



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

# COVID-19 Press Briefing

December 17, 2021



# Daily Change in COVID-19 Cases, US

January 22, 2020 – December 15, 2021

TOTAL Cases Reported Since 1/22/20

**50,321,503**

NEW Cases Reported to CDC on 12/15/21

**143,760**

Change in 7-Day Case Average

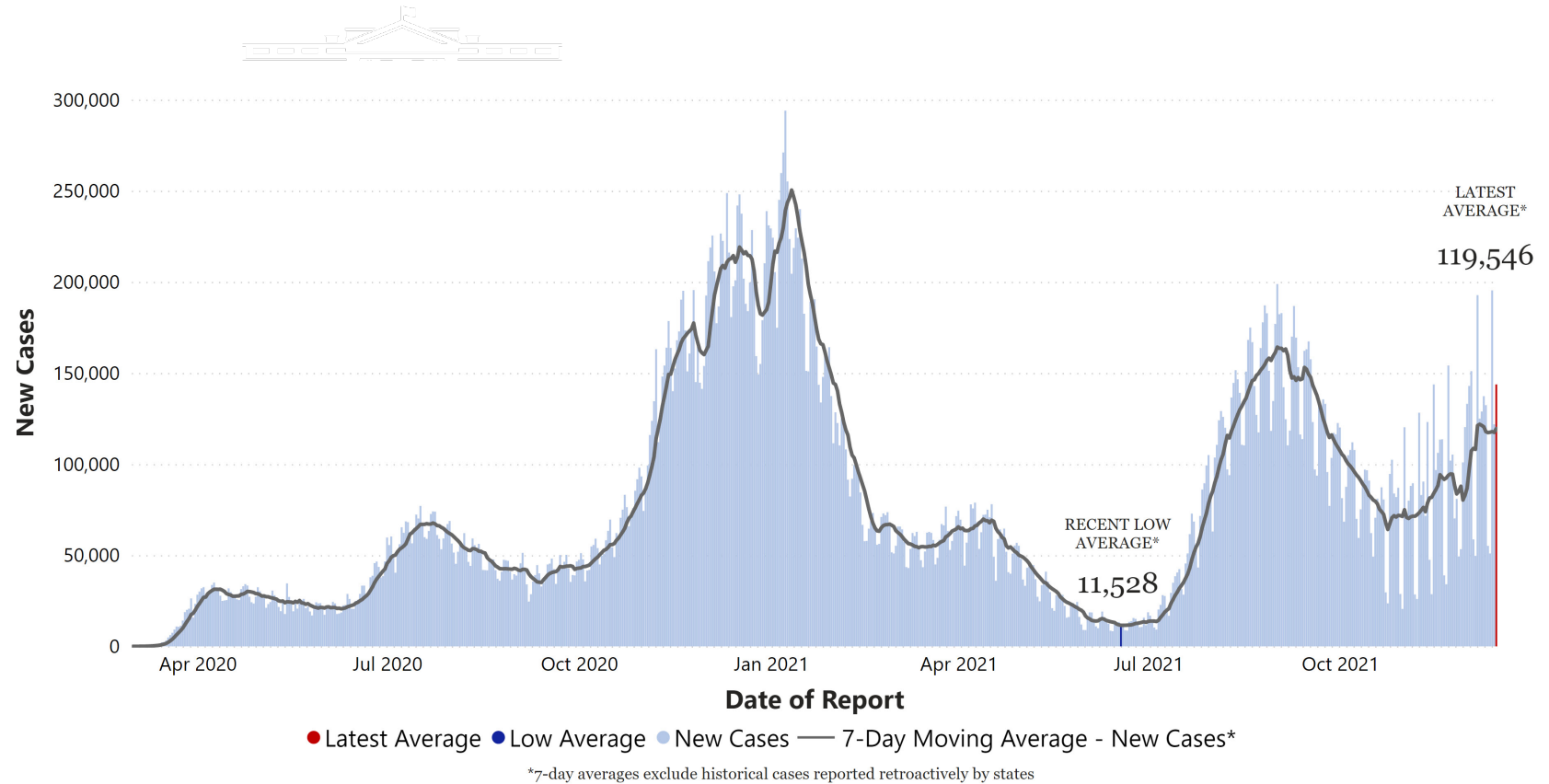
**1.4%**

Current 7-Day Case Average (12/9/21 - 12/15/21)

**119,546**

Prior 7-Day Case Average (12/2/21 - 12/8/21)

**121,285**



# New Admissions of Patients with Confirmed COVID-19, US

August 1, 2020 – December 14, 2021

Patients Currently Hospitalized with COVID on 12/14/21

60,312

New Admissions on 12/14/21

7,980

Peak in New Admissions (1/5/21)

17,965

Change in 7-Day Average of New Admissions

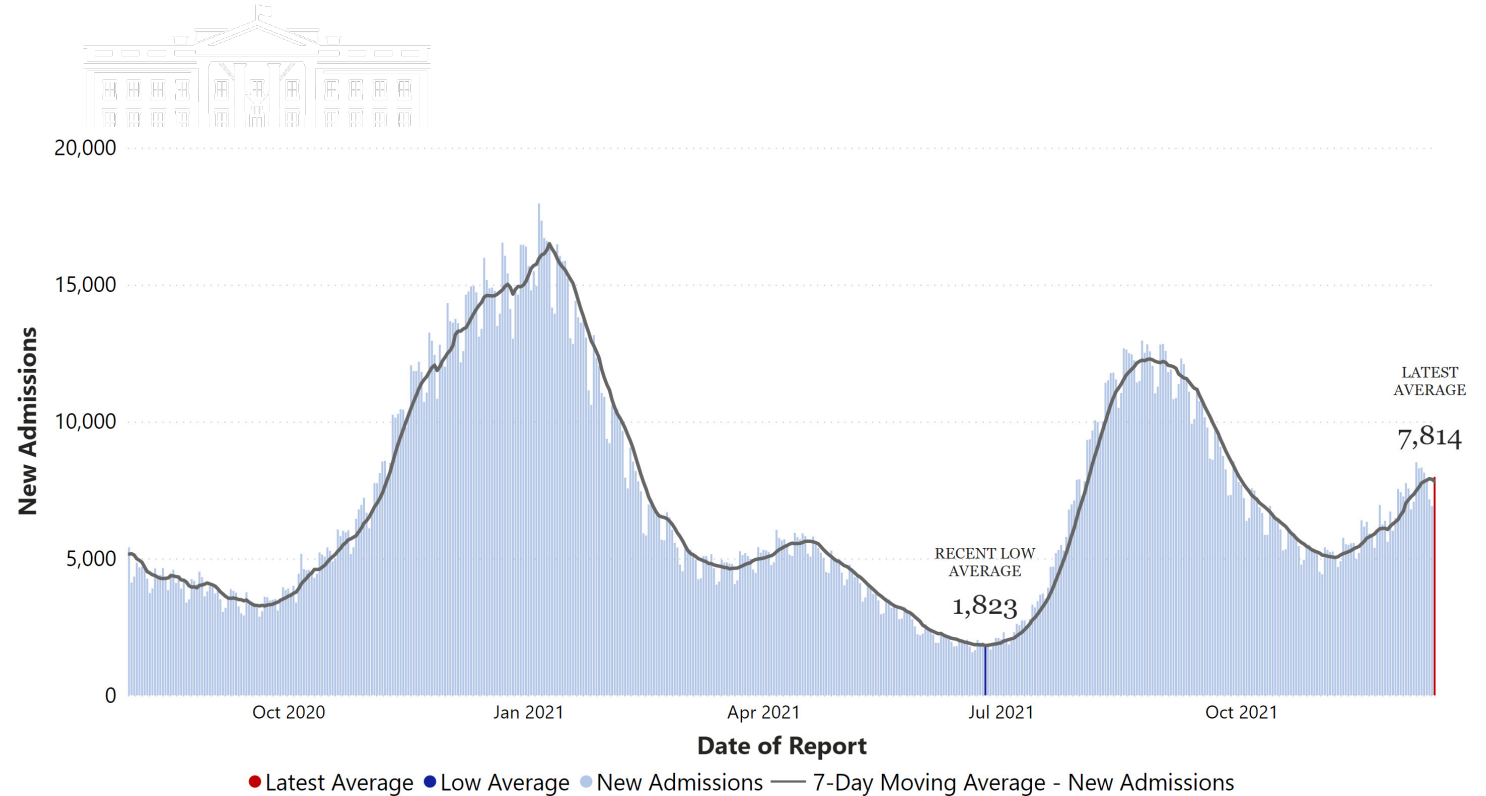
+4.4%

Current 7-Day Average of New Admissions (12/8/21 - 12/14/21)

7,814

Prior 7-Day Average of New Admissions (12/1/21 - 12/7/21)

7,482



# Daily Change in COVID-19 Deaths, US

January 22, 2020 – December 15, 2021

TOTAL Deaths Reported Since 1/22/2020

799,847

NEW Deaths Reported to CDC on 12/15/21

1,607

Change in 7-Day Death Average

+8.0%

Current 7-Day Death Average (12/9/21 - 12/15/21)

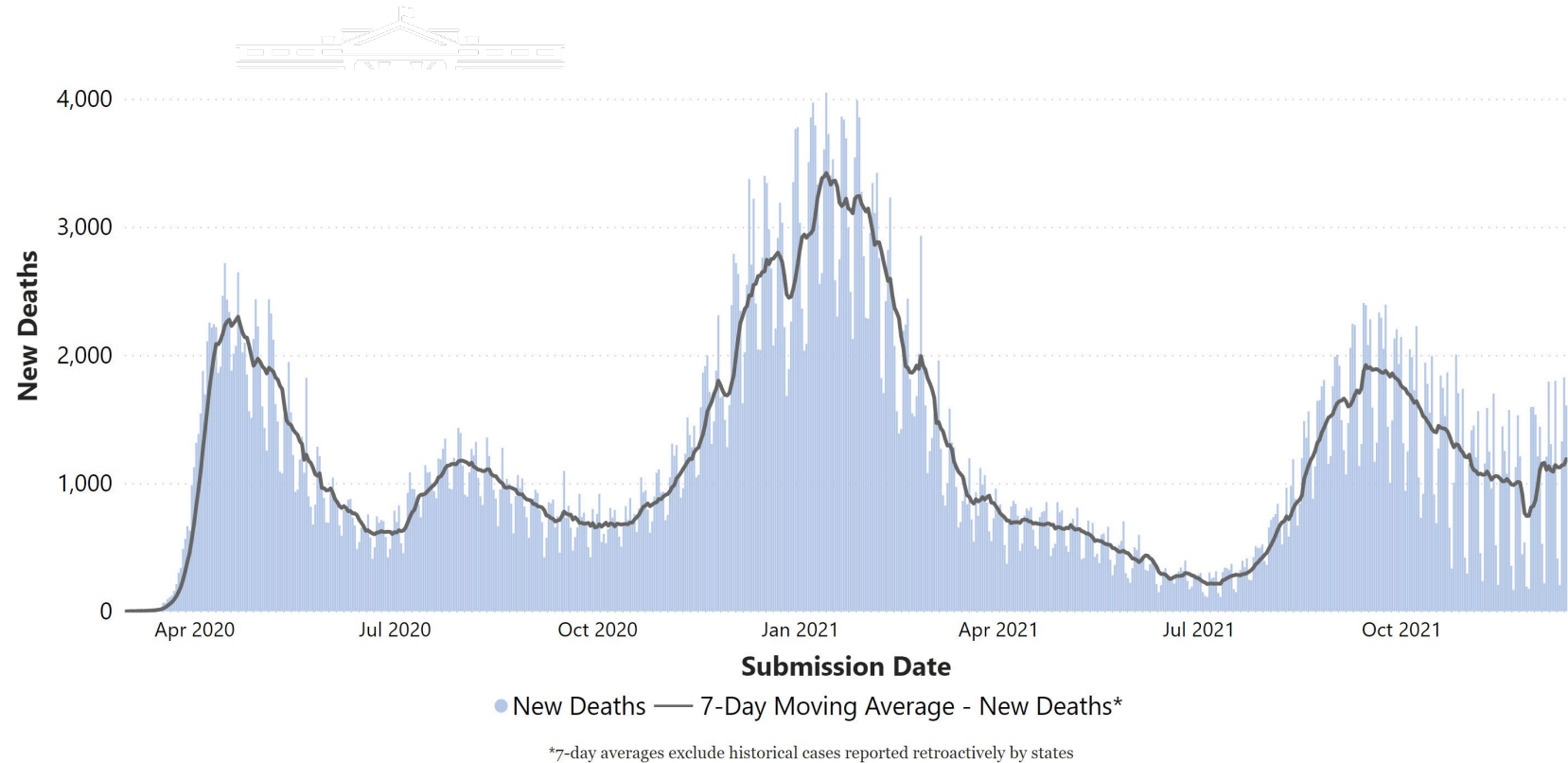
1,188

Prior 7-Day Death Average (12/2/21 - 12/8/21)

1,100

Forecasted Total Deaths by 01/08/22

837,000 to 845,000



# **The Importance of COVID-19 Booster Shots in the Current Delta Surge and the Upcoming Omicron Surge**





The  
New England  
Journal of Medicine

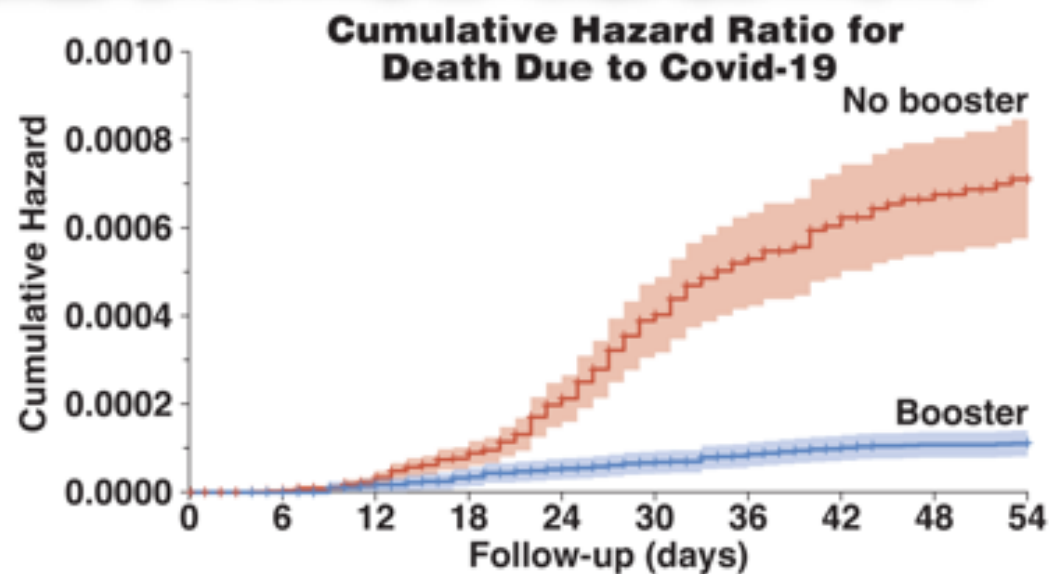
Established in 1812 as THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY

Published online December 8, 2021

# BNT162b2 Vaccine Booster and Mortality Due to Covid-19

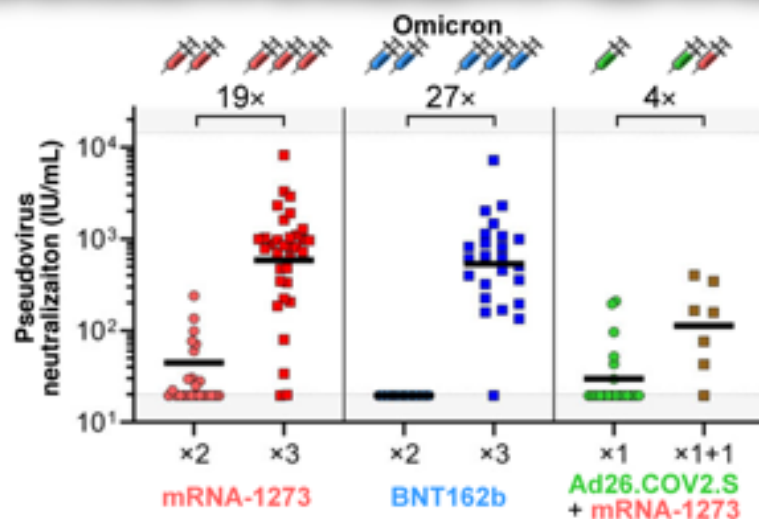
R Arbel, S Yaron et al.

■ Individuals 50+ yrs who received a booster at least 5 months after a second dose of BNT162b2 had 90% lower mortality due to COVID-19 than participants who did not receive a boost.

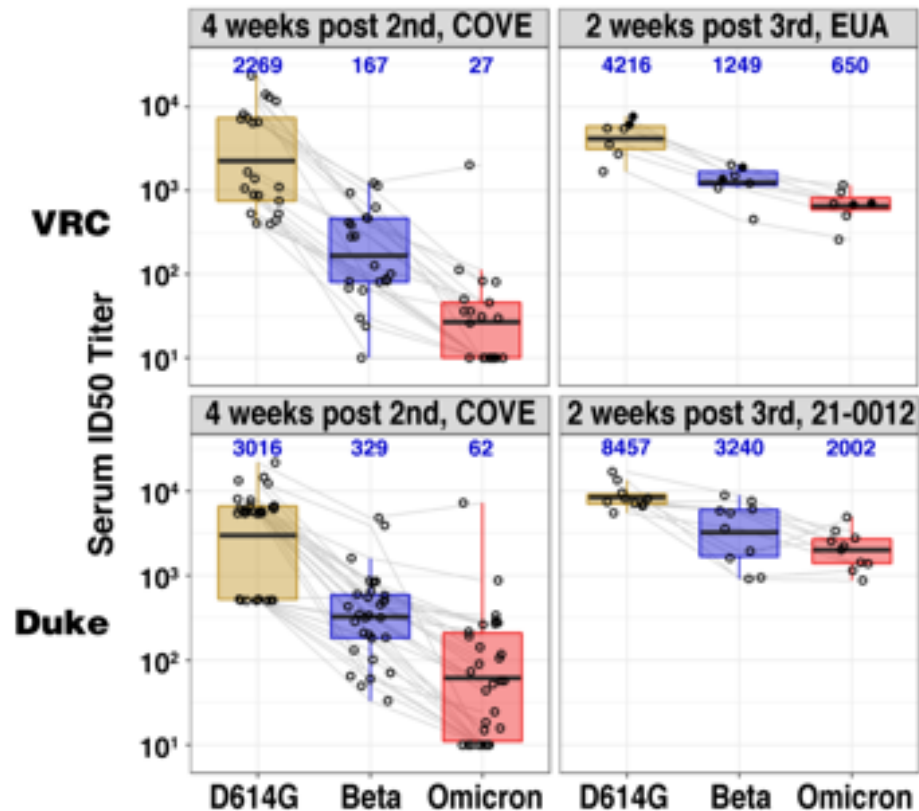


# mRNA-based COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters Induce Neutralizing Immunity Against SARS-CoV-2 Omicron Variant

WF Garcia-Beltran, AB Balazs et al.



# Neutralization of D614G, Beta and Omicron Pseudoviruses by Serum Samples Obtained from mRNA-1273 Vaccine Recipients



■ **EUA: NIAID VRC 200 protocol**

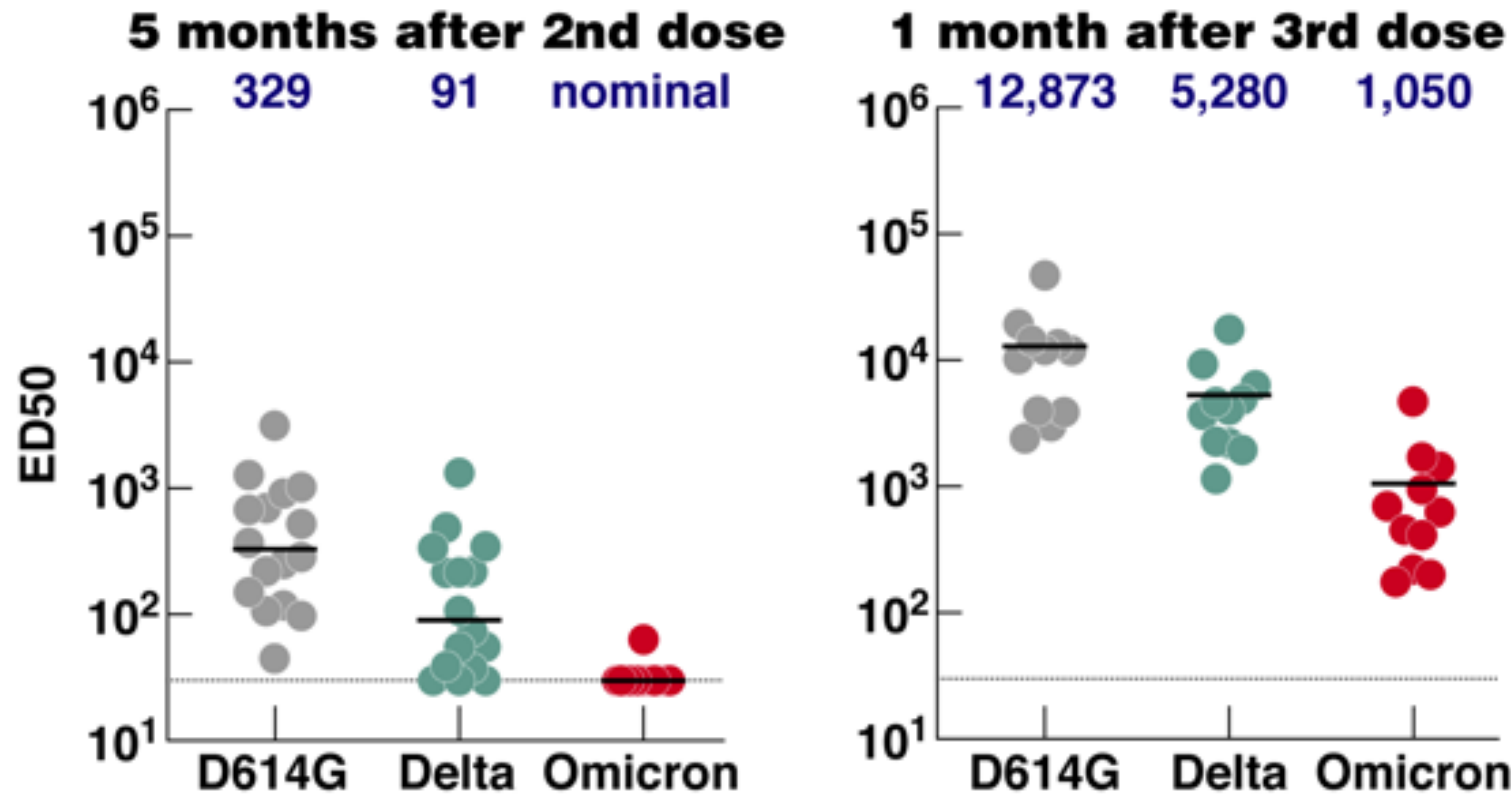
■ **21-0012: NIAID DMID “Mix and Match” study**

Source: NA Doria-Rose et al. *MedRxiv*, 12/15/2021.





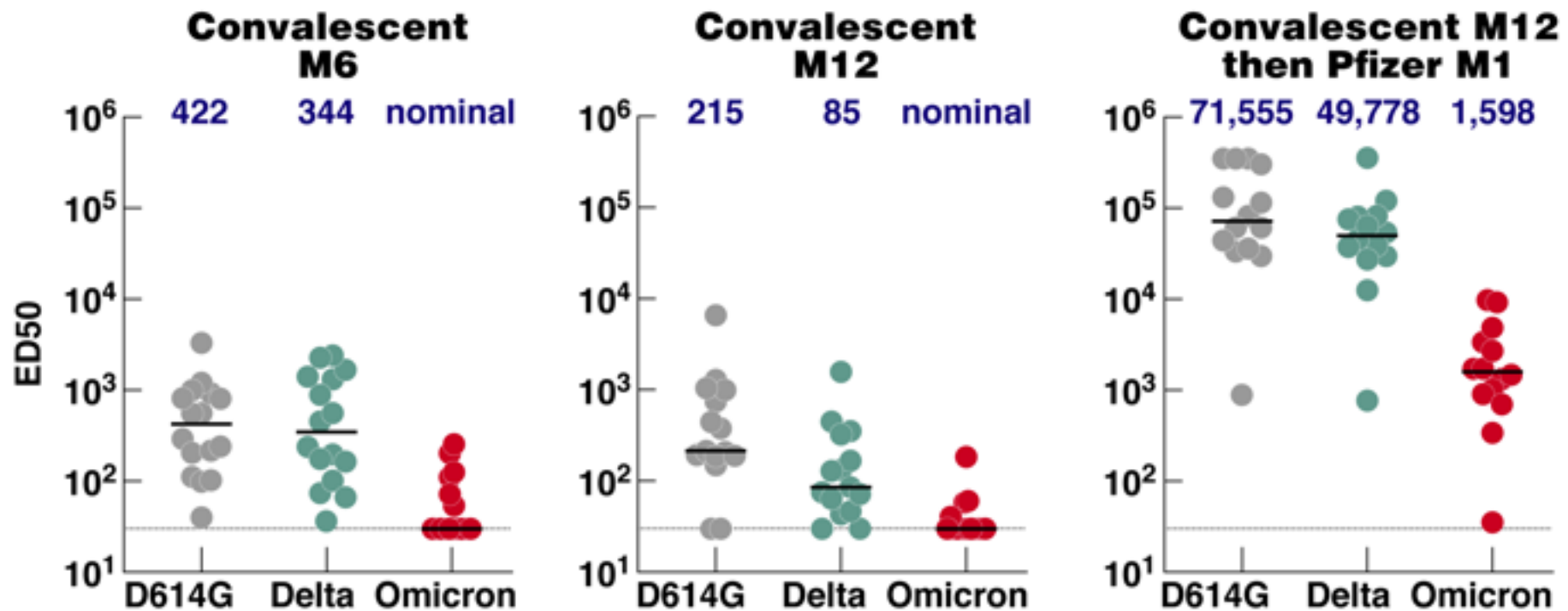
# Sensitivity of SARS-CoV-2 Variants to Neutralization by Sera from Pfizer-Vaccinated Individuals



Source: D Planas et al. *bioRxiv*, 12/15/2021



# Sensitivity of SARS-CoV-2 Variants to Neutralization by Sera from COVID-19 Convalescent Individuals, With and Without a Pfizer Vaccine Dose



Source: D Planas et al. *bioRxiv*, 12/15/2021



medRxiv

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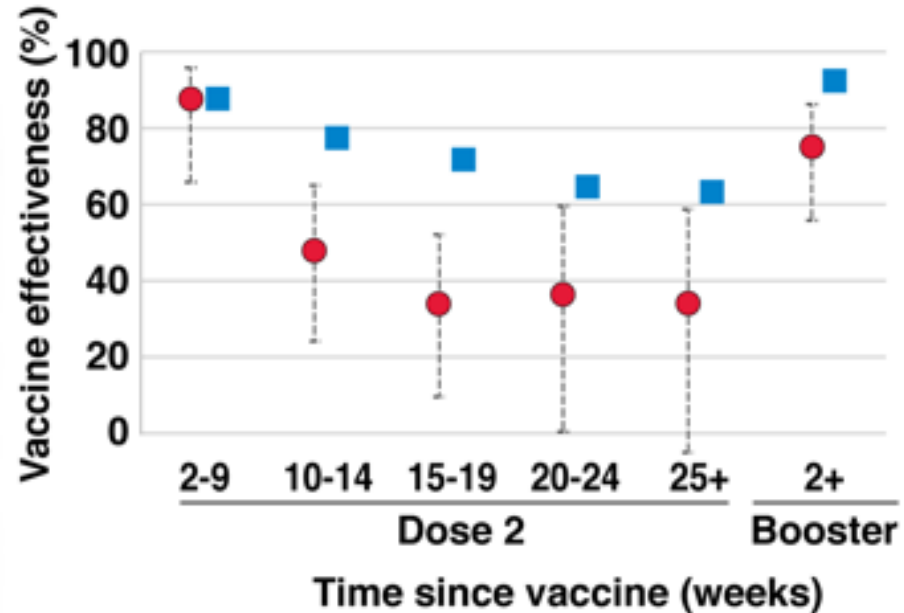
Posted December 14, 2021

# Effectiveness of COVID-19 Vaccines Against the Omicron (B.1.1.529) Variant of Concern

N Andrews, JL Bernal et al.

## Two doses of BNT162b2 with a BNT162b2 booster dose

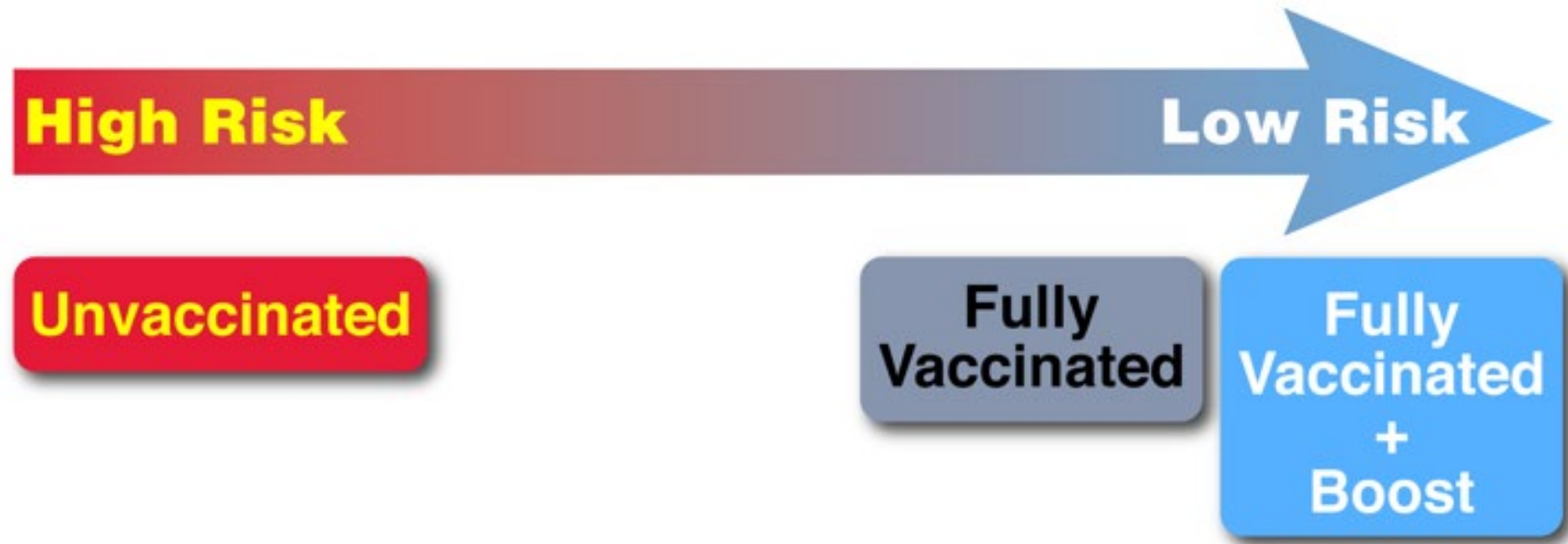
■ Delta ● Omicron



- Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine effectiveness against symptomatic disease with Omicron variant is significantly lower than with the Delta variant, but increases to 75% after a booster dose

# **Risk of COVID – Delta/Omicron**

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