



# WisCon Words of Wisdom

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## WI COVID-19 by the Numbers

Total Positive Cases	1,333,782
Total Deaths	11,134
Total Individuals Hospitalized	56,292

[DHS's Wisconsin Summary Data](#)

Numbers Updated 01/31/2022

## WI Vaccine Distribution by the Number of Doses

Total Administered	9,022,421
Johnson & Johnson	339,766
Moderna	3,458,194
Pfizer	5,224,461

Check out the [latest data about Wisconsin's progress!](#)

## Upcoming Webinar Topics

COVID-19 Update	2/7
Using OSHA's Injury Tracking Application (ITA)	2/14
Machine Guarding -Power Transmission	2/21
Disinfectants	2/28

Sign up [here](#) for weekly webinar reminders! Click [here](#) to view previous webinars!

## Spotlight Corner — Terry Lawrin

Before his start at UW-Madison, Terry worked in retail, as a Medical Technologist, and a Biosafety Officer at the University of Illinois at Chicago. During his time as a Medical Technologist, he met the love of his life. Then while working at UIC, he also attended school and obtained a Master of Public Health degree. Terry started his career with UW-Madison in 2005 having responsibilities for animal worker and biosafety. He's been a WisCon Consultant since 2012 and holds both the Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH) and Certified Safety Professional (CSP) credentials. Some of Terry's greatest strengths include laboratory, clinical, and biosafety.



## No More Vaccination ETS!

OSHA withdrew the [COVID-19 Vaccination and Testing Emergency Temporary Standard \(ETS\)](#) effective January 26th, 2022. This means that you do **not** have to implement any aspects of the OSHA COVID-19 Vaccination and Testing ETS. That said, because of the OSH Act of 1970, you are still required to protect employees from hazardous working environments including those caused by COVID-19. OSHA can use the PPE, Sanitation and Hygiene, Respiratory Protection, and General Duty Clause standards to cite employers who have not protected employees from COVID-19 in the workplace.

At the same time, OSHA did **not** withdraw the ETS as a proposed rule. This means that OSHA is still working on developing a permanent standard that will protect employees from COVID-19 using vaccination or testing and masking just as the ETS proposed.

## February 6-12: National Burn Awareness Week

This year's Burn Awareness Week's theme is Burning Issues in the Kitchen. Kitchen fires can happen at home or the workplace including restaurant kitchens or even the office kitchenette and these safety tips can help keep workers safe wherever they are.

First, you always want to cook while alert, drowsy cooking can lead to accidents and forgetfulness that result in injury. Another big step to prevent injuries is to keep a clean workspace. The buildup of grease can lead to fires and an untidy space can lead to spills and burns. A last helpful tip for preventing fires in the kitchen is to treat hot items with care, this means wearing dry potholders, letting food rest before moving it, and when using the microwave make sure the cookware allows steam to escape.

[Let your employees know how they can cook safely!](#)

## Disinfectants 101

What is a disinfectant? A disinfectant is a substance or compound that destroys or inactivates microorganisms on surfaces. Disinfection can be accomplished using chemical disinfectants or other inactivating agents.

Chemical Disinfectants include:

- Alcohol,
- Chlorine and chlorine compounds,
- Formaldehyde,
- Glutaraldehyde,
- Hydrogen peroxide,
- Iodophors,
- Ortho-phthalaldehyde (OPA),
- Peracetic acid,
- Peracetic acid and hydrogen peroxide,
- Phenolics, and
- Quaternary ammonium compounds.

Other Inactivating Agents include:

- Other germicides,
- Metals as microbicides,
- Ultraviolet radiation,
- Pasteurization, and
- Flushing- and washer-disinfectors.<sup>1</sup>

Disinfectants do not disinfect equally. Their effectiveness can vary depending on the pathogen, contact time, and surface that



Source: [CDC](https://www.cdc.gov)

they are used on. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) maintains the following lists of registered products that are effective against some common pathogens. Always be sure to use the right disinfectant for the job.

- List A: [EPA's Registered Antimicrobial Products as Sterilizers](#)
- List B: [EPA Registered Tuberculocide Products Effective Against \*Mycobacterium tuberculosis\*](#)
- List C: [EPA's Registered Antimicrobial Products Effective Against Human HIV-1 Virus](#)
- List D: [EPA's Registered Antimicrobial Products Effective Against Human HIV-1 and Hepatitis B Virus](#)
- List E: [EPA's Registered Antimicrobial Products Effective Against \*Mycobacterium tuberculosis\* Human HIV-1 and Hepatitis B Virus](#)
- List F: [EPA's Registered Antimicrobial Products Effective Against Hepatitis C Virus](#)
- List G: [EPA's Registered Antimicrobial Products Effective Against Norovirus](#)
- List H: [EPA's Registered Antimicrobial Products Effective Against Methicillin Resistant \*Staphylococcus aureus\* \(MRSA\) and/or Vancomycin Resistant \*Enterococcus faecalis\* or \*faecium\* \(VRE\)](#)
- List J: [EPA's Registered Antimicrobial Products for Medical Waste Treatment](#)
- List K: [EPA's Registered Antimicrobial Products Effective Against \*Clostridium Difficile\* Spores](#)
- List L: [EPA's Registered Antimicrobial Products That Meet the CDC Criteria for Use Against the Ebola Virus](#)
- List M: [Registered Antimicrobial Products with Label Claims for Avian \(Bird\) Flu Disinfectants](#)
- List N: [Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2](#)
- List O: [Disinfectants for Use Against Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Virus \(RHDV2\)](#)
- List P: [Antimicrobial Products Registered with EPA for Claims Against \*Candida Auris\*](#)

## Omicron BA2—A New Mutation of COVID-19

### What is BA.2?

It is another version of the Omicron variant that has the potential to be more transmissible.

### Why are scientists watching BA.2?

They are watching because the proportion of cases of Omicron caused by the BA.2 version are increasing rapidly. This means that BA.2 is replacing BA.1 indicating that this version is thought to be more transmissible.

### Can I get infected with BA.2 if I have had Omicron already?

Researchers are still trying to determine if those who were recently infected by BA.1 can become infected with BA.2, but early indication shows reinfection of individuals who recovered from BA.1 is possible.

### Will BA.2 cause another wave of cases worldwide?

At this point scientists are unsure if there will be another wave, but rather BA.2 will become the main strain of Omicron in circulation.

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