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October 22, 2021, Time 1730 (5:30 PM EDT)
NH-HAN 20211022



COVID-19 Pandemic, Update # 47 *Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, and Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Dose Recommendations*

Key Points and Recommendations:

- On October 20th, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) updated the Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for the [Pfizer-BioNTech](#), [Moderna](#), and [Janssen](#) COVID-19 vaccines to use these vaccines as booster doses in certain persons; the updated EUAs also allow for heterologous (or “mix and match”) dosing for booster doses (but not for the primary series).
- On October 21st, the U.S. CDC issued updated booster dose [recommendations](#):
 - Persons who received their primary COVID-19 vaccine series with either the **Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna** vaccine, are able to receive a booster dose at least **6 months** after completion of their primary series, based on age and risk factors:
 - People 65 years of age or older **should** receive a booster dose.
 - People 18 years of age or older who live in long-term care settings **should** receive a booster dose.
 - People 50–64 years of age with [underlying medical conditions](#) **should** receive a booster dose.
 - People 18–49 years of age with [underlying medical conditions](#) **may** receive a booster dose, based on an individual’s own assessment of their risks and benefits.
 - People 18-64 years of age who are at [increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission](#) because of [occupational or institutional setting](#) **may** receive a booster dose, based on an individual’s own assessment of their risks and benefits.
 - Persons 18 years of age or older who received the single-dose **Janssen** COVID-19 vaccine **should** receive a booster dose (regardless of risk factors) at least **2 months** after completion of their first dose.
 - Note: limited data suggest that providing a booster dose at least 6 months after receipt of the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine may provide higher antibody boosting.
- The Moderna vaccine booster dose is a half-dose (50 mcg) – providers should pay close attention to a person’s indication for vaccination to ensure they receive the appropriate vaccine product at the appropriate dose to avoid vaccine administration errors.
- Heterologous dosing is allowed, and persons eligible for boosting can choose which COVID-19 vaccine product they receive as booster, regardless of the vaccine product received for their primary series (assuming there are no contraindications to use, such as anaphylaxis).
 - Note: limited data suggest that the single-dose Janssen vaccine (an adenovirus vector COVID-19 vaccine) followed by an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine may provide higher levels of antibody boosting compared to two doses with an adenovirus vector vaccine.

- CDC will update their [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines](#); providers should monitor this website for more details and information about CDC's recommendations.
- People can find vaccination locations (including sites offering a specific COVID-19 vaccine product) at www.vaccines.gov/search.
- For public health purposes, people are still considered "fully vaccinated" when they are at least 14 days beyond receipt of their second dose of either the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccines, or 14 days beyond receipt of the single dose Janssen vaccine.
- A CDC Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA) webinar is scheduled this Tuesday October 26th from 2:00 - 3:00 pm and can be accessed online at: https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2021/callinfo_102621.asp.
- NH Division of Public Health Services (DPHS) continues to host **Healthcare Provider and Public Health Partner** webinars the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from 12:00 – 1:00 pm (next call will be Thursday, October 28th):
 - Zoom link: <https://nh-dhhs.zoom.us/j/94059287404>
 - Call-in phone number: (646) 558-8656
 - Meeting ID: 940 5928 7404
 - Password: 353809

- For any questions regarding this notification, please call the NH DHHS, DPHS, Bureau of Infectious Disease Control at (603) 271-4496 during business hours (8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.).
- If you are calling after hours or on the weekend, please call the New Hampshire Hospital switchboard at (603) 271-5300 and request the Public Health Professional on-call.
- To change your contact information in the NH Health Alert Network, please send an email to DHHS.Health.Alert@dhhs.nh.gov.

Status: Actual
Message Type: Alert
Severity: Moderate
Sensitivity: Not Sensitive
Message Identifier: NH-HAN 20211022 COVI-19 Update 47
Delivery Time: 12 hours
Acknowledgement: No
Distribution Method: Email, Fax
Distributed to: Physicians, Physician Assistants, Practice Managers, Infection Control Practitioners, Infectious Disease Specialists, Community Health Centers, Hospitals, Hospital CEOs, Hospital Emergency Departments, EMS, Nurses, NHHA, Pharmacists, Laboratory Response Network, Manchester Health Department, Nashua Health Department, Public Health Networks, DHHS Outbreak Team, DPHS Investigation Team, DPHS Management Team, Northeast State Epidemiologists, Zoonotic Alert Team, Health Officers, Deputy Health Officers, MRC, NH Schools, EWIDS, Dialysis & Transplant Clinics, STD Clinics, Immunization Practices, Travel Centers, Influenza Sentinels, Urgent Care Centers, Ambulatory Surgical Centers, Walk-in Clinics, Poison Center, Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Centers, Long-Term Care Facilities, Community Mental Health Centers, Health Departments, Internal Medicine, Occupational Health, Gastroenterology, Schools and Daycare Providers, Regional Public Health Networks, Environmental Services, Family Planning Programs, Department of Corrections, Home Care Providers, Local and State Partners, Area Agencies

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