

### Do patient's need to show proof of eligibility for the third dose or booster?

Patients do **not** need to show proof of eligibility for the booster or third dose.

### Who Qualifies for this Third Dose of a COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine?

Currently, CDC is recommending that moderately to severely immunocompromised people receive an additional dose of the of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. This includes people who have:

- Been receiving active cancer treatment for tumors or cancers of the blood
- Received an organ transplant and are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- Received a stem cell transplant within the last 2 years or are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- Moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (such as DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome)
- Advanced or untreated HIV infection
- Active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids (i.e.,  $\geq 20$ mg prednisone or equivalent per day when administered for  $\geq 2$  weeks) or other drugs that may be classified as severely immunosuppressive

People should talk to their healthcare provider about their medical condition and whether getting an additional dose is appropriate for them.

- People with moderately to severely compromised immune systems are especially vulnerable to COVID-19 and may not build the same level of immunity to a 2-dose mRNA vaccine series compared to people who are not immunocompromised.
- This additional 3<sup>RD</sup> dose is intended to bring the level of immunity in an immunocompromised person up to the level of people without immunocompromise.

### When can severely immunocompromised people receive the third dose?

- CDC recommends that people with moderately to severely compromised immune systems receive an additional dose of the same mRNA COVID-19 vaccine at least 28 days after a second dose of [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine](#) or [Moderna COVID-19 vaccine](#)

### Is there an age limitation for severely immunocompromised people requesting the third dose?

- The ages included in this recommendation are the same as for the initial vaccine series and authorized under an emergency use authorization (EUA). Pfizer-BioNTech may be used for qualifying patients ages **12 and up** while Moderna may be used in patients 18 and up.

### What should immunocompromised people who received the J&J/Janssen vaccine do?

- There is no additional dose for the J&J vaccine at this time.

### Can immunocompromised people mix and match the vaccines?

- For people who received either Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine series, the CDC recommends that a third dose of the same mRNA vaccine should be used.
- If the mRNA vaccine product given for the first two doses is not available or is unknown, the CDC states that either mRNA COVID-19 vaccine product may be administered.

### What do we do if someone walks in for a 3<sup>rd</sup> dose and they don't have their vaccine card and don't remember when they received their 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> dose? Can we still take them?

- Have a documenter look the patient up and pull in vaccination information from CAIR.
- Have the patient try to look it up on: <https://myvaccinerecord.cdph.ca.gov/>
- If the patient has made every effort to locate their vaccination information, and are unable to get a copy or replacement of their vaccination card, and still need an additional dose, – tell the patient that the CDC recommends 3<sup>rd</sup> dose at least 28 days (4 weeks) after a second dose.
- Ask the patient if they believe it has been at LEAST 4 weeks since the second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine series. If yes, OK to proceed.

### Who qualifies for a Pfizer vaccine booster?

A “booster” provides a “boost” to the immune system for those individuals who have normally functioning immune systems and are already fully vaccinated. **Boosters have been authorized** by the FDA and CDC for a limited patient population, and **ONLY** for patients who received **Pfizer** COVID-19 vaccine series.

Patients 65 years of age and older.

Patient is a resident of a long-term care facility.

Patient is 18 through 64 years of age and is a worker in one of the following higher institutional or occupational risk industries: Healthcare, first responder, teacher, daycare staff, grocery, homeless shelter or prison.

Patient is 18 through 64 years of age and has one or more of the following condition(s) that puts them at the highest risk for extreme complications from COVID-19:

- Cancer, either treatment or history of
- Chronic kidney disease
- Chronic lung disease (i.e. chronic obstructive pulmonary disease – COPD including emphysema and bronchitis, moderate to severe asthma, interstitial lung disease or idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, cystic fibrosis with or without organ transplant, or pulmonary hypertension)
- Dementia or other neurological conditions (i.e. Alzheimer's Disease)
- Diabetes type 1 or 2
- Down syndrome
- Heart conditions (i.e., heart failure, coronary artery disease, cardiomyopathies or hypertension)
- HIV infection

- Immunocompromised state
- Liver disease (i.e. alcohol-related, fatty liver including cirrhosis, scarring)
- Overweight and obesity (i.e. elevated BMI > 25kg/M2)
- Pregnancy or recently pregnant within 42 days of delivery
- Sickle cell disease or thalassemia
- Smoking – current or former cigarette smoker
- Solid organ or blood stem cell transplant, including bone marrow transplant
- Stroke or cerebrovascular disease Substance use disorders (i.e. alcohol, opioid, cocaine use)

### When can those who qualify for a Pfizer Booster receive the third dose?

- CDC recommends that a Pfizer booster at least 6 months after a second dose of [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine](#).

### What do I do if I do not qualify for a booster (Pfizer) or third dose (Pfizer or Moderna for immunocompromised)?

**So, if you do not have one of the immunocompromised conditions listed above or meet the criteria for a booster, you are not eligible to receive a third dose or a booster at this time.** The CDC will provide notification when we are authorized to begin providing boosters additional populations. As soon as we receive word from the CDC and CDPH, we will notify staff, physicians and the community of the booster's availability and any criteria that must be met to receive the extra shot.

### What about a booster if I received Moderna or J&J vaccine, and not Pfizer?

**The most recently approved booster is only for those people who received their original 2-dose series from Pfizer.** Moderna has applied to the FDA and CDC for consideration of a booster and J&J has not yet applies. As soon as we receive word from the CDC and CDPH, we will notify staff, physicians and the community who received Moderna from us as to the availability and any criteria.