

**Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH)
Alabama Emergency Response Technology (ALERT)
Health Alert Network (HAN)
September 29, 2021**

Clarification on Physician Order and mRNA Vaccine Attestation Form Use

COVID-19 Vaccination for Pregnant People to Prevent Serious Illness, Deaths, and Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes from COVID-19

The Alabama Department of Public Health is providing clarification on the statement included in the September 24 HAN ALERT, "*Effective immediately, a physician's order or completion of the mRNA Vaccine Attestation Form is no longer needed for Booster or Additional 3rd Doses.*" This statement only applies to providers who will be sending "immunocompromised patients" to external locations for the 3rd additional dose or intend to send persons meeting eligibility criteria for the Pfizer booster, to other vaccination sites. The intent of this statement was to remove a potential barrier by discontinuing the written order requirement or the use of the COVID-19 Vaccine Attestation Form requirement. This statement is not intended to imply that a physician order is not required for vaccine administration. It does not cancel or negate any AL Board of Pharmacy or Alabama Board of Medical Examiners requirements. The statement above refers to the language in the Aug 16, 2021, HAN ALERT that follows:

"For persons who will be referred to ADPH County Health Departments or other vaccination sites such as pharmacies for the 3rd mRNA dose, patient attestation via the completion of a form at the vaccination site (checking the qualifying condition will be required) or alternatively an order/prescription from their physician indicating "3rd mRNA dose & Name of Qualifying Condition" is acceptable. If the name of the mRNA vaccine used for the initial series is known, please indicate this as "Pfizer" or "Moderna" instead of "mRNA"."

Link to full August 16, 2021 HAN Alert

https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/bcd/assets/adph_han_covid19_vaccine_immunocompromised_08-16-21.pdf

For more information, visit alabamapublichealth.gov

CDC HAN 453: COVID-19 Vaccination for Pregnant People to Prevent Serious Illness, Deaths, and Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes from COVID-19 -- September 29, 2021

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends urgent action to increase Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) vaccination among people who are pregnant, recently pregnant (including those who are lactating), who are trying to become pregnant now, or who might become pregnant in the future. CDC strongly recommends COVID-19 vaccination either before or during pregnancy because the benefits of vaccination outweigh known or potential risks.

Please view the full Advisory at https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/2021/pdf/CDC_HAN_453.pdf