

# The Latest



SCHOOL OF  
PUBLIC HEALTH



## Clearing the Air: Study Provides New Evidence that COVID-19 Spreads Easily Through Singing and Talking

A new study led by Dr. Kristen Coleman, a senior research fellow at Duke-NUS Medical School who is joining the SPH faculty this fall, found that a group of COVID-19 patients emitted infectious virus particles through fine aerosols. Singing emitted the highest amount of the virus overall, followed by talking, then breathing.



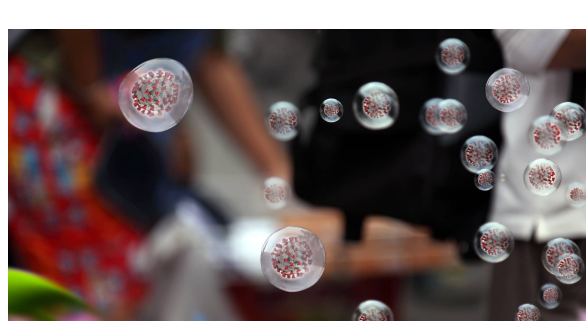
## Delta Has Changed the Game; It's Time To Embrace a National Vaccine Verification System

In this *Baltimore Sun* Op-Ed, Neil Sehgal highlights the importance of implementing a trusted and accessible national vaccine verification system in light of the Delta variant of COVID-19.



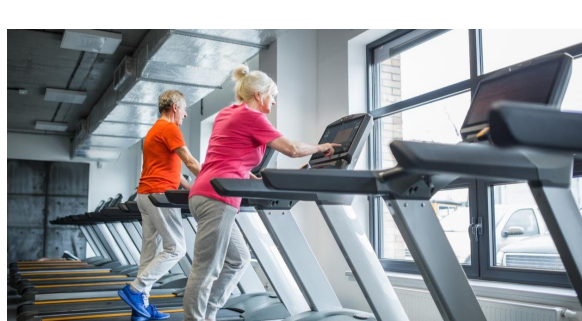
## Sacoby Wilson Appointed to EPA Science Advisory Board

With a dual appointment to the EPA Environmental Justice Science Committee, Sacoby Wilson will join other experts across scientific disciplines to provide advice to EPA leadership.



## Undark Interview: Donald Milton on Aerosol Transmission of COVID-19

Don Milton discusses his early efforts to warn health agencies that COVID-19 is airborne and its repercussions, and what we might do to better prepare for the next pandemic.



## Exercise Intervention in Older Adults Improved Brain Function Related to Memory

J. Carson Smith and his research team explored the effects of exercise on brain function, finding that exercise can increase brain connectivity related to memory and may help older adults at risk of Alzheimer's disease.



## 7th Annual UMD Environmental Justice and Health Disparities Symposium

Join the Center for Community Engagement, Environmental Justice and Health for the 7th UMD Symposium on Environmental Justice and Health Disparities where researchers, community organizers and policy makers join together to take on issues of food sovereignty, climate justice, energy equity, law and policy. This year's event will also include sessions on gender and reproductive justice, Indigenous human rights, health disparities in the prison system and more! Cecelia Martinez, Senior Director for Environmental Justice at the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) will deliver the keynote address. [Learn more and register today.](#)

## PHILANTHROPY IN ACTION



## Help Support SPH Students Facing Economic Hardship

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, there are many students who are facing economic hardships due to work disruptions and illness among family members. Donations to the School of Public Health Student Emergency Scholarship Fund will help support these students in need and ensure they are able to remain in school and continue to pursue their public health education.

## STUDENT AND ALUMNI NEWS



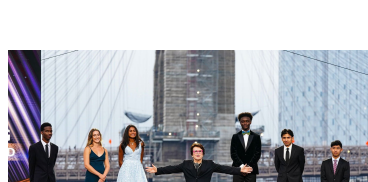
## US Gun Policy and Its Impact on Family Health

Deirdre Quinn, PhD '17 and Samuel Allen, PhD '20 spotlight gun violence in the US as a public health epidemic, offer a look into the status of gun violence prevention policies, detail how policies may be sparking more violence and provide recommendations for policymakers.



## New Student-Initiated Course Focuses on Kidney Disease

Debbie Adam '22 and Swarnapali Keppetipola '22, two rising University of Maryland seniors, are bringing their passion for kidney disease awareness and prevention to the School of Public Health with a new course, PHSC 388A "Special Topics in Public Health Science; Kidney Disease."



## Scoring Goals for Good

Holly Wilson '21 (Public Health Science) earned the ESPN Billie Jean King Youth Leadership Award for her work coaching and mentoring refugee youth in the D.C. area through L.A.C.E.S. (Life And Change Experienced thru Sports).



## Get Involved and Build Relationships This Fall

Our fall 2021 engagement opportunities including the [SPH Alumni Network Student and Alumni Mentor Program](#), [STEP Program: Students Transitioning into Effective Professionals](#) and [Fall 2021 SPH Student Engagement Fair](#) offer students and alumni opportunities to make connections, grow and give back. [Learn more about these programs and apply or register to join.](#)

## SPH IN THE NEWS

### Public Health Collides with Politics as Latest Wave of Mask Wars Take Off

The Washington Post | August 7, 2021  
Features UMD School of Public Health's Neil Sehgal

### Settlement Affords Citizen Panel in Colorado the Ability to Buy Air Monitors

KUNRI | August 5, 2021  
Features UMD School of Public Health's Sacoby Wilson

### How Contagious Is the Delta Variant?

The Wall Street Journal | July 30, 2021  
Features UMD School of Public Health's Donald Milton

### Maryland Hair Salons, Barbershops Lead Vaccination Efforts Among Black Community

WBUR | July 30, 2021  
Features UMD School of Public Health's Stephen Thomas

### A Vaccine with that Haircut? Barber Shops and the Fight Against COVID-19

Johns Hopkins Public Health on Call Podcast | July 28, 2021  
Features UMD School of Public Health's Stephen Thomas

### Rising Virus Rates in D.C., Alexandria Have Officials Considering Mask Mandates Anew

The Washington Post | July 29, 2021  
Features UMD School of Public Health's Neil Sehgal

### As Virus Cases Rise, Another Contagion Spreads Among the Vaccinated: Anger

NY Times | July 27, 2021  
Features UMD School of Public Health's Stephen Thomas

### Your Odds of a COVID 'Breakthrough' Infection Have Gone Up. That Doesn't Mean You Need to Panic

Business Insider | July 20, 2021  
Features UMD School of Public Health's Donald Milton

### Post-Holiday Blip or New Trend? COVID Cases Slowly Tick up Across the Region

The Washington Post | July 15, 2021  
Features UMD School of Public Health's Neil Sehgal

## HAPPY AND WELL



## The Well Terp

This week's tips include information on creativity and staying physically active.

Find tips for healthy and happy living in our weekly feature, The Well Terp.

[Read The Well Terp](#)



## Some Good News | SPH Staff Surprised with a Unique Theatrical Production

After a multi-year romance that started during her undergraduate years, SPH Academic Advisor Taylor Sanders was recently surprised with an engagement proposal of her dreams. Read more about Taylor and Dan's theatrical engagement, and share in their joy with photos that capture the entire production.

[Read Some Good News](#)

Our Happiness & Wellness Initiative shares "Some Good News" from the SPH and our extended community, inspired by SGN: Some Good News with John Krasinski. You can submit your own good news by email to: [happyandwell@umd.edu](mailto:happyandwell@umd.edu).

[Subscribe to the Happy & Well e-Newsletter](#)

## EVENTS

### 7th Annual UMD Environmental Justice and Health Disparities Symposium

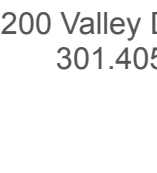
Thursday, August 19 — Saturday August 21 | 10:00 am - 6:00 pm EST

### Panel Discussion on Emergency Preparedness

Monday, September 13 | 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm EST

### Fall 2021 SPH Student Engagement Fair

Thursday, September 16 and Friday September 17 | 11:00 am - 2:00 pm EST



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