

Discover & Deliver: Promising Treatment for COVID-19 Reduces Infections by 81%

To date, [over 36%](#) of the U.S. population have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. The swift distribution of the vaccine across the U.S. belies an important fact: COVID-19 cases continue to rise precipitously in parts of the country.

According to [data from Johns Hopkins University](#), five states – Florida, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania – account for roughly 43% of total new cases in the United States, leading some state government officials to [plead with the federal government](#) for more doses of the vaccine.

In yesterday's COVID-19 briefing, the [White House announced the federal government will ensure](#) that states experiencing a rise in cases have sufficient therapeutics for COVID-19 patients.

The White House strategy demonstrates on an important fact: effective treatments – and ongoing clinical research to identify them – will be critical to leading the global community beyond the COVID-19 crisis.

What's New: On Monday, Regeneron and [Roche announced](#) their antibody cocktail can not only be used to treat COVID-19 but also reduce the risk of symptomatic COVID-19 infections by 81%.

Upon announcement of the Phase 3 study findings, [Regeneron's Chief Scientific Officer noted](#) the company is conducting further research to understand how the antibody cocktail can be used to “provide ongoing protection for immunocompromised patients who may not respond well to vaccines.”

This will be particularly important given [new data which shows](#) that patients who take immunosuppressive drugs for autoimmune diseases have reduced antibody levels from the vaccine.

Taken together, the new data underscores a key point: we cannot simply “vaccinate our way out” of the global pandemic, as the CDC's [Dr. Rochelle Walensky noted yesterday](#).

Rather, a combination of continued vigilance, effective treatments, and the ongoing distribution of vaccines will be critical to our shared goal of a return to health, one which has eluded the global community for the last 13 months.

– Kelly Anderson, Senior Director, Health and Drug Policy, Global Innovation Policy Center

The AAPI Business Community Speaks Up

At today's [Equality of Opportunity in Action](#) event, Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) business leaders spoke out about the harsh history of discrimination in America, the devastating

effects of the pandemic on AAPI-owned businesses, and how to rally behind and support those impacted.

“Unfortunately, the AAPI business community is dealing with two illnesses: COVID-19 and hate. We have a vaccine against COVID-19, but we do not have a vaccine against hate,” said Chiling Tong, President and CEO, Asian/Pacific Islander American Chamber of Commerce and Entrepreneurship (National ACE).

Why it matters: The state of AAPI business in America is in jeopardy.

- More than 84% of AAPI-owners say COVID-19 has had a negative effect on their business, according to a National ACE survey.
- Since the beginning of pandemic there have been over 3,000 reported incidents of discrimination against the AAPI community. 30% of those incidents happened at the workplace.

How to help:

- **Speak up.** “Business leaders have influence and impact, and we need them to be in the conversation,” said Ambassador Gary Locke, Interim President, Bellevue College.
- **Support your local AAPI businesses.** “They were the very first group to be hurt by the pandemic economically because of the misconception of who Asian Americans really are,” said Susan Au Allen, National President and CEO, US Pan Asian American Chamber of Commerce.
- **Lift AAPI voices.** “Help amplify the voices of those on your team of AAPI descent...those rising tides will lift us all together,” said Kenny Nguyen, Co-founder and CEO, ThreeSixtyEight.

[Watch the event](#)