically distinct SARS-coronavirus-2 strain confirmed by whole genome sequencing** 

Kelvin Kai-Wang To, Ivan Fan-Ngai Hung, Jonathan Daniel Ip, Allen Wing-Ho Chu, Wan-Mui Chan, Anthony Raymond Tam, Carol Ho-Yan Fong, Shuofeng Yuan, Hoi-Wah Tsoi, Anthony Chin-Ki Ng ... [Show more](#)

[Author Notes](#)

*Clinical Infectious Diseases*, ciaa1275, <https://doi.org/10.1093/cid/ciaa1275>

**Published:** 25 August 2020 **Article history** ▼

**QUESTION** Does remdesivir provide a benefit on clinical status for patients hospitalized with moderate COVID-19 pneumonia?

**CONCLUSION** This clinical trial found that hospitalized patients with moderate COVID-19 randomized to a 5-day course, but not a 10-day course, of remdesivir had a statistically significant better clinical status vs standard care at 11 days, but the difference was of uncertain clinical importance.

**POPULATION**

357 Men  
 227 Women



Patients hospitalized with moderate COVID-19 pneumonia (pulmonary infiltrates plus room air oxygen >94%)

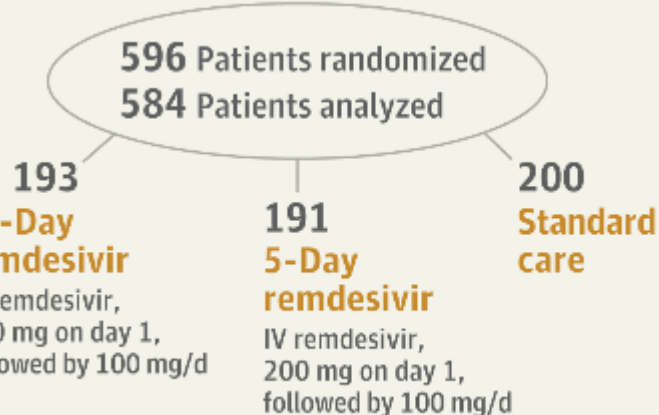
Median age: 57 years

**LOCATIONS**

105 Hospitals in the United States, Europe, and Asia



**INTERVENTION**



**PRIMARY OUTCOME**

Clinical status on day 11 rated on a categorical scale (1 = death, 7 = discharged) reported as odds ratio (OR >1 indicates difference in clinical status toward category 7 for remdesivir)

**FINDINGS**

Clinical status on day 11

The difference in the primary outcome indicating better clinical status at day 11 was **statistically significant** for the 5-day remdesivir group compared with the standard care group:

**OR = 1.65** (95% CI, 1.09 to 2.48);  
 5-day remdesivir vs standard care, *P* = .02

The difference in the primary outcome indicating better clinical status at day 11 was **not statistically significant** for the 10-day remdesivir group compared with the standard care group:

**10-day remdesivir vs standard care, *P* = .18**



## Effect of Remdesivir vs Standard Care on Clinical Status at 11 Days in Patients With Moderate COVID-19

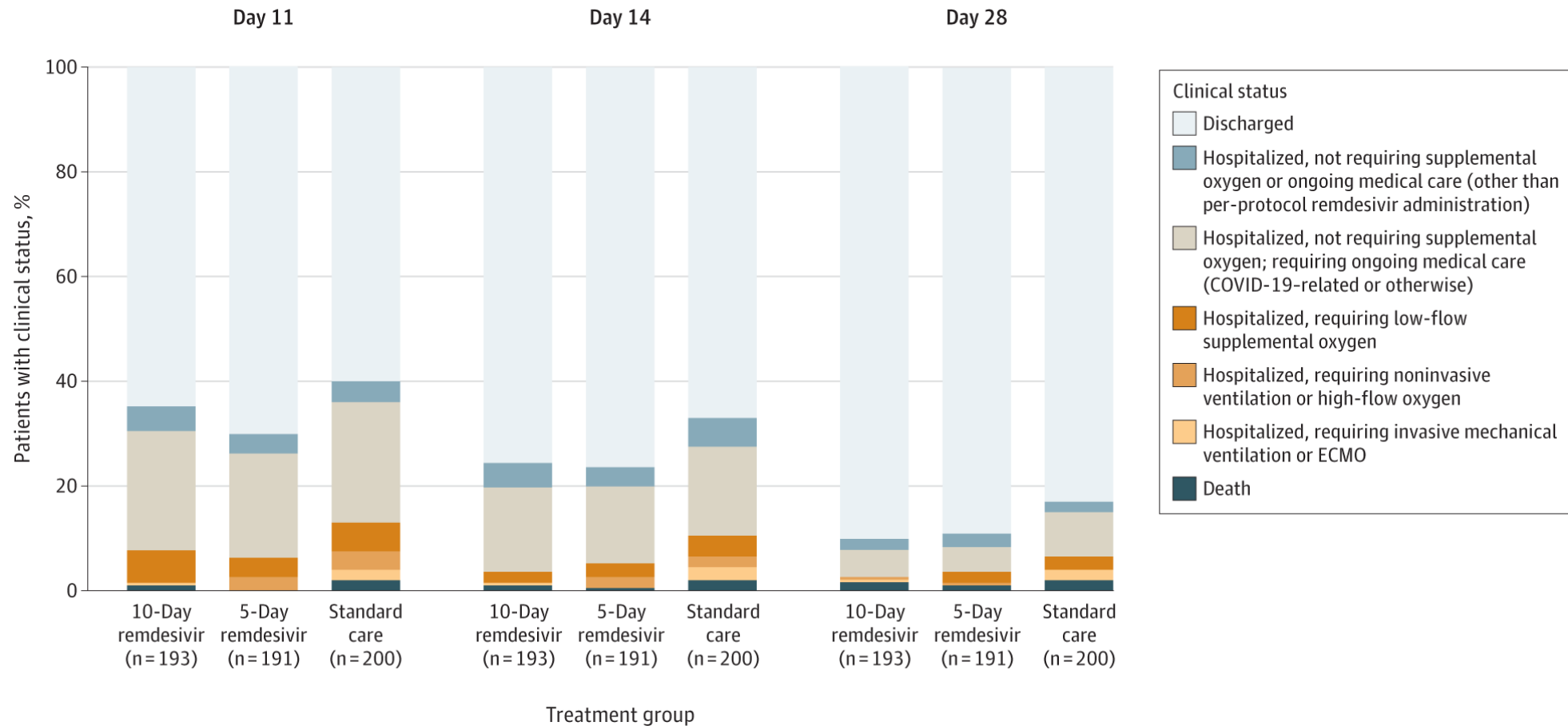
### A Randomized Clinical Trial

Christoph D. Spinner, MD<sup>1</sup>; Robert L. Gottlieb, MD, PhD<sup>2</sup>; Gerard J. Criner, MD<sup>3</sup>; et al.

[Author Affiliations](#) | [Article Information](#)

JAMA. Published online August 21, 2020. doi:10.1001/jama.2020.16349

# Remdesivir



## **FDA Issues Emergency Use Authorization for Convalescent Plasma as Potential Promising COVID-19 Treatment, Another Achievement in Administration's Fight Against Pandemic**

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For Immediate Release: August 23, 2020

“Both the EUA press release and Secretary Azar indicated that convalescent plasma reduces mortality by 35%; however, it is unclear exactly what these statements are based on. Several experts have asserted that these statements overestimate or misrepresent the drug’s effect. Rather than a groundbreaking treatment, it may be more likely that convalescent plasma provides incremental benefit to COVID-19 patients.”

-- Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security

Key limitations: neutralizing antibody titers, stage of disease at which given, difficulty in attributing effects when multiple modalities of treatment given

IDSA: further research through clinical trials needed

# GW Updates

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- Critical Care and Emergency Medicine updates
- Moderna mRNA vaccine trial ongoing
- Convalescent plasma available from Blood Bank, note limitations discussed
- COVID Recovery Clinic in the works
- No change in our testing approach
- No change in our continued safety efforts