

From: Federal News Network
Sent: Thu, 28 Oct 2021 14:30:24 -0400 (EDT)
To: Graham, Barney (NIH/VRC) [E]
Subject: Discussing the JAIC's IT strategy - join us on Wednesday, 11/3 at 2 p.m.



FEDERAL NEWS NETWORK

WEBINAR - Ask the CIO: Joint Artificial Intelligence Center

Learn about artificial intelligence in federal agencies in this webinar on **Wednesday, November 3rd at 2 p.m.** [Register now.](#)

During this webinar Lt. Gen. Michael Groen, the director of the Joint Artificial Intelligence Center at the Department of Defense, will discuss JAIC's IT strategy and AI opportunities for the future.

Learning objectives:

- JAIC's data strategy
- AI and the data accelerator initiative
- The importance of the underlying network

Register Now

Featured speakers:



**Lieutenant General
Michael Groen**
Director, Joint Artificial
Intelligence Center,
Department of Defense



Jason Miller
Executive Editor, Federal
News Network

We hope you can join us on **November 3rd at 2 p.m.**

Thanks,

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From: Sigma Xi
Sent: Tue, 26 Oct 2021 20:26:21 -0000
To: Graham, Barney (NIH/VRC) [E]
Subject: Connect with Conference Exhibitors

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Thanks to our 2021 Conference Sponsors and Exhibitors

The virtual exhibit hall at this year's [College and Graduate School Fair](#) will be filled with esteemed colleges, graduate schools, and research institutions showcasing their programs and opportunities to attendees. Prospective students and researchers will have opportunities to connect directly with representatives from prestigious programs at schools such as Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Lawrence Technological University, Barry University, Salus University, and the Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science at Stony Brook University. We encourage attendees to visit the booths of all of our great exhibitors listed below:



The 2021 College and Graduate School Fair is accessible throughout the entirety of Sigma Xi's virtual [Annual Meeting and Student Research Conference](#). Check online schedules for designated times to meet with booth representatives.

If you haven't yet registered for the conference, you can do so at the link below, where you'll find rates and discount information.

Registration is open through November 1 and the event takes place November 4-7. Don't miss this great opportunity to learn, share, and engage with professionals, students, schools, and organizations from all facets of the scientific research community.

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From: Federal News Network
Sent: Tue, 12 Oct 2021 11:01:59 -0400 (EDT)
To: Graham, Barney (NIH/VRC) [E]
Subject: Discussing the future of machine learning and AI in government - join us on Tuesday, 10/19 at 1 p.m.



FEDERAL NEWS NETWORK

WEBINAR - The Federal Executive Forum's Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence in Government 2021

Learn about machine learning and artificial intelligence in government during this webinar on **Tuesday, October 19th at 1 p.m.** [Register now.](#)

Machine learning and artificial intelligence technology is very fast-moving, but becoming very important in helping agencies with their people, processes and technology. How are agencies utilizing this technology and what benefits do they see?

During this webinar, learn how federal IT practitioners are implementing strategies and initiatives around machine learning and artificial intelligence.

[Register Now](#)

Featured speakers:

- **Gregory Allen**, Director of Strategy & Policy, DoD Joint Artificial Intelligence Center
- **Sanjay Koyani**, Chief Technology Officer, Department of Labor
- **Brett Vaughan**, Chief Artificial Intelligence Officer, Department of the Navy
- **Erica Thomas**, DoD Comptroller, Intelligent Automation Program Manager, Office of the Secretary of Defense
- **Jim Richberg**, Field Chief Information Security Officer, Public Sector, Fortinet
- **Henry Sowell**, Chief Information Officer, Cloudera Government Solutions
- **Bob Osborn**, Chief Technology Officer, Global Government, ServiceNow
- **Moderator: Luke McCormack**, Host of the Federal Executive Forum

We hope you can join us on **October 19th at 1 p.m.**

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From: Federal News Network
Sent: Tue, 12 Oct 2021 06:59:39 -0400 (EDT)
To: Graham, Barney (NIH/VRC) [E]
Subject: NGA looks to climb 'mountain' of geospatial data management problem - Morning Federal Report



October 12, 2021

SPACE OPERATIONS



NGA looks to corral satellite imagery, other data in push for 'synthetic persistence'

The agency is planning to begin testing out the concept of using a data lakehouse to begin breaking down the walls between where data is managed.

FEDERAL REPORT



The jab or your job: Will mandate trigger mass exodus?

Will the vaccine mandate provide the push for thousands of workers to retire or quit either because they don't want the shots or are reluctant to return to the office after 12-to-18 months of working at home?

CONTRACTING



Federal contracting dollars have been on the rise, and so has contractor misconduct

The latest analysis by the Project On Government Oversight shows that contractor misconduct is also occurring more frequently, and with perhaps not enough oversight from buying agencies.

INSIGHT BY RED HAT



Automation can be a workforce's best friend

Mundane and often repetitive tasks can take a lot of time out of an employee's day. Automating those tasks allows workers to put their focus elsewhere. Automation can be the perfect job satisfaction and innovation tool if workers can use their time on things that they enjoy and allow them to be creative.

TECHNOLOGY



How a bill of materials prevents an agency from buying a bill of goods

SBOM stands for software bill of materials. And that big executive order on cybersecurity from last May urged agencies to understand and use them as part of their risk management efforts.

DOD REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK



Pentagon looking for vendors to build AI-powered contract writing system

The Joint Artificial Intelligence Center wants to see if AI algorithms can navigate the Federal Acquisition Regulation and build an RFP themselves.

FEDERAL NEWSCAST



Delta variant has forced some agencies to adjust return-to-work plans

The Department of Agriculture anticipates having the vast majority of employees back and working in-person by mid March. USDA previously gave employees an Oct. 1 start date to begin returning to the office.

INSIGHT BY MICROSOFT FEDERAL



Cloud Exchange: Breakthroughs for civilian missions: Security, sustainability and innovation

This discussion with Heidi Kobylski, Microsoft's general manager for federal civilian government, is part of Federal News Network's Cloud Exchange.

TOM TEMIN COMMENTARY



General Ray Odierno: An appreciation

No one can serve at a high level in a controversial war and not become controversial. But you can't say Odierno didn't care about the troops.

FED PHOTO OF THE DAY



First all female Honor Flight from Chicago flies to Arlington Cemetery

Daily photos of things happening in and around the federal government.



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From: Federal News Network
Sent: Mon, 11 Oct 2021 12:30:27 -0400 (EDT)
To: Graham, Barney (NIH/VRC) [E]
Subject: ICYMI - JAIC thinks AI might solve DoD's struggles with contract writing systems



October 11, 2021

DOD REPORTER'S NOTEBOOKS



JAIC thinks AI might solve DoD's struggles with contract writing systems

The Joint Artificial Intelligence Center wants to see if AI algorithms can navigate the Federal Acquisition Regulation and build an RFP themselves.

ASK THE CIO



Collins used CISO role to drive cyber deeper into SSA's mission areas

Collins, who recently left SSA, said one of his biggest accomplishments was hiring or retraining two dozen information system security officers to work directly with the mission areas.

TOM TEMIN COMMENTARY



General Ray Odierno: An appreciation

Tough and affable at the same time, and sometimes controversial, Ray Odierno was a soldier's soldier

Advertisement



The value of public and private sector partnerships

The Defense Department is leading a Global Posture Review so that the military footprint is appropriately aligned with our foreign policy and national security priorities.

RETIREMENT



September retirement claims steady but not moving any faster

Recently released stats show OPM received 7,589 new retirement claims last month, compared to 8,976 new claims received in August.

CYBERSECURITY



GAO finds agencies mostly managed telework network security with a few holes

GAO looked at agencies' system security plans, the results of security control assessments, remedial action plans and whether or not they followed NIST cybersecurity guidance.

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As agencies modernize their networks, bandwidth, resilience reign supreme

Bill Koetz, the vice president of network and computer technology for the United States Postal Service, said with 32,000 locations and a large fleet of cellular scanners and other devices, the need for more bandwidth is priority number one.

FEDERAL NEWSCAST



Delta variant has forced some agencies to adjust return-to-work plans

In today's Federal Newscast, the delta variant of COVID-19 is pushing back return-to-work timelines for some federal employees.

DEFENSE



Army general who commanded in Iraq dies of cancer at age 67

The family of Raymond T

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Health care without compromise. Opt in to better care

Get more than your average health plan. Discover the Kaiser Permanente difference with quality care, affordable plans, and top-rated doctors.

FEDERAL REPORT



Say goodbye to those surprise medical bills, really?!

Come Jan. 1, health insurance plans must treat emergency services performed out-of-network as if they were done in-network. The new rules apply to almost all major public and private health insurance plans, including the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program.

Partnership



Register today FOR ACT-AIC's Imagine Nation ELC bringing together the government technology community!

Discuss the issues facing government and work together to develop practical solutions and innovative strategies.



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From: Collins, Francis (NIH/OD) [E]
Sent: Thu, 16 Sep 2021 17:41:41 +0000
To: Embry, Alan (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Mascola, John (NIH/VRC) [E]
Cc: Fauci, Anthony (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: RE: FW: For VRBPAC Aug 17 meeting: COVID-19 VE findings from a US observational study of 5.6 M fully vaccinated individuals (2.9M with Moderna & 2.7M with Pfizer vaccines)

Interesting and pretty compelling evidence that VE is falling 5 – 6 months post vaccination for both infection and hospitalization for those over 65. Even for those 3 – 4 months out there is a trend towards worsening VE.

FC

From: Embry, Alan (NIH/NIAID) [E] <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2021 1:23 PM
To: Collins, Francis (NIH/OD) [E] <(b) (6)> Mascola, John (NIH/VRC) [E] <(b) (6)>
Cc: Fauci, Anthony (NIH/NIAID) [E] <(b) (6)>
Subject: FW: FW: For VRBPAC Aug 17 meeting: COVID-19 VE findings from a US observational study of 5.6 M fully vaccinated individuals (2.9M with Moderna & 2.7M with Pfizer vaccines)

Francis, John,

Sharing some interesting data from a large effectiveness study.

Thanks,
Alan

From: Folkers, Greg (NIH/NIAID) [E] <(b) (6)> **On Behalf Of** Fauci, Anthony (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2021 10:55 AM
To: Embry, Alan (NIH/NIAID) [E] <(b) (6)>
Subject: FW: FW: For VRBPAC Aug 17 meeting: COVID-19 VE findings from a US observational study of 5.6 M fully vaccinated individuals (2.9M with Moderna & 2.7M with Pfizer vaccines)

Not sure if u got this

From: Michael Osterholm <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2021 6:56 AM
To: Fauci, Anthony (NIH/NIAID) [E] <(b) (6)> Eric Topol <(b) (6)>
Subject: Fwd: FW: For VRBPAC Aug 17 meeting: COVID-19 VE findings from a US observational study of 5.6 M fully vaccinated individuals (2.9M with Moderna & 2.7M with Pfizer vaccines)

Good morning Gentlemen.

Definitely worth a read. I think this is a solid claims data study and surely supports the point that we have concluded!

And it's US data.

Mike

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Bettina Experton <(b) (6)>

Date: Wed, Sep 15, 2021 at 11:32 PM

Subject: FW: For VRBPAC Aug 17 meeting: COVID-19 VE findings from a US observational study of 5.6 M fully vaccinated individuals (2.9M with Moderna & 2.7M with Pfizer vaccines)

To: Michael Osterholm <(b) (6)>

Dear Michael,

Sharing with you our latest data which I forwarded to the CDC on Monday (they have yet not responded) and to the FDA (email below) ahead of this Friday VRBPAC meeting to discuss the licensure of a Pfizer booster dose. Unlike the CDC, the FDA (Peter Marks) responded right away that they appreciated receiving our data.

Let me know if you have any comments, and whether you would like to schedule another call since we spoke last on August 11.

Kind regards.

Bettina

From: Bettina Experton

Sent: Wednesday, September 15, 2021 4:24 PM

To: (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6)

Subject: For VRBPAC Aug 17 meeting: COVID-19 VE findings from a US observational study of 5.6 M fully vaccinated individuals (2.9M with Moderna & 2.7M with Pfizer vaccines)

Dear Marion, Philip and Peter,

In preparation for Friday's VRBPAC meeting, please find attached our VE findings based on a US observational study of 5.6 M fully vaccinated individuals 65 and over (2.9M Moderna vaccinees and 2.7M Pfizer vaccinees). This study has been conducted by my company under contract with the DoD JAIC (Joint Artificial Intelligence Center) since March 2020, when we were tasked to analyze Medicare claim data to monitor, map and conduct Covid-19 predictive analytics for the military. For this project – called Project Salus – we defined a Medicare population cohort which includes today 20M individuals for whom we continue to receive 100M claim records from CMS weekly, and for whom we have prior medical history data going back to October 1, 2019.

Our observational study VE findings show a very significant decrease in VE against infection and hospitalization in the Delta phase of the pandemic for individuals vaccinated with either the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine for those 5-6 months post vaccination vs. those 3-4 months post vaccination.

I recognize that this information, which we brought to the CDC three weeks ago with weekly updates since, is coming to you on a very short notice prior to the upcoming VRBPAC meeting. Please feel free to contact us if you would like to further discuss or even present our summary findings on Friday.

With my best regards,

Bettina

Bettina Experton, M.D., M.P.H.
President & CEO



[1310 Camino Del Mar, Suite C](#)
[Del Mar, CA 92014, USA](#)

Tel: (b) (6)

Cell: (b) (6)

From: Embry, Alan (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thu, 16 Sep 2021 17:22:40 +0000
To: Collins, Francis (NIH/OD) [E]; Mascola, John (NIH/VRC) [E]
Cc: Fauci, Anthony (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: FW: FW: For VRBPAC Aug 17 meeting: COVID-19 VE findings from a US observational study of 5.6 M fully vaccinated individuals (2.9M with Moderna & 2.7M with Pfizer vaccines)
Attachments: Salus Humetrix VE study summary for the CDC 2021_09_13 .pdf

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President & CEO



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Tel: (b) (6)

Cell: (b) (6)

CDC Briefing

Regarding Booster Doses of COVID-19 Vaccines

September 13, 2021

**Effectiveness of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines
Against the Delta Variant
Among 6M Medicare Beneficiaries 65 Years and Older**



Project Salus



Executive Summary

Key Findings

Basic questions which require data-driven answers

Is vaccine effectiveness (VE) **waning** over time?

Is VE **reduced** for the **Delta variant**?

Does the need vary by **sub-population**?

Project Salus provides answers to these questions

- VE of both mRNA vaccines appears to wane over time in this large 5.6M US-based 65 & over vaccinated cohort
- VE against Delta breakthrough hospitalization (57%) exceeds VE against Delta infection (33%)
- VE of mRNA vaccines against infection and hospitalization in the 65 >= during Delta phase of the pandemic is **lower** than previously reported in smaller studies
- Older age groups (75-84 & 85 and older) experienced further reduction in vaccine protection against hospitalization in Salus 65 years and older cohort
- Hospitalization rate (20% vs 32%) and death rate (2% vs 12%) of breakthrough infections lower than rates observed in Covid-19 cases in pre-vaccination pandemic phase in 2020
- Salus breakthrough hospitalization risk model can be applied to prioritize the over 65 population for booster vaccine

Graphic adapted from CDC Presentation ACIP Meeting August 30, 2021
Oliver, S. Framework for Booster Doses of COVID-19 Vaccines

Salus Platform for COVID-19 Analyses

VE Study Attributes

Cohort

20M Medicare beneficiaries nationwide
with 16M individuals 65 years and older

Exposure

5.6M fully vaccinated with
2.7M Pfizer and 2.9M Moderna

Period of study

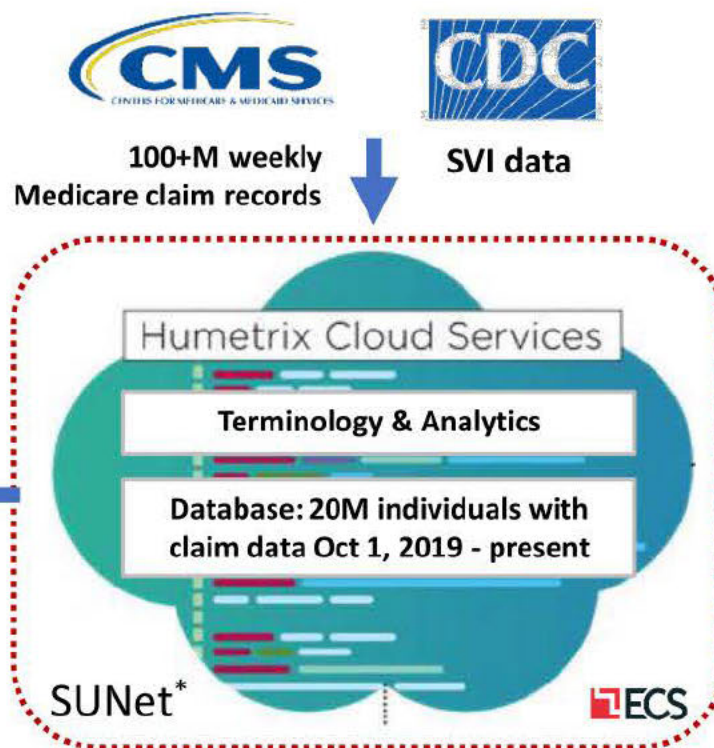
January- July 2021

Breakthrough Key Metrics

133K Breakthrough cases

27K Breakthrough hospitalizations

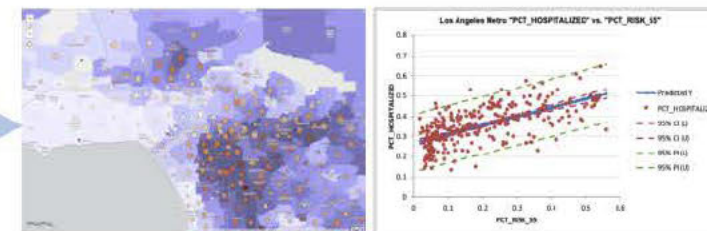
8.3K requiring ICU admissions



Other Platform Applications



Nationwide Mapping of COVID-19 Outcomes
Hospitalizations, ICU, Ventilator Rx, Deaths



Disease Risk Models with Population Risk
Profiling: Severe COVID-19 risk with
Validation with Hospitalization Rates



Vaccination Mapping overlaid on severe
COVID-19 risk

Salus Breakthrough Analysis Methodology and Limitations

- **Breakthrough case definition:** new COVID-19 diagnosis (by COVID-19 ICD-10 code) occurring no earlier than 2-weeks post the second vaccine dose (see appendix for more details on case definition)
- **Breakthrough analysis methodology:** to estimate weekly breakthrough cases and hospitalizations we multiplied our Medicare claim-based weekly breakthrough case counts and hospitalization counts by the corresponding weekly ratio of the claims-based vaccination rate to the CDC vaccination rate to compensate for missing COVID-19 vaccination data from Medicare claim data (Medicare claims only provide ~45% of the published CDC vaccination rate in the 65 and over age group)
- **Breakthrough data limitations:**
 - Possible overestimation of breakthrough rates due to breakthroughs clinically defined with a COVID-19 diagnosis but not confirmed by PCR or antigen test (unavailable in claim data)
 - Possible overestimation of breakthrough rates due to assuming identical breakthrough rates between individuals with claim-based vaccination data and those lacking vaccination data in their claims
 - Overestimation of breakthrough rates would lead to underestimating vaccine VE against breakthrough infections and breakthrough hospitalizations

COVID-19 Case Definitions

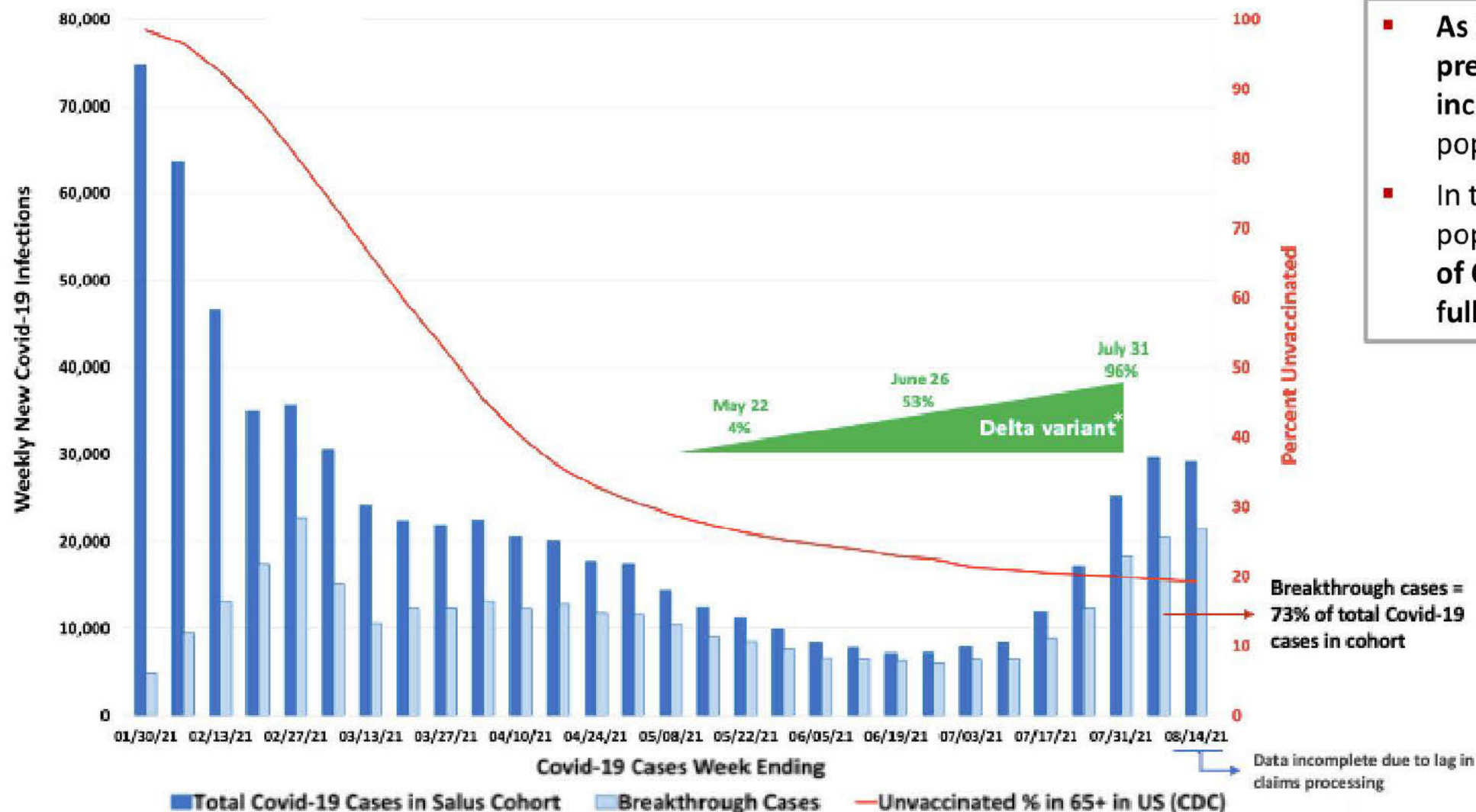
- **COVID-19 case definition:** COVID-19 ICD-10-CM code U071 found in any claim type. Date of diagnosis based on first claim with U071. Note: 29% have either a COVID-19 PCR or antigen test in a claim.
- **COVID-19 breakthrough infection definition:** COVID-19 diagnosis more than 2 weeks after second dose of mRNA vaccine or single dose of J&J vaccine with no COVID-19 ICD-10 code U071 between first and second dose of mRNA vaccine. Note: 36% of breakthrough cases have either a COVID-19 PCR or antigen test in a claim.
- **COVID-19 hospitalization definitions:** (1) Inpatient claim with primary admitting diagnosis ICD-10-C code U071 with data of admission within 14 days after COVID-19 diagnosis or date of discharge within 10 days of post hospitalization COVID-19 diagnosis OR (2) Carrier claim with ICD10 code U071 and place of service code = 21 and date of service either 14 days after COVID-19 diagnosis or 10 days before COVID-19 diagnosis.
- **COVID-19 associated death definitions:** (1) Inpatient claim patient discharge status code = 41 (expired in facility) OR (2) MBSF file Date of Death are within 60 days of COVID-19 diagnosis. 85% of COVID-19 deaths using this definition occurred within 30 days and 72% within 20 days of COVID-19 diagnosis

Key Breakthrough vs. Pre-Vaccination COVID-19 Metrics

Among 5.6M fully vaccine immunized Salus cohort members aged 65 and older (2.7M Pfizer and 2.9M Moderna), as of August 6th, 2021:

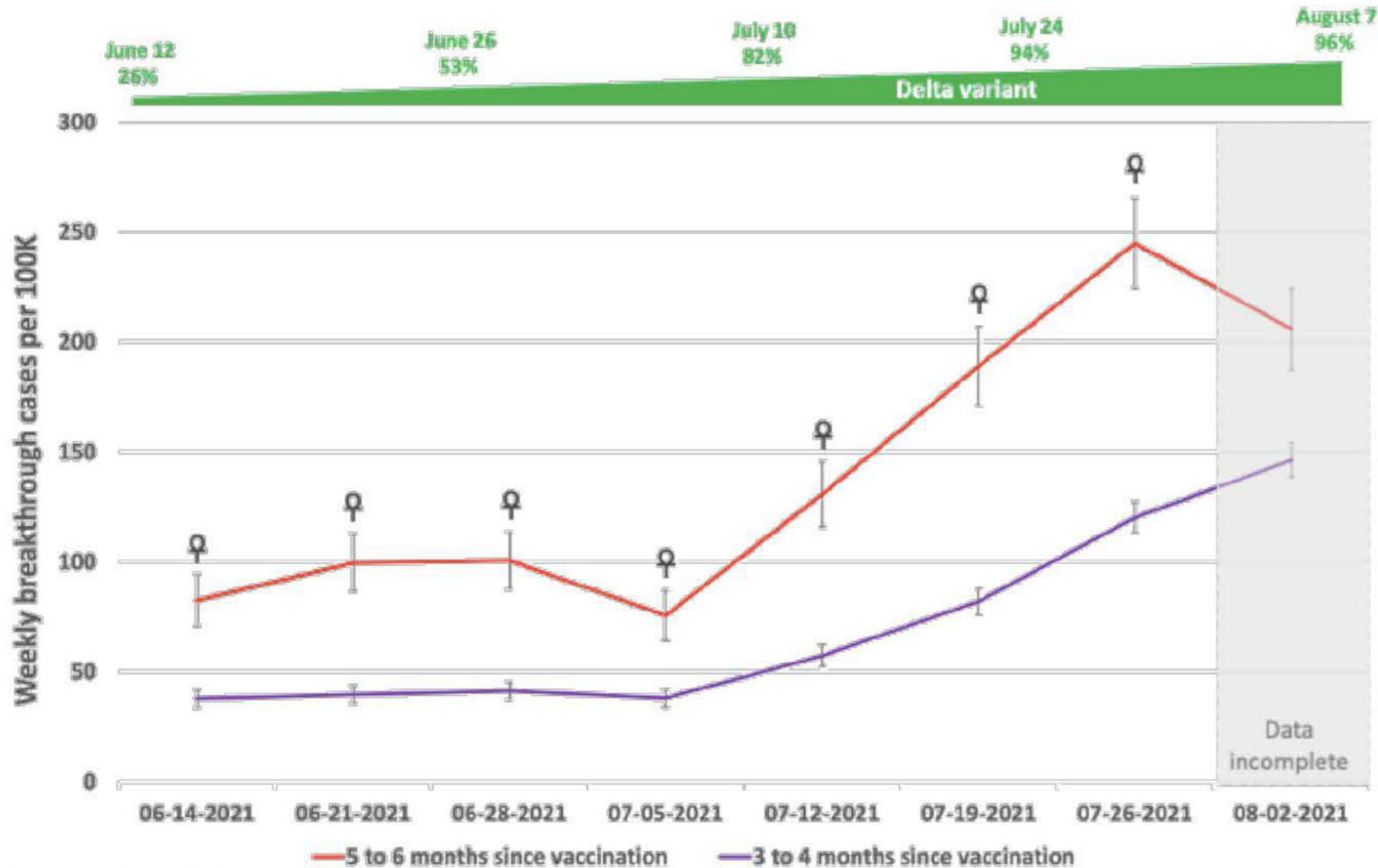
- **2.3% cumulative breakthrough rate**
- **20% hospitalization rate** in breakthrough infections, reduced by one third of 32% hospitalization rate March – December 2020
- **34% breakthrough hospitalizations include ICU care**, equivalent to 32% ICU rate March – December 2020
- **2.2% death rate** in breakthrough infections, reduced six-fold from 12% death rate March – December 2020

Total & Breakthrough Cases in the 65 Years and Older Salus Cohort



- As Delta variant became predominant, COVID-19 cases increased five-fold in the ≥ 65 population
- In this 80% vaccinated ≥ 65 population, an estimated **73%** of COVID-19 cases occurred in fully vaccinated individuals

Is mRNA Vaccine Effectiveness Against Delta Breakthrough Infection Waning Over Time in 65 Years and Older Salus Cohort?



▪ Breakthrough infection rates 5-6 months post vaccination are twice as high as 3-4 months post vaccination

95% C.I.

♀ Breakthrough infection rates 5-6 months since vaccination > 3-4 months since vaccination $P < 0.001$

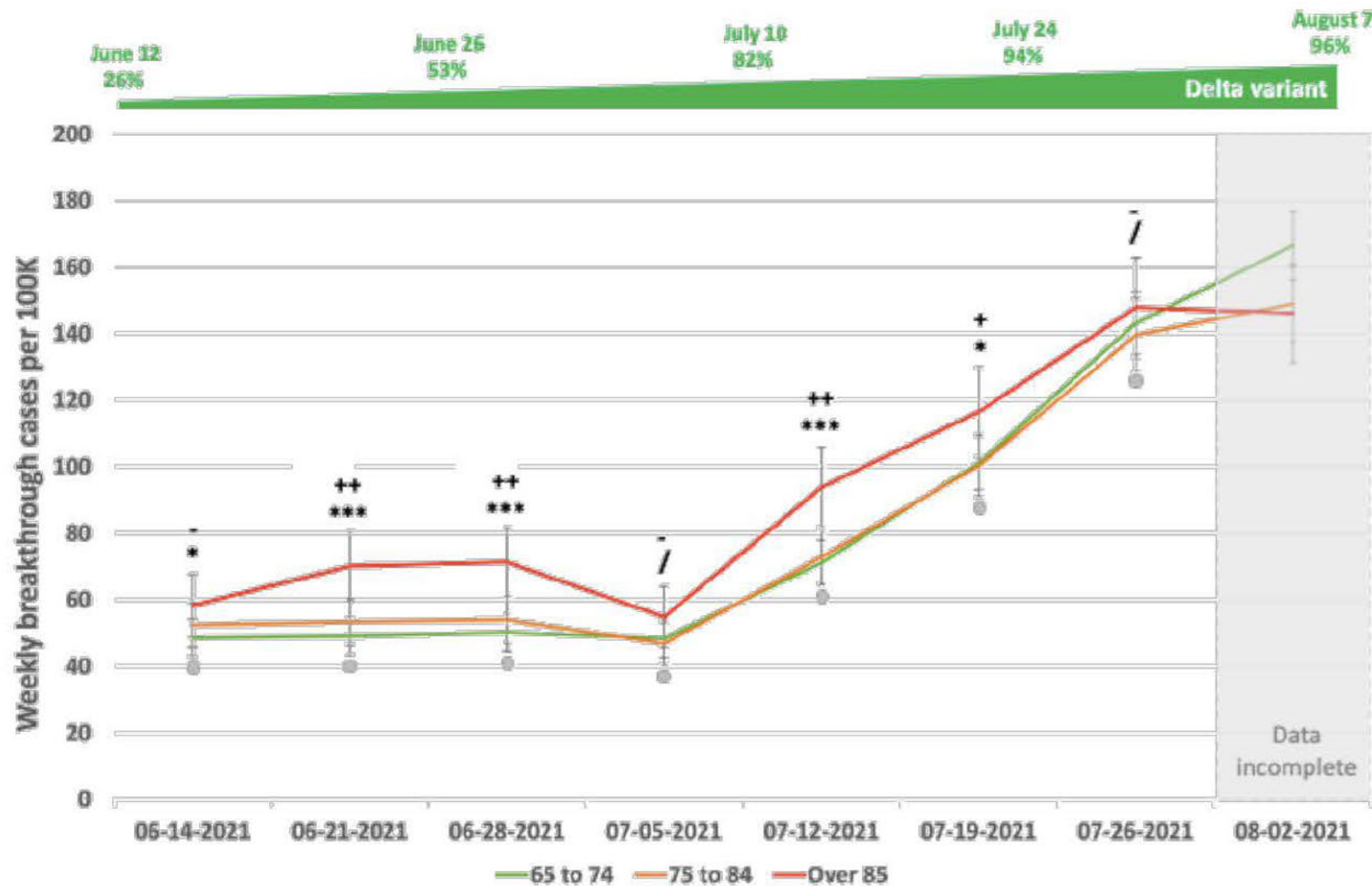
Data incomplete

Age Distribution of Vaccinated Groups in the 65 Years and Older Cohort

Vaccinee Group		
5-6 months post vaccination		
age groups	65 to 74	24%
	75 to 84	33%
	85 & older	43%
3-4 months post vaccination		
age groups	65 to 74	51%
	75 to 84	35%
	85 & older	14%

■ Could higher proportion of 85 years and older members in first vaccinated group explain reduced VE?

Does Age Affect Vaccine Effectiveness Against Breakthrough Infections in the 65 Years and Older Cohort?

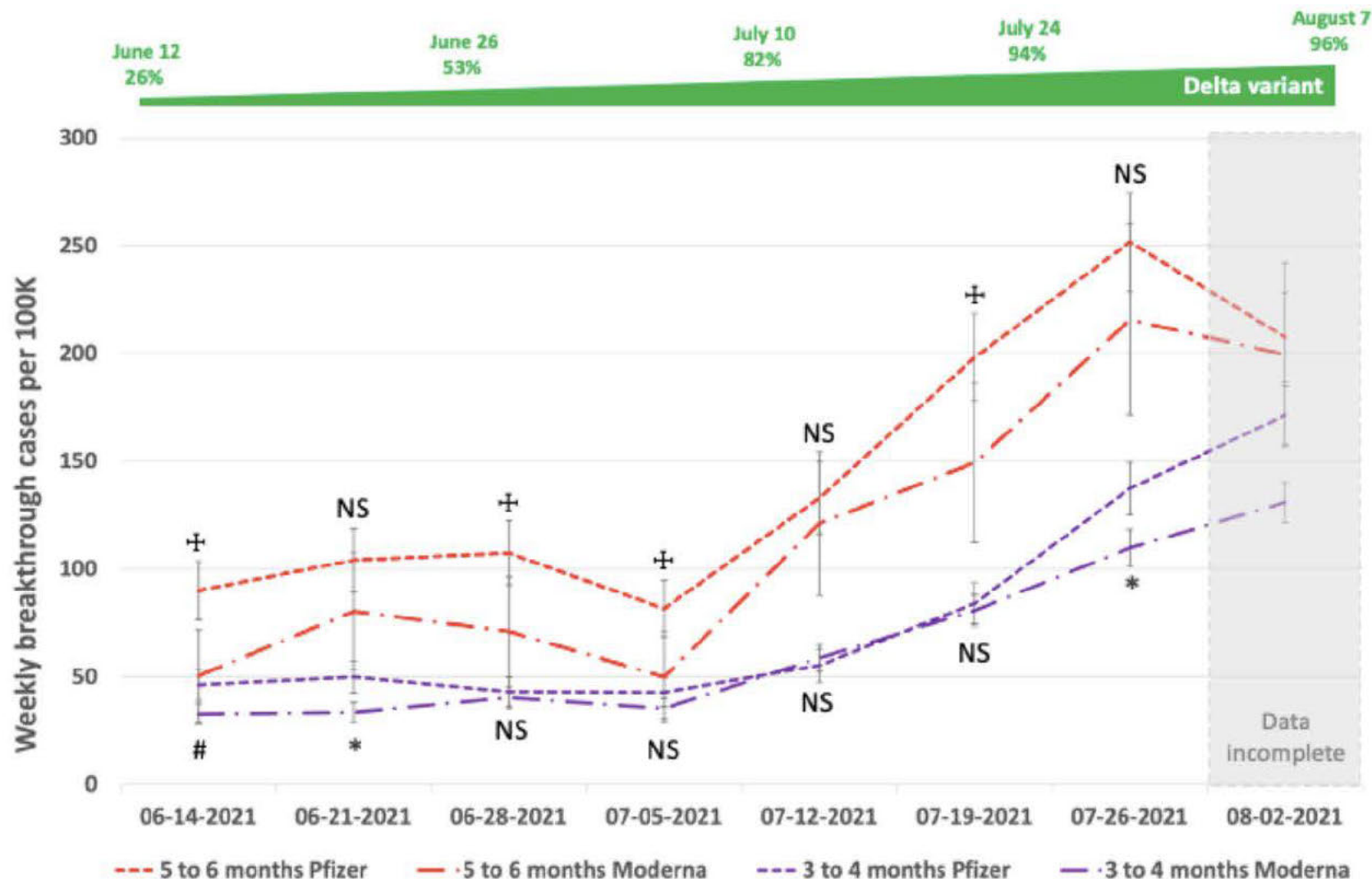


- **Age has a minor contribution to the reduced vaccine protection** seen in the group vaccinated 5-6 months ago
- **As Delta variant became dominant**, the modest age differences in breakthrough rates diminish

95% C.I.

	Over 85 > 75 to 84	Over 85 > 65 to 74	75 to 84 > 65 to 74
P < 0.001	none	***	none
P < 0.01	++	none	none
P < 0.05	+	*	none
P > 0.05	-	/	•

Are There Differences in Waning Effectiveness Between Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna Vaccines in the 65 Years and Older Cohort ?



■ **Waning immunity are seen with both Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines during Delta phase of the pandemic**

- 95% C.I.
- * Breakthrough infection rate Pfizer-BioNTech > Moderna
 $P < 0.001$
- # Breakthrough infection rate Pfizer-BioNTech > Moderna
 $P < 0.01$
- † Breakthrough infection rate Pfizer-BioNTech > Moderna
 $P < 0.05$
- ‡ Breakthrough infection rate Pfizer-BioNTech > Moderna
 $P < 0.05$
- NS Breakthrough infection rate Pfizer-BioNTech > Moderna
 $P > 0.05$

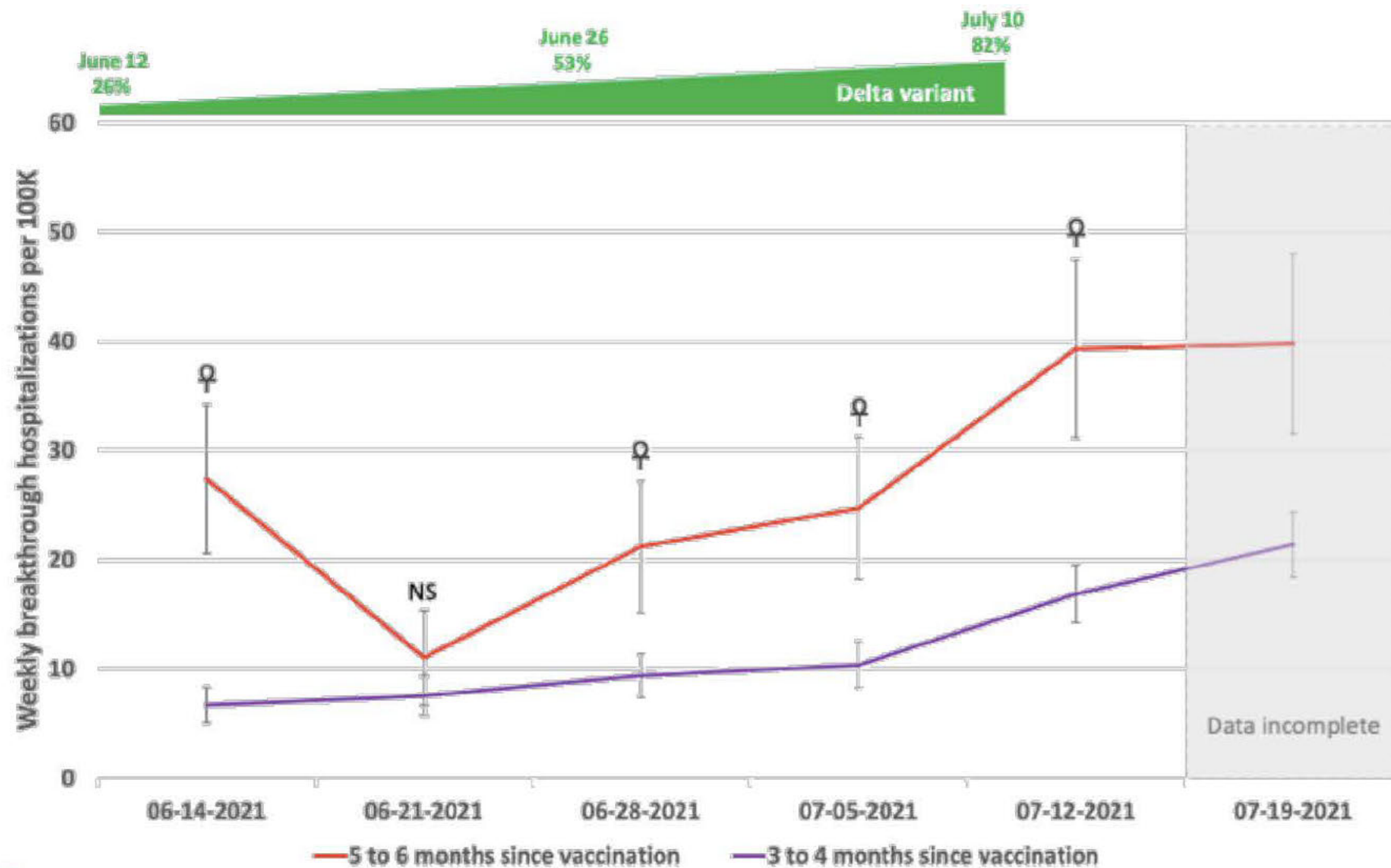
Total & Breakthrough Hospitalizations in the 65 Years and Older Cohort



- As Delta variant surged to over 50% in June, COVID-19 hospitalizations more than doubled, reversing the prior trend of decreasing hospitalizations since April
- In this 80% vaccinated 65+ population, an estimated **63% of COVID-19 hospitalizations occurred in fully vaccinated individuals** in the week of July 24th

63% of COVID-19 hospitalizations are in vaccinated individuals

Is Vaccine Protection Against Breakthrough Hospitalization Waning Over Time in the 65 Years and Older Cohort?



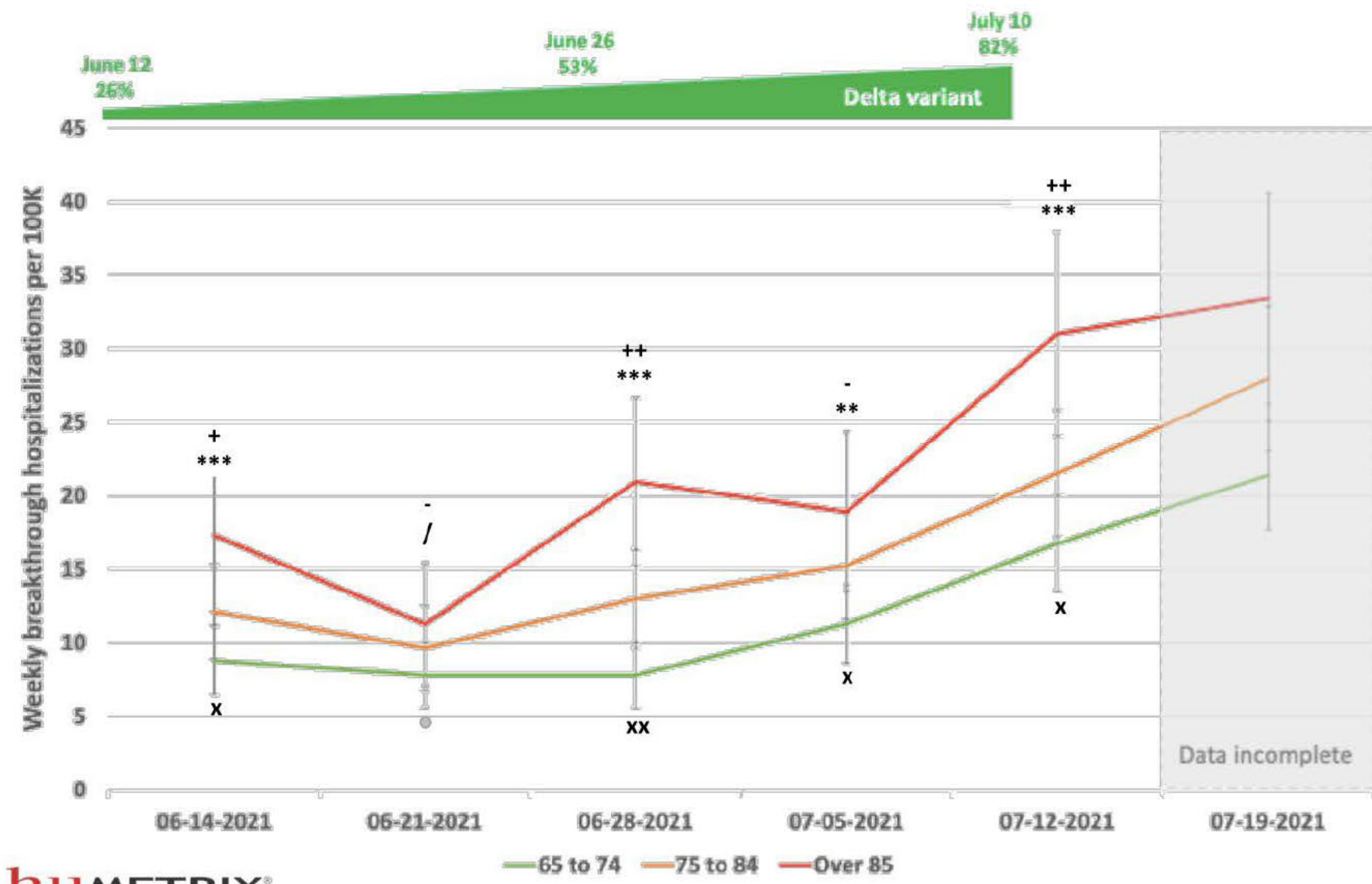
■ **VE against breakthrough hospitalization is significantly lower 5-6 months post vaccination than 3-4 months post vaccination**

95% C.I.

♀ Breakthrough hospitalization rate for 5-6 months since vaccination > 3-4 months
 $P < 0.001$

NS Breakthrough hospitalization rate for 5-6 months since vaccination > 3-4 months
 $P > 0.05$

Are there Age Differences in Vaccine Protection Against Breakthrough Hospitalizations in the 65 Years and Older Cohort?

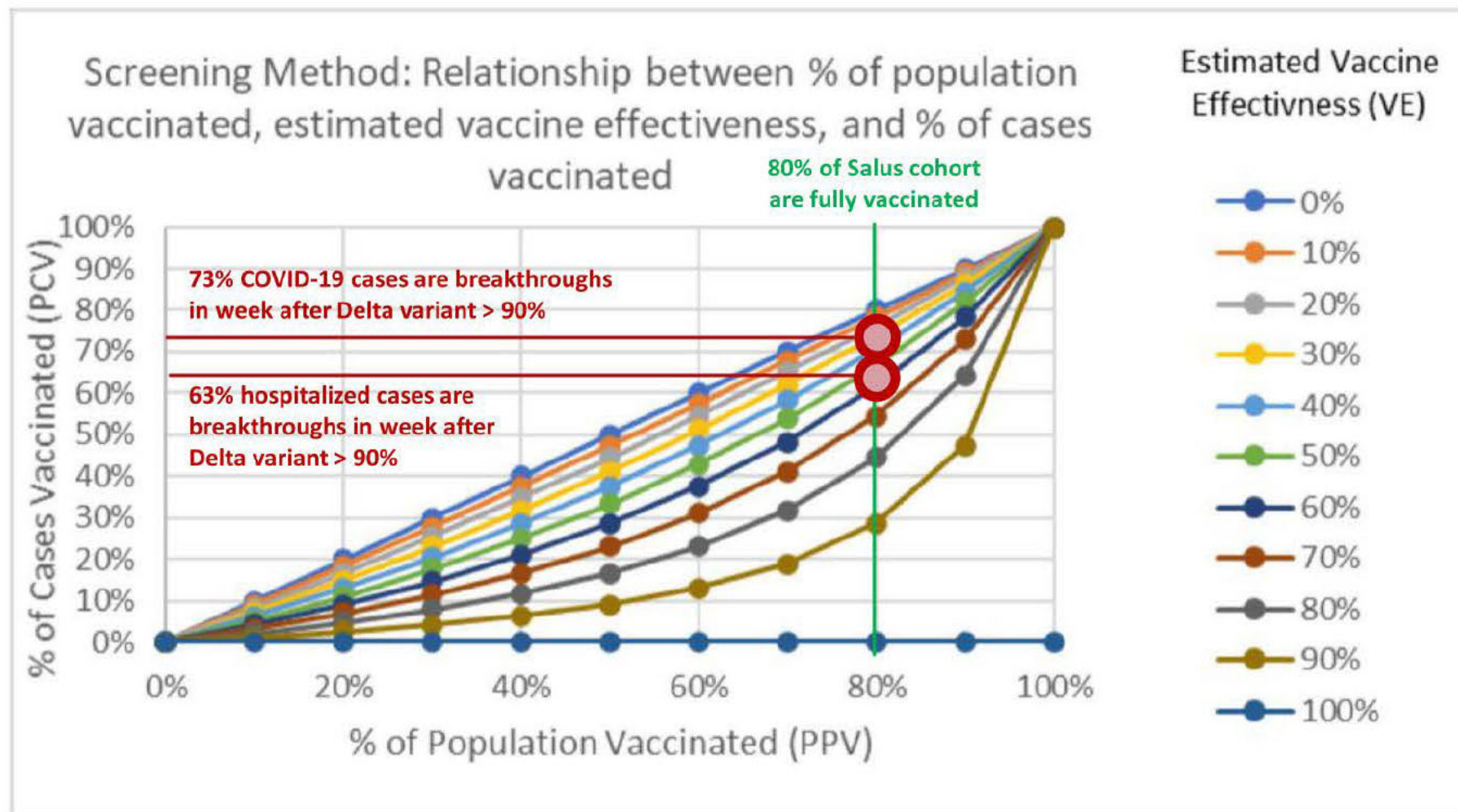


Older age associated with increased breakthrough hospitalization rates

95% C.I.

	Over 85 > 75 to 84	Over 85 > 65 to 74	75 to 84 > 65 to 74
P < 0.001	none	***	none
P < 0.01	++	**	xx
P < 0.05	+	none	x
P > 0.05	-	/	●

What is the Vaccine Effectiveness Against the Delta Variant in the Salus Cohort? – Using the CDC Screening Approach



▪ **33% calculated VE against infection**

▪ **57% calculated VE against hospitalization**

VE Screening method

$$VE = 1 - [(PCV / (1 - PCV)) * ((1 - PPV) / PPV)]$$

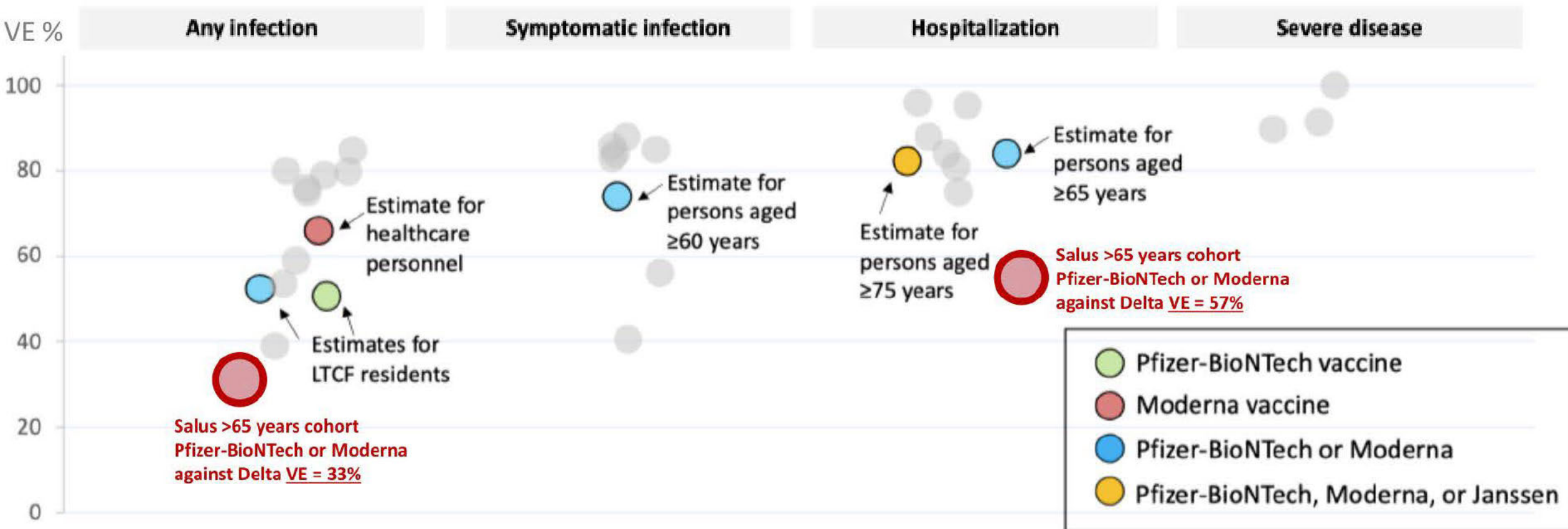
PCV = proportion cases vaccinated

PPV = proportion population vaccinated

Graphic adapted from CDC Presentation July 30, 2021

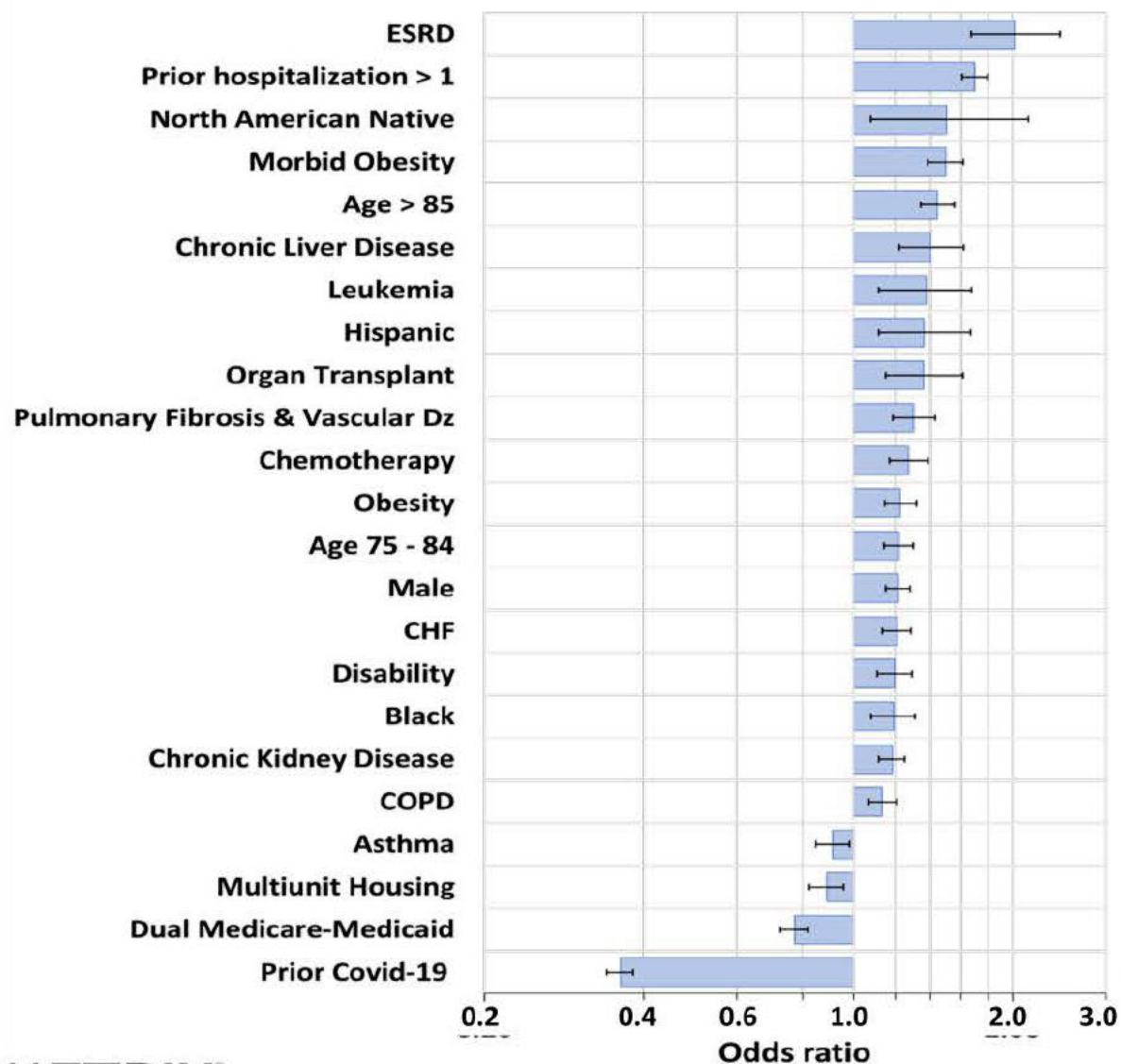
Improving communication around vaccine breakthrough and vaccine effectiveness

How Does mRNA Vaccine Effectiveness in 65+ Salus Cohort with 5.6M Vaccinees Compared to Published Estimates?



- VE of both mRNA vaccines in this 65+ cohort is lower than previously reported in smaller study sizes for both COVID-19 infection and hospitalization
- VE for mRNA vaccines is higher against hospitalization than against infection

Risk Model for Breakthrough Hospitalization



- Prior COVID-19 infection has a major protective effect against breakthrough hospitalization
- Risk of breakthrough hospitalization increases with time elapsed since mRNA vaccination with odds ratio increasing to 2.5 at 6 months post vaccination
- There is a step up in risk in the 75-84 and again in the over 85 age categories compared to the 65-74 category
- Risk model can be used to stratify the over 65 population to best select those in most need of booster vaccine dose

Logistic Regression Model performance:
AUROC 0.73, balanced accuracy 0.67

Executive Summary

Key Findings

Basic questions which require data-driven answers

Is vaccine effectiveness (VE) **waning** over time?

Is VE **reduced** for the **Delta variant**?

Does the need vary by **sub-population**?

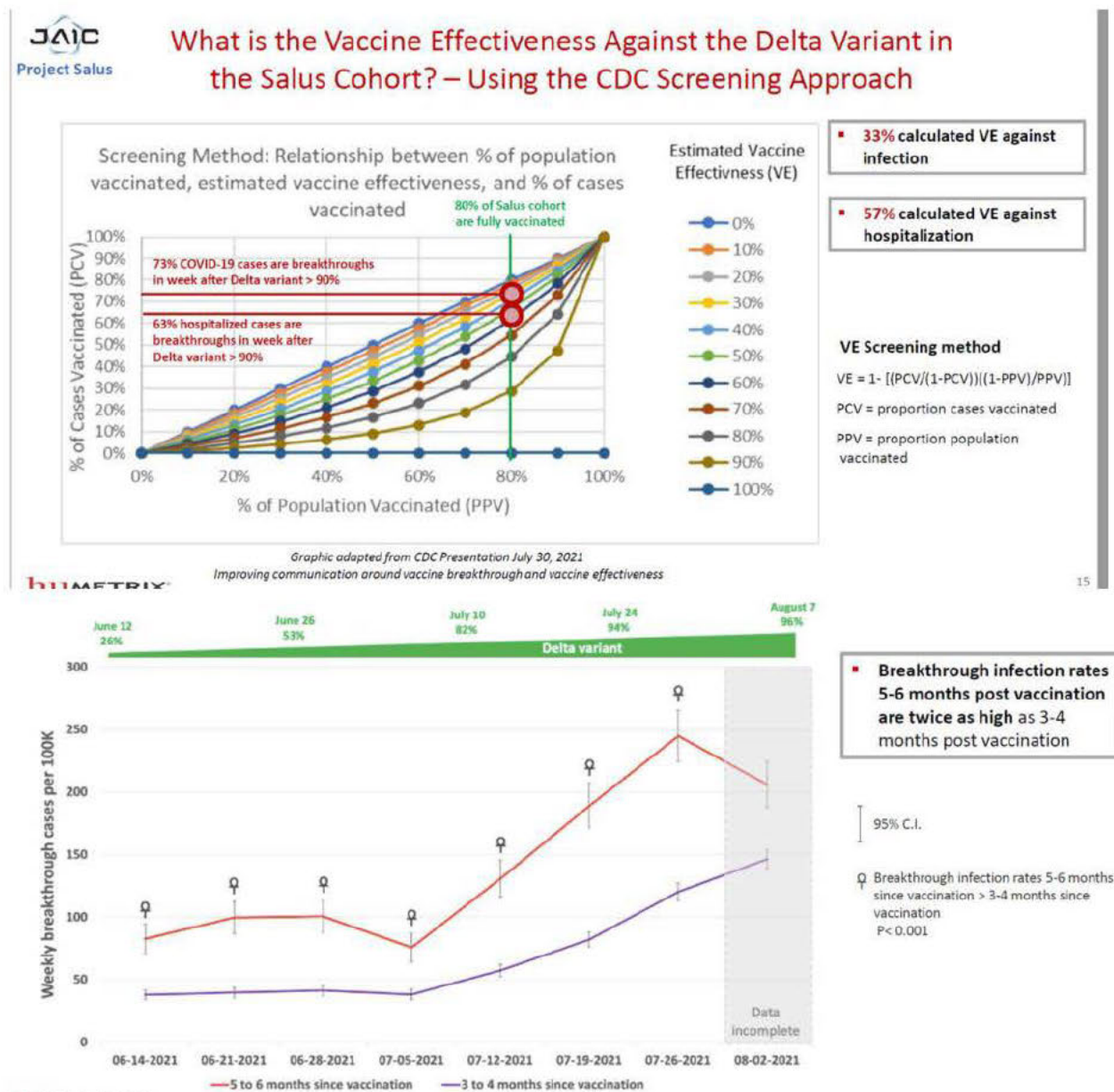
Project Salus provides answers to these questions

- VE of both mRNA vaccines appears to wane over time in this large 5.6M US-based 65 & over vaccinated cohort
- VE against Delta breakthrough hospitalization (57%) exceeds VE against Delta infection (33%)
- VE of mRNA vaccines against infection and hospitalization in the 65 >= during Delta phase of the pandemic is **lower** than previously reported in smaller studies
- Older age groups (75-84 & 85 and older) experienced further reduction in vaccine protection against hospitalization in Salus 65 years and older cohort
- Hospitalization rate (20% vs 32%) and death rate (2% vs 12%) of breakthrough infections lower than rates observed in Covid-19 cases in pre-vaccination pandemic phase in 2020
- Salus breakthrough hospitalization risk model can be applied to prioritize the over 65 population for booster vaccine

Graphic adapted from CDC Presentation ACIP Meeting August 30, 2021
Oliver, S. Framework for Booster Doses of COVID-19 Vaccines

From: Embry, Alan (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thu, 16 Sep 2021 17:20:48 +0000
To: Fauci, Anthony (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: RE: FW: For VRBPAC Aug 17 meeting: COVID-19 VE findings from a US observational study of 5.6 M fully vaccinated individuals (2.9M with Moderna & 2.7M with Pfizer vaccines)

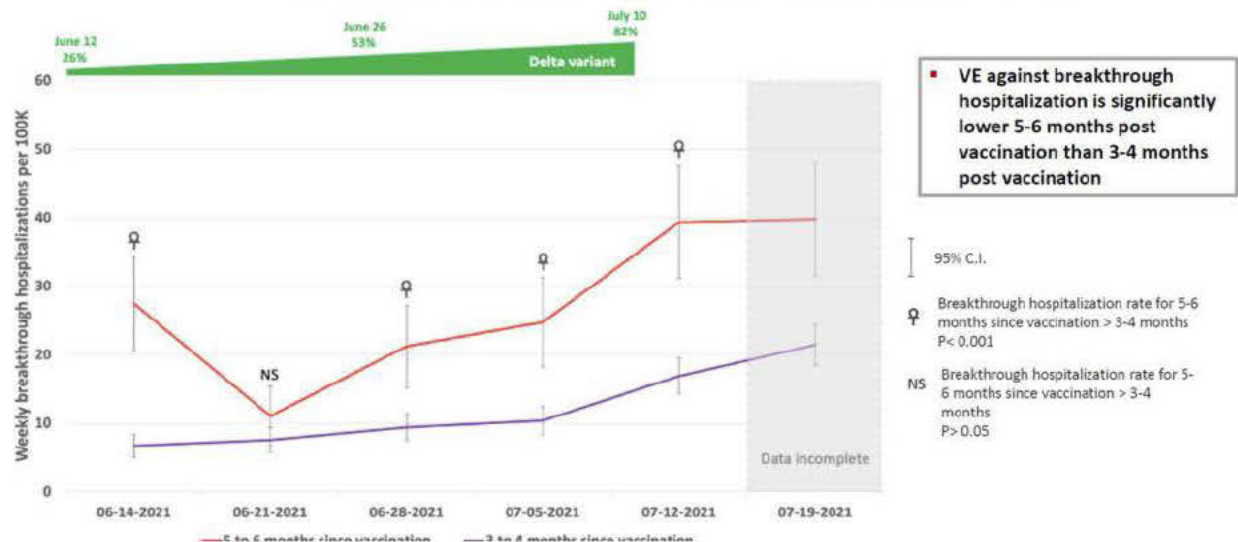
There is a good amount of interesting data in this slide set. VE estimates are lower than seen in other cohorts and come with caveats, but they clearly see waning against infection and hospitalization. 3 key slides below -



Age had only a minor contribution to difference in breakthrough infections.



Is Vaccine Protection Against Breakthrough Hospitalization Waning Over Time in the 65 Years and Older Cohort?



Older age was associated with greater number of hospitalizations post vaccination.

From: Folkers, Greg (NIH/NIAID) [E] <(b) (6)> **On Behalf Of** Fauci, Anthony (NIH/NIAID) [E]

Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2021 10:55 AM

To: Embry, Alan (NIH/NIAID) [E] <(b) (6)>

Subject: FW: FW: For VRBPAC Aug 17 meeting: COVID-19 VE findings from a US observational study of 5.6 M fully vaccinated individuals (2.9M with Moderna & 2.7M with Pfizer vaccines)

Not sure if u got this

From: Michael Osterholm <(b) (6)>

Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2021 6:56 AM

To: Fauci, Anthony (NIH/NIAID) [E] <(b) (6)> Eric Topol <(b) (6)>

Subject: Fwd: FW: For VRBPAC Aug 17 meeting: COVID-19 VE findings from a US observational study of 5.6 M fully vaccinated individuals (2.9M with Moderna & 2.7M with Pfizer vaccines)

Good morning Gentlemen.

Definitely worth a read. I think this is a solid claims data study and surely supports the point that we have concluded!

And it's US data.

Mike

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Bettina Experton <(b) (6)>

Date: Wed, Sep 15, 2021 at 11:32 PM

Subject: FW: For VRBPAC Aug 17 meeting: COVID-19 VE findings from a US observational study of 5.6 M fully vaccinated individuals (2.9M with Moderna & 2.7M with Pfizer vaccines)

To: Michael Osterholm <(b) (6)>

Dear Michael,

Sharing with you our latest data which I forwarded to the CDC on Monday (they have yet not responded) and to the FDA (email below) ahead of this Friday VRBPAC meeting to discuss the licensure of a Pfizer booster dose. Unlike the CDC, the FDA (Peter Marks) responded right away that they appreciated receiving our data.

Let me know if you have any comments, and whether you would like to schedule another call since we spoke last on August 11.

Kind regards.

Bettina

From: Bettina Experton

Sent: Wednesday, September 15, 2021 4:24 PM

To: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Subject: For VRBPAC Aug 17 meeting: COVID-19 VE findings from a US observational study of 5.6 M fully vaccinated individuals (2.9M with Moderna & 2.7M with Pfizer vaccines)

Dear Marion, Philip and Peter,

In preparation for Friday's VRBPAC meeting, please find attached our VE findings based on a US observational study of 5.6 M fully vaccinated individuals 65 and over (2.9M Moderna vaccinees and 2.7M Pfizer vaccinees). This study has been conducted by my company under contract with the DoD JAIC (Joint Artificial Intelligence Center) since March 2020, when we were tasked to analyze Medicare claim data to monitor, map and conduct Covid-19 predictive analytics for the military. For this project – called Project Salus – we defined a Medicare population cohort which includes today 20M individuals for whom we continue to receive 100M claim records from CMS weekly, and for whom we have prior medical history data going back to October 1, 2019.

Our observational study VE findings show a very significant decrease in VE against infection and hospitalization in the Delta phase of the pandemic for individuals vaccinated with either the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine for those 5-6 months post vaccination vs. those 3-4 months post vaccination.

I recognize that this information, which we brought to the CDC three weeks ago with weekly updates since, is coming to you on a very short notice prior to the upcoming VRBPAC meeting. Please feel free to contact us if you would like to further discuss or even present our summary findings on Friday.

With my best regards,

Bettina

Bettina Experton, M.D., M.P.H.
President & CEO

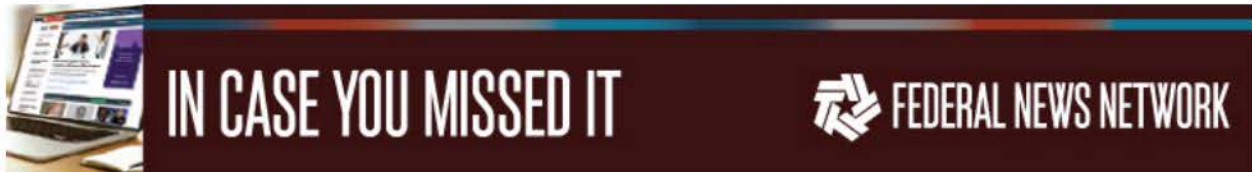


[1310 Camino Del Mar, Suite C](#)
[Del Mar, CA 92014, USA](#)

Tel: (b) (6)

Cell: (b) (6)

From: Federal News Network
Sent: Fri, 6 Aug 2021 12:32:29 -0400 (EDT)
To: Graham, Barney (NIH/VRC) [E]
Subject: ICYMI - Biden picks for USPS board push back on 'dangerous risks' in mail slow down



August 06, 2021

AGENCY OVERSIGHT



Biden's picks on USPS board push back on 'dangerous risks' in plan to slow down mail

Two of President Joe Biden's picks to serve on the USPS Board of Governors pushed back strongly on USPS plans to slow first-class mail and about a third of first-class packages

FEDERAL NEWSCAST



NSA wants you to be careful where you log in to telework

In today's Federal Newscast, in a new advisory, the NSA laid out best practices for securing wireless devices in public settings.

COMMENTARY



Necessity is the best motivator: Challenges and benefits of modernizing digital citizen services

The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in a massive increase in the number of online citizen identities, credentials and access points. But even as the pandemic subsides, the immense need for digital identity and secure citizens' identities...

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For Defense, continuous modernization requires data, algorithms, and new business approaches

At the DOD's Joint Artificial Intelligence Center, LMI is creating a common ontology for data-related cost elements of transport platforms. Such groundwork enables the application of AI to lifecycle costing and predictive maintenance, Wilson said.

CYBERSECURITY



New CISA office brings in cloud giants, other private companies to collaborate on cyber threats

A new "Joint Cyber Defense Collaborative" launched by the agency includes major cloud providers, telecommunications giants, and cyber threat hunting companies.

SPACE OPERATIONS



Space Force needs some shorter term investments to keep Congress happy

Congress is concerned that after nearly two years the Space Force doesn't have much to show.

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Simplifying Customer Experience with AskUSDA

Learn how Accenture helped USDA make it easier for people to get the information and services they need with a data-driven, customer-centric approach.

ACQUISITION



Rise in OTAs for federal contracting brings mixed blessings

The IBM Center for the Business of Government has sponsored a detailed analysis of OTAs and how the government is using them.

VETERANS AFFAIRS



Even after troops leave Afghanistan, Iraq, resulting brain injury research continuing for VHA

The chief of neuropathology at the VA Boston Healthcare System, Dr. Ann McKee returned to Federal Drive with Tom Temin for an update.

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FEDERAL REPORT



Dude, don't get pitted in the chunder!

Like ocean waves, the unpredictable pandemic means agency reentry plans need to stay loose.

Partnership



Expert Edition: Repurposing Manpower Through Automation

This exclusive ebook details how some agencies are applying automation to their mission areas and finding better results.



[More Alerts](#)

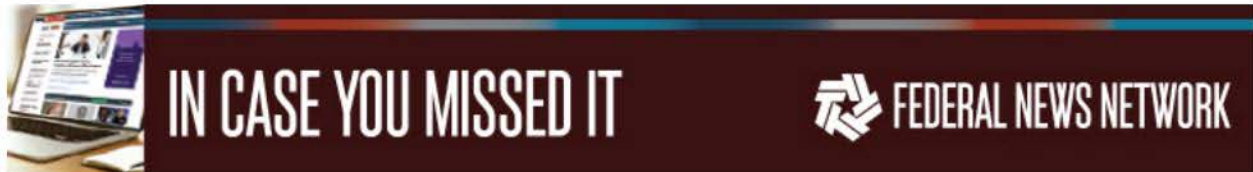
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From: Federal News Network
Sent: Thu, 5 Aug 2021 12:52:17 -0400 (EDT)
To: Graham, Barney (NIH/VRC) [E]
Subject: ICYMI - DHS CIO highlights ways to strengthen cyber workforce under IT modernization strategy



August 05, 2021

HIRING/RETENTION



DHS CIO highlights ways to strengthen cyber workforce under IT modernization strategy

DHS Chief Information Officer Eric Hysen said the much-anticipated Cyber Talent Management System will serve as the driving force behind his top-tier priority of investing in the department's IT workforce.

HIRING/RETENTION



After 15 years of Best Places to Work, data findings consistently point to engagement needs

In an analysis of 15 years of Best Places to Work agency scores, researchers from the Partnership for Public Service and Boston Consulting Group made what they called a business case for strong employee engagement.

FEDERAL NEWSCAST



Navy's top doctor says may be time to require COVID-19 vaccine for service members

In today's Federal Newscast, the Navy surgeon general says he favors a vaccine mandate for military members.

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For Defense, continuous modernization requires data, algorithms, and new business approaches

At the DOD's Joint Artificial Intelligence Center, LMI is creating a common ontology for data-related cost elements of transport platforms. Such groundwork enables the application of AI to lifecycle costing and predictive maintenance, Wilson said.

PEOPLE



Accenture's Gebre to be nominated to lead OFPP

Biniam Gebre has spent the last four years working for Accenture Federal Services leading the management consulting division.

CYBERSECURITY



Coast Guard to study authorities as lead agency for maritime sector cybersecurity

The Coast Guard's latest cyber strategy focuses on growing threats to the U.S. system of ports, waterways, shorelines and other maritime infrastructure.

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Learn how Accenture helped USDA make it easier for people to get the information and services they need with a data-driven, customer-centric approach.

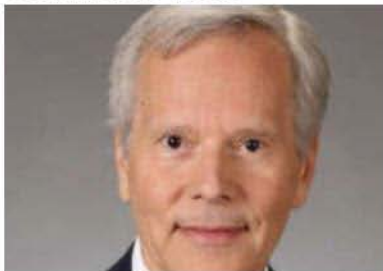
DEFENSE



Service members are the most frequent victims of identity theft

Scamming of military members has become big business, and it's one of the fastest growing areas of cybercrime.

CONTRACTING



A look into the world of federal contracting protests

As detailed as solicitations and procurement rules might be, protests are a regular part of the federal contracting scene. Joseph Petrillo, attorney at the law firm Smith Pachter McWhorter, provided some analysis on the topic.

Advertisement



Demand had never been higher for security experts with advanced technical skills in Governance, Risk and Compliance.

Find out from 20 security leaders how CAP distinguishes them as experts in risk management. Learn more.

FEDERAL REPORT



October COLA reveal will jolt many retirees

A higher January COLA could mean the nation is in for an extended period of higher inflation.

Partnership



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From: ATARC News
Sent: Thu, 05 Aug 2021 07:05:59 -0600
To: Graham, Barney (NIH/VRC) [E]
Subject: Senators Introduce Cybersecurity Bill to Strengthen Critical Infrastructure

ATARC: DailyBrief- August 5, 2021

Upcoming ATARC Events:

August 10, 2021

ATARC 2021 Cloud Virtual Summit

Don't miss the ATARC 2021 Cloud Virtual Summit on August 10, 2021 from 10 AM-12:15 PM EDT. During this information sharing event subject matter experts will dive into the topic of cloud in the Federal government. In what ways does accelerating cloud modernization through migration benefit the Federal government? Where do these experts see the future of cloud and data headed? What new technologies will drive the future of Federal cloud modernization? Tune in to learn the answer to these questions and more.

Register and learn more- <https://learn.atarc.org/e/315131/event-atarc-2021-cloud-aug-/gchht/1433624042?h=nvekBo3nWsAW6mRRdbz6GZBAhtj7VZUHMub8xkUHQFU>

Working Group Meetings: August 5, 2021

August 5, 2021, 5G Working Group Call, 12:30-1 PM EDT

August 5, 2021, Metrics: Measuring DevOps Transformation and Managing Performance Working Group Call, 2-3 PM EDT

August 5, 2021, AI and Data Policy Working Group Call, 2:30-3 PM EDT

August 5, 2021, Low Code Development Working Group Call, 3:30-4 PM EDT

August 5, 2021, Blockchain Working Group Call, 4:30-5 PM EDT

August 5, 2021, ORION Working Group Call, 5-6 PM EDT

Federal IT News:

Senators Introduce Cybersecurity Bill to Strengthen Critical Infrastructure

MeriTalk

Senators introduced bipartisan legislation this week aimed to strengthen the United States' cybersecurity posture and protect the nation's Systemically Important Critical Infrastructure (SICI). The bill includes several key recommendations from the Cyberspace Solarium Commission (CSC).

Read more- <https://learn.atarc.org/e/315131/gthen-critical-infrastructure-/gchhw/1433624042?h=nvekBo3nWsAW6mRRdbz6GZBAhtj7VZUHMub8xkUHQFU>

Advisory Details How to Defend Container Tech from Crypto Miners

NextGov

U.S. cybersecurity agencies are following up on a warning of active Kubernetes exploitation by the Russian government with lengthy specifics on how to mitigate such cyberattacks, including from those trying to suck up victim resources to mine cryptocurrency.

Read more- <https://learn.atarc.org/e/315131/ntainers-crypto-miners-184259-/gchhy/1433624042?h=nvekBo3nWsAW6mRRdbz6GZBAhtj7VZUHMub8xkUHQFU>

ATARC Updates:

In this White Paper, read about the highlights and key discussion points that emerged during a recent webinar (held by ATARC in partnership with ServiceNow) on the topic of the 2021 American Rescue Plan Act, and its implications for agencies large and small – creating significant requirements to speed up America's recovery from the economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Read more- <https://learn.atarc.org/e/315131/ring-the-american-rescue-plan-/gchjl/1433624042?h=nvekBo3nWsAW6mRRdbz6GZBAhtj7VZUHMub8xkUHQFU>

If the overwhelming threat of the coronavirus pandemic temporarily reduced the mindshare of cybersecurity in the mind of the public, a spate of recent cyberattacks have brought issues around cybersecurity back to the forefront. In a recent roundtable panel, distinguished participants from both federal agencies and industry shared best practices to help agencies and their partners in industry respond to the challenge of adopting a Zero Trust model. Read about the shared successful strategies and other conversation highlights from this roundtable discussion here-

<https://learn.atarc.org/e/315131/deral-zero-trust-architecture-gchj3/1433624042?h=nvekBo3nWsAW6mRRdbz6GZBAhtj7VZUHMub8xkUHQFU>

Community Updates:

The Tradewind OTA Enterprise Office (operated by IN3), in conjunction with the Joint Artificial Intelligence Center (JAIC), will host a competitive process to seek object detection, classification, and tracking algorithm development applicable to midwave IR (MWIR) sensor/phenomenologies. This effort is intended to help understand how these algorithms perform in a larger Train, Test, Monitor, and Deploy enterprise level service model framework. Part of the competitive process will involve collaboration with existing rigorous T&E processes and protocols. Keep up to date on this initiative here- <https://learn.atarc.org/e/315131/1CrFYUDxbnG-qv4T-55XyMrrRth0Q8/gchj5/1433624042?h=nvekBo3nWsAW6mRRdbz6GZBAhtj7VZUHMub8xkUHQFU>

Community Events:

August 5, 2021 - Data for AI featuring Rick McFarland, CDO at LexisNexis -- 'Building a Star Trek AI for the Legal Industry? LexisNexis says, "Make It So."'-

<https://learn.atarc.org/e/315131/CLNTM4MXwy/gchj7/1433624042?h=nvekBo3nWsAW6mRRdbz6GZBAhtj7VZUHMub8xkUHQFU>

August 19, 2021- AI in Government featuring Brett Vaughan, Chief AI Officer & ONR AI Portfolio Manager at the US Navy — 'Rigging for AI: How the US Navy Embraces Digital and Masters AI'-

<https://learn.atarc.org/e/315131/CLNDM2OXwy/gchj9/1433624042?h=nvekBo3nWsAW6mRRdbz6GZBAhtj7VZUHMub8xkUHQFU>

August 19, 2021- AI in Government is hosting an IN PERSON Networking and Connect Event at Proper 21 (K St), Washington, DC! Tickets available-

<https://learn.atarc.org/e/315131/tickets-161913237853-aff-ATARC/gchjc/1433624042?h=nvekBo3nWsAW6mRRdbz6GZBAhtj7VZUHMub8xkUHQFU>

August 26, 2021 - Data for AI featuring Dr. Michael Flaxman, Spatial Data Science Practice Lead and Abhishek Damera, Data Scientist at OmniSci -- 'The Macroscopic Initiative - Building Planetary geoML with OmniSci'-

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From: ATARC News
Sent: Tue, 03 Aug 2021 06:35:27 -0600
To: Graham, Barney (NIH/VRC) [E]
Subject: HHS Developing Playbook to Overcome Artificial Intelligence Adoption Challenges

ATARC: DailyBrief- August 3, 2021

Upcoming ATARC Events:

August 10, 2021

ATARC 2021 Cloud Virtual Summit

Register today for the ATARC 2021 Cloud Virtual Summit on August 10, 2021, from 10 AM-12:15 PM EDT. In making plans to migrate to the cloud, agencies have to consider cloud security and usability compromises. Tune into this event to hear Federal topic experts discuss how agencies can scale their cloud infrastructure platforms and incorporate multi and hybrid cloud requirements. They will share their insights on the future of cloud and data in the Federal government and what technologies may get it there.

Register and learn more- https://learn.atarc.org/e/315131/event-atarc-2021-cloud-aug-gccm7/1429867682?h=xXnKWBZyDZo4t2S0W_mItuyNJf-vSbGpBAQhk9VWfn8

Federal IT News:

HHS Developing Playbook to Overcome Artificial Intelligence Adoption Challenges
GovernmentCIO Media

The Department of Health and Human Services is developing an artificial intelligence playbook to help teams overcome common obstacles and challenges that come with implementing AI technologies.

Read more- https://learn.atarc.org/e/315131/telligence-adoption-challenges/gccm9/1429867682?h=xXnKWBZyDZo4t2S0W_mItuyNJf-vSbGpBAQhk9VWfn8

Air Force testing microwave weapons to stop drones
FedScoop

The Air Force Research Lab wants to find new ways to stop potential drone attacks. Now it's turning to microwaves as one possible solution.

Read more- https://learn.atarc.org/e/315131/crowave-weapon-to-stop-drones-gccmc/1429867682?h=xXnKWBZyDZo4t2S0W_mItuyNJf-vSbGpBAQhk9VWfn8

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has been extended to No Later Than 8 AM EST on August 9, 2021.

Learn more- https://learn.atarc.org/e/315131/005-Announcement-Perceptor-pdf/gccmh/1429867682?h=xXnKWBZyDZo4t2S0W_mItuyNJf-vSbGpBAQhk9VWfn8

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August 19, 2021- AI in Government featuring Brett Vaughan, Chief AI Officer & ONR AI Portfolio Manager at the US Navy — 'Rigging for AI: How the US Navy Embraces Digital and Masters AI'-

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