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Social distancing, masks still necessary after getting COVID-19 vaccine: Fauci

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Dr. Anthony Fauci said Sunday it will still be necessary to social distance, wear masks and take other COVID-19 precautions after a vaccine becomes available to Americans.

"I would recommend to people to not to abandon all public health measures just because you've been vaccinated," Fauci told CNN anchor Jake Tapper on "State of the Union."

"Because even though for the general population it might be 90 to 95 percent effective, you don't necessarily know for you how effective it is."

The Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases added that once he receives a vaccine, he still won't feel comfortable completely letting down his guard.

"I can feel more relaxed in essentially not having the stringency that we have right now, but I think abandoning it completely would not be a good idea," Fauci said.\



Dr. Anthony Fauci Getty Images