

Zoom Seminar on the Omicron Variant

Susan: Hello Dr Hoffmann! My name is Susan. On behalf of the board of trustees, I want to thank you for taking your time to talk to us today. Before we go into other details, I'm just wondering whether you would answer a few general questions I've just collected from the attendees here.

Dr Hoffmann: You're most welcome Susan. Sure, I'd be happy to answer your questions. If we get more people informed with accurate information, we'll have a better handle on things.

Susan: Some people say that Omicron could be the end of the pandemic. What is your take on that?

Dr Hoffmann: It is possible. Omicron has a very high degree of transmissibility, but, in general, its symptoms are mild, so it could act as a "natural vaccine". If we see in the near future that the number of Delta cases decreases, this theory could be true.

Susan: Does the booster shot help guard against the Omicron infection?

Dr Hoffmann: Well, for example, we know that the Pfizer booster increases the number of neutralising antibodies by 25 times against the Omicron variant as compared to only two doses.

Susan: What other preventative measures would you advise?

Dr Hoffmann: Get your booster shot if you already had the other two. If you haven't got your vaccines, it's time to get them. Steer away from large gatherings. If you test positive but are asymptomatic, stay home for at least 5 days regardless of your vaccination status.

Susan: Thank you very much, Dr Hoffmann. This is very helpful!

Dr Hoffmann: My pleasure, Susan.