

# *Cubans hopeful and alert in facing COVID-19*

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By Roberto Morejón

Cuba faces the last month of 2021 with a hopeful course of Covid-19 after a tense period, but with exhortations to sustain hygienic-sanitary provisions, while scientists look for new ways against variants of the disease.

The statistics on the pandemic caused by the new coronavirus continue to decline and on some days even show fewer than a hundred reports.

The territories where infections continue to be diagnosed are also being treated in a differentiated manner, in parallel to the screening of travelers from abroad, after the gradual opening of borders on November 15.

The drop in the number of respiratory illnesses is linked to the vaccination with the country's own antidotes, a benefit granted to almost 83 percent of Cubans, with Abdala, Soberana 02 or Soberana Plus, of indigenous creation.

But the hard-working and talented men and women of science and health personnel are NOT confident.

After six months of receiving the three doses of the vaccines, the booster injection of the general population with a dose of Abdala began in four Havana municipalities.

The process, scheduled for gradual extension, offers a reassuring expectation to Cubans, without implying the abandonment of moderation.

Antillean scientists, who pointed out that they are working on the design of specific vaccines, are well aware of the discovery of the SARS-Cov-2 omicron variant.

Cuba takes note of the World Health Organization's recommendation to increase vigilance in the face of an enemy for which insufficient data are available.

Earlier this month, the Caribbean nation adopted new practices to deal with the spread of omicron and reinforced previously established sanitary rules concerning travelers from certain countries.

Internally, it would be a mistake for citizens to consider removing masks or reducing the required physical distance.

Although in the last month of the year, Cubans note that there are fewer patients in critical and serious states due to COVID-19 compared, for example, to last August, when there were more than 300, nothing advises to avoid caution, because the new normality requires responsible behavior.

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