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Growing Number of COVID-19 Cases and Circulation of the Delta Variant Prompts Call to the Public to Get Vaccinated Sooner Rather Than Later

Dillon, MT., August 6, 2021—Barrett Hospital & HealthCare urges all unvaccinated residents 12 years and older to get vaccinated as soon as possible. The COVID-19 Delta variant is rapidly spreading across Montana with cases already reported in Beaverhead County.

"The COVID-19 Delta variant is spreading rapidly across the country accounting for about 80% of the new COVID infections. The areas with the most Delta variant cases are those with lower vaccine rates. Medical studies show that people who have completed the two dose vaccine series from Moderna or Pfizer, have about 88-90% effectiveness against the new Delta strain. A more staggering medical study shows that 99.5% of the deaths from the new Delta strain are in unvaccinated people. I would urge those who have not yet been vaccinated to reconsider and get vaccinated. The vaccine will not only protect you but will also protect your loved ones and our community," said Dr. Greg Moore, Chief Medical Officer, Barrett Hospital & HealthCare.

Barrett Hospital & HealthCare and local public health officials are very concerned of community transmission, especially among unvaccinated people. In part, this is due to the widespread COVID-19 Delta variant, which is substantially more transmissible than previous forms of the COVID-19 virus.

Vaccines remain the most powerful tool in the fight against COVID-19, including the Delta variant. Getting vaccinated against COVID-19 helps prevent severe illness, hospitalization, and death; it also helps reduce the spread of the virus in communities. For more information on how to get a free vaccine, visit: www.facebook.com/Beaverhead-County-Public-Health-Department-103596501206480

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