



To: CAHAN San Diego Participants

Date: October 26, 2021

From: Public Health Services

Health Advisory Update #42: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Vaccine Update: Expanded Eligibility for COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Doses

Key Messages

- After [authorization](#) by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have expanded the [recommendations](#) for booster doses to include Moderna and Johnson and Johnson/Janssen (J&J) COVID-19 vaccines as well as heterologous (mix and match) dosing.
- A Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA) on the recent updates to COVID-19 booster doses was held on Tuesday, October 26, 2021 and will be posted [here](#).

Situation

On October 20, 2021, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) expanded the emergency use authorizations (EUA) for the [Moderna](#) and the [Johnson and Johnson/Janssen \(J&J\)](#) COVID-19 vaccines to allow for use of a single booster dose. The expanded EUAs also allowed for heterologous (mix and match) dosing between the primary series vaccine and the booster; this allowance was also added to the [Pfizer vaccine EUA](#). On October 21, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a [statement](#) in support of these changes. These recommendations have been endorsed by the [Western States Scientific Safety Review Workgroup](#).

Vaccine Booster Dose Recommendations

- **Certain people who received Pfizer or Moderna vaccines** for their primary series **should** receive a single vaccine booster dose **at least 6 months** after completing the series. The booster can be either of the mRNA or J&J vaccines.
 - Individuals age 65 years and older.
 - Individuals residing in a long-term care facility.
 - Individuals age 50 through 64 years with [underlying medical conditions](#) or at increased risk of social inequities.
- In addition, the following groups **may** receive a booster dose based on individual benefits and risks:
 - Individuals age 18 through 49 years, with [underlying medical conditions](#) or at increased risk of social inequities.
 - Individuals age 18 through 64 years, who are at increased risk for SARS-CoV-2 exposure and transmission because of occupational or institutional setting.
- **All persons who received a J&J COVID-19 vaccine** should get a single vaccine booster dose **at least 2 months** after their initial J&J dose. The booster can be J&J or either of the mRNA vaccines.
- Note that the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine booster dose is a half dose (50 µg of antigen in 0.25 mL) compared to the Moderna primary series.

- The Pfizer and J&J booster doses are equivalent to doses in each primary series (Pfizer, 30 µg of antigen in 0.3 ml; J&J, 5×10¹⁰ virus particles in 0.5 mL).
- Individuals may choose which of the three authorized vaccines they would like to receive if they are eligible for a booster dose.
- The CDC has updated its COVID-19 vaccine [clinical considerations](#) and will be releasing a *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* (MMWR) on the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations.
- On Tuesday, October 26, 2021, CDC hosted a live webinar: *What Clinicians Need to Know About the Recent Updates to CDC's Recommendations for COVID-19 Booster Vaccination*. A recording of the activity will be available [here](#).

Actions Requested

1. Follow recommendations for booster doses of Pfizer, Moderna, and J&J vaccines as indicated above. Self-attestation by patients that they are eligible is acceptable for vaccine boosters. A reference table on COVID-19 additional doses and boosters follows this CAHAN.
2. Remain up-to-date on COVID-19 vaccine [clinical considerations including contraindications and precautions](#).
3. Providers should consider co-administering COVID vaccines with other vaccines such as seasonal influenza vaccine.
4. Report vaccine-related adverse events and deaths and vaccine administration errors to the [Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System \(VAERS\)](#), and to the County Immunization Program at IZINFO.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov or by fax at (619) 692-5677.

Resources

- [People with Certain Medical Conditions | CDC](#)
- [Who Is Eligible for a COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Shot? | CDC](#)
- [Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine EUA Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers \(fda.gov\)](#)
- [Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine EUA Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers \(fda.gov\)](#)
- [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine EUA Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers \(fda.gov\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Booster Vaccines \(ca.gov\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Questions & Answers \(ca.gov\)](#)

Thank you for your participation.

CAHAN San Diego

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COVID-19 Vaccines, Additional Dose, and Booster

Vaccine Brand	Dose & Recommended Timeline	Timeline	Age			
			12-17	18-49	50-64	65+
Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty)	Primary 2-doses	at least 21 days after the 1 st dose	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Additional (3 rd) dose* for immunocompromised	at least 28 days after 2 nd Pfizer dose	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Booster dose**	at least 6 months after 2 nd Pfizer dose				✓
	Booster dose** Long-term care facility resident	at least 6 months after 2 nd Pfizer dose		✓	✓	✓
	Booster dose** Underlying medical condition or increased risk of social inequities	at least 6 months after 2 nd Pfizer dose		may receive	✓	✓
	Booster dose** High risk of severe COVID-19 or increased risk of exposure from work or institutional setting	at least 6 months after 2 nd Pfizer dose		may receive	may receive	✓
Moderna	Primary 2-doses	at least 28 days after the 1 st dose		✓	✓	✓
	Additional (3 rd) dose* for immunocompromised	at least 28 days after 2 nd Moderna dose		✓	✓	✓
	Booster dose**	at least 6 months after 2 nd Moderna dose				✓
	Booster dose** Long-term care facility resident	at least 6 months after 2 nd Moderna dose		✓	✓	✓
	Booster dose** Underlying medical condition or increased risk of social inequities	at least 6 months after 2 nd Moderna dose		may receive	✓	✓
	Booster dose** High risk of severe COVID-19 or increased risk of exposure from work or institutional setting	at least 6 months after 2 nd Moderna dose		may receive	may receive	✓
Janssen/Johnson & Johnson	1 dose			✓	✓	✓
	Booster dose**	at least 2 months after primary Janssen/Johnson & Johnson dose		✓	✓	✓

Table updated on October 25, 2021

*An [additional dose](#) is recommended by the CDC for moderately to severely immunocompromised people four weeks after receiving the second Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine. An additional dose is needed because immunocompromised people sometimes do not build enough protection after the first two doses.

A [booster dose](#) six months after the second dose is recommended by the CDC for ages 65+ and certain high-risk groups, and available for other age ranges where COVID-19 exposure or serious disease is more likely. Since one's immunity to COVID-19 may wane over time, a booster dose is needed to maintain longer protection. **Mix and Match: Individuals may receive a booster dose of any of the available COVID-19 vaccines following completion of primary vaccination of a different COVID-19 vaccine. The recommendations by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention now allow for this type of mix and match dosing for booster shots.

Please check the [COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility webpage](#) for updates to this table.

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