

Threat of delta variant looms large in unvaccinated South | NBC

By Denise Chow and Erika Edwards

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Dr. Rachael Lee is still haunted by memories of the last surge.

She recalled emotional weeks in January when cases of Covid-19 peaked in Alabama, threatening to overwhelm her hospital in Birmingham. In the months since, the situation in her city — and across the United States — has improved significantly, but Lee can't help but feel a new looming sense of dread.

"I think it's hard for some people to understand that this has not gone away," said Lee, an assistant professor of medicine at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. "And it's easy to forget that we're seeing the spread of these variants, and the delta variant in particular."

[...]

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