

Covid

My latest challenge is getting **Covid 19** on **12-31-2021**.

I try to do everything right; got both vaccine shots and the booster. Always wore my mask to grocery stores, doctors apts., etc. I knew I was not 100% safe when this new variant Omicron started spreading. And I do believe the scientists who say that omicron is milder than the other strains, especially if you are vaccinated/including booster. That is accurate for most people. But due to my history of 5 not-so-good cancers (including lung cancer), I am very different.

It hit me like a brick that day. Every muscle in my body was hurting. My throat swelled up where I could not eat or drink even small quantities of food or water. On a scale of 1-10 the pain level was at 9 anytime I tried to swallow a sip of water or food. I went to the hospital in very bad shape. I had to get fluids in me asap. I told them my vaccination history and I think they were somewhat surprised to see the severity of the omicron variant.

When they understood my history, they wanted to try a new antibody treatment for the Omicron variant called Sotrovimab, which is new to the US and Canada. It is rarely used today because it is in extreme short supply. One other Phoenix man on the news had it (also vaccinated w/booster) and it saved his life. He also had pre-existing conditions. So, I signed the paperwork and I got it via an IV. The doctor did come to me after and said you were very wise to get all 3 shots. Had you not done that I don't think the antibody treatment alone would save you.

The effects of Covid were very bad on me. I lost control of bodily functions (very bad), could not eat or drink without pain, coughing excessively, and felt like I could do nothing. It took about 7-8 days of horrible Covid effects for me to turn the corner. But I am glad I did. Total isolation in my room even today. Without my family's support, I am not sure what I would have done. We have a table outside my door where food and water are exchanged when needed. I am starting to feel better in about 8 days. I, and others still do not know if there are any long-term effects with Omicron

I will stay isolated until I test negative for the virus, approx. 3 weeks. This variant is so easily transmitted that I have to be sure I don't spread it to any family or friends. Right now, this variant is spreading wildly and breaking records.

I am sharing this experience to help others. No one should feel 100% safe. Each person and each case are different. Decide what is best for you, and the people around you. This Covid and its variants could go on for years. Listen to the Science.