



NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE

Dave A. Chokshi, MD, MSc  
*Commissioner*

Dave A. Chokshi, MD, MSc  
*Commissioner*

April 27, 2021

Gotham Center  
42-09 28th St.  
Long Island City, NY 11101

My Fellow Clinicians and Healers,

Thank you for all you have done and sacrificed throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. You have been caring for and comforting the sick, bringing this city back from the brink.

I need to ask for your help once again.

Vaccination is the single most important intervention we have against this virus right now. Your patients trust you, need your guidance, and want to hear from you. You are critical to building confidence in the authorized vaccines, particularly among communities of color that have been most impacted by COVID-19.

Please speak with your patients, your loved ones, and your community about the safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines. Answer their questions, starting with empathy, followed by the facts. **Your strong recommendation** is a critical factor in whether your patients will be vaccinated against COVID-19. Together we can save lives and prevent further suffering.

To find out more, including tools to have these conversations, visit [nyc.gov/VaccineTalks](https://nyc.gov/VaccineTalks).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dave A. Chokshi', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dave A. Chokshi, MD, MSc  
Commissioner  
New York City Department of  
Health and Mental Hygiene