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Should You Get Vaccine After Covid Infection?

The CDC is out with a new study that found 57 percent of Americans, including 75 percent of children and adolescents, have COVID-19 antibodies. They've been infected. Although the study says nothing about T-cell protection, there's an interesting footnote. The CDC says "the findings might underestimate the number of...infections because infections after vaccination might result in lower" titers of antibodies.

Apparently, antibodies are lower in vaccinated people who got breakthrough infections than in unvaccinated people who got infected. Thus, this may suggest higher vulnerability to reinfection. Another new study finds that unvaccinated individuals who've been previously infected have 85 percent protection against getting Covid again. So, do you need the shot?

"Seroprevalence of Infection-Induced SARS-CoV-2 Antibodies—United States, September 2021-February 2022," Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR), CDC, April 26, 2022: <https://bit.ly/3kqmM3N>

"Nucleocapsid antibody positivity as a marker of past SARS-CoV-2 infection in population serosurveillance studies: impact of variant, vaccination, and choice of assay cut-off," Heather J Whitaker, et al, medRxiv, posted October 26, 2021: <https://bit.ly/3KrOCXN>

"Rates of COVID-19 Among Unvaccinated Adults With Prior COVID-19," Jessica P. Ridgway, MD et al, JAMA, April 20, 2022: <https://bit.ly/3OM2uj5>

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