



# Pascua Yaqui Tribe Health Services Division

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## For Immediate Release- January 5, 2022

### **Public Health Alert:**

*As of January 4, 2022, The Pascua Yaqui Tribe Health Services Division is experiencing a surge of COVID-19 cases within our community.*

### **What We Know about Omicron**

CDC has been collaborating with global public health and industry partners to learn about Omicron, as we continue to monitor its course. We don't yet know how easily it spreads, the severity of illness it causes, or how well available vaccines and medications work against it.

**Spread** -The Omicron variant likely will spread more easily than the original SARS-CoV-2 virus and how easily Omicron spreads compared to Delta remains unknown. CDC expects that anyone with Omicron infection can spread the virus to others, even if they are vaccinated or don't have symptoms.

**Severe Illness** - More data are needed to know if Omicron infections, and especially reinfections and breakthrough infections in people who are fully vaccinated, cause more severe illness or death than infection with other variants.

**Vaccines** - Current vaccines are expected to protect against severe illness, hospitalizations, and deaths due to infection with the Omicron variant. However, **breakthrough infections** in people who are fully vaccinated are likely to occur. With other variants, like Delta, vaccines have remained effective at preventing severe illness, hospitalizations, and death. The recent emergence of Omicron further emphasizes the importance of vaccination and boosters.

**Treatments** - Scientists are working to determine how well existing treatments for COVID-19 work. Based on the changed genetic make-up of Omicron, some treatments are likely to remain effective while others may be less effective.

- ❖ **Vaccines remain the best public health measure to protect people from COVID-19, slow transmission, and reduce the likelihood of new variants emerging.**

### **Pascua Yaqui Tribe COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics & Testing**

Please keep an eye out for our Vaccine Clinic dates and times through our Website at <https://www.covid19.pascuayaqui-nsn.gov> and Social Media Platforms.

Sign up for notices and announcements including important information regarding COVID-19 by texting PYTRIBE to 888777 on your cell phone.

Testing is currently available at The Albert Garcia Auditorium, for days and times please see below. For more information, please call your primary care providers and or call our **Testing Site at 520.879.5652.**

<b>Mondays, Tuesdays, &amp; Wednesdays</b>	<b>8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.</b>	<b>1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Thursdays</b>	<b>8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.</b>	
<b>Fridays</b>	<b>8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.</b>	<b>1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.</b>

\*Information obtained from The Centers for Disease Website