



For Immediate Release: 20-August-2020

### **Current Good News:**

Testing results are in for the first two days of our Fairgrounds event.

Day 1 Positivity rate 4.79%

Day 2 Positivity rate 3.90%

These positivity rates are well below the statewide average.

As always, remember we have a small sample size and all results should be taken with that understanding, but these numbers are very encouraging. This indicates that our much lower active case count is not due to lack of testing. We all know that numbers can rise and fall, please continue to be very careful and wear your mask when social distancing cannot be assured, especially around elderly and vulnerable populations.

### **Good News for the Future:**

A recently published scientific article indicates that re-infections may be much less likely than once feared. Earlier predictions for resistance to re-infection were based on antibody levels, but the journal below states that "memory-t" cells may harbor long term resistance even on patients with very low antibody counts. More research is needed, but this is potentially great news. This is the first indication that this *could* be a "one and done" type disease instead of an annual type disease. We will not know for some time if there are any very long term correlations between covid-19 and other diseases such as the correlation between chickenpox/shingles.

Journal Pre-proof **Robust T cell immunity in convalescent individuals with asymptomatic or mild COVID-19** Takuya Sekine,

To appear in: Cell Received Date: 26 June 2020 Revised Date: 29 July 2020 Accepted Date: 11 August 2020

*"SUMMARY*

*SARS-CoV-2-specific memory T cells will likely prove critical for long-term immune protection against COVID-19. We here systematically mapped the functional and phenotypic landscape of SARS-CoV-2-specific T cell responses in unexposed individuals, exposed family members, and individuals with acute or convalescent COVID-19. Acute phase SARS-CoV-2-specific T cells displayed a highly activated cytotoxic phenotype that correlated with various clinical markers of disease severity, whereas convalescent phase SARS-CoV-2-specific T cells were polyfunctional and displayed a stem-like memory phenotype. Importantly, SARS-CoV-2-specific T cells were detectable in antibody-seronegative exposed family members and convalescent individuals with a history of asymptomatic and mild COVID-19. Our collective dataset shows that SARS-CoV-2 elicits robust, broad and highly functional memory T cell responses, suggesting that natural exposure or infection may prevent recurrent episodes of severe COVID-19."*

Please see the complete draft journal below for more info...

[https://www.cell.com/cell/pdf/S0092-8674\(20\)31008-4.pdf?returnURL=https%3A%2F%2Flinkinghub.elsevier.com%2Fretrieve%2Fpii%2FS0092867420310084%3Fshowall%3Dtrue](https://www.cell.com/cell/pdf/S0092-8674(20)31008-4.pdf?returnURL=https%3A%2F%2Flinkinghub.elsevier.com%2Fretrieve%2Fpii%2FS0092867420310084%3Fshowall%3Dtrue)

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