



**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
AND MENTAL HYGIENE**  
Ashwin Vasan, MD, PhD  
*Commissioner*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Friday, April 15, 2022

## **HOLIDAY MESSAGE FROM NYC HEALTH COMMISSIONER DR. ASHWIN VASAN**

“Holidays are a time of togetherness, love and reflection. We wish everyone a happy and — most of all — healthy holiday. To stay safe, the Health Department strongly recommends masking in public indoor settings, especially when in groups where other people’s vaccination status is unknown. We also strongly recommend people get a COVID test before or after attending any gatherings, and certainly before choosing to remove your mask at a holiday gathering. Encourage your friends and loved ones you will see this weekend to get tested as well before you gather. To find a testing site near you, or where to obtain an at-home test kit, go to [nyc.gov/covidtest](https://nyc.gov/covidtest) or call 311. The Health Department wishes all New Yorkers joy, togetherness and good health.”

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**MEDIA CONTACT:** [PressOffice@health.nyc.gov](mailto:PressOffice@health.nyc.gov)