



COVID-19 Vaccination

3rd Dose Information

Who is Eligible?

As of August 18, 2021 the following people are eligible for a 3rd dose of Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine through SCPH:

The CDC has defined this eligible population to include:

- Individuals undergoing active treatment for cancer (solid tumor and hematologic malignancies).
- Individuals who have received a solid-organ transplant and are taking immunosuppressive therapy.
- Individuals who have received a CAR-T-cell or hematopoietic stem cell transplant (within two years of transplant or taking immunosuppression therapy).
- Individuals with moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (e.g., DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome).
- Individuals with advanced or untreated HIV infection.
- Individuals undergoing active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids (i.e., ≥ 20 mg prednisone or equivalent per day), alkylating agents, antimetabolites, transplant-related immunosuppressive drugs, cancer chemotherapeutic agents classified as severely immunosuppressive, tumor-necrosis (TNF) blockers, and other biologic agents that are immunosuppressive or immunomodulatory.

Important Information

An additional dose of messenger RNA (mRNA) COVID-19 vaccines now can be administered to a small group of **immunocompromised individuals** following completion of a primary mRNA vaccine series, according to the U.S. Food & Drug Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Other fully vaccinated individuals do not need an additional vaccine dose at this time.

The purpose of this additional dose is to strengthen the immune response when the initial immune response to the primary two-dose vaccine series is likely to be insufficient, according to the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)

ACIP recommended Friday that an additional dose be recommended at least 28 days following completion of the primary vaccination series for qualifying immunocompromised individuals age 12 and older who have received the Pfizer series and individuals age 18 and older who have received the Moderna series, according to the CDC's updated clinical considerations for COVID-19 vaccinations. At this time, an additional dose is not recommended after the single-dose Johnson & Johnson (Janssen vaccine). Further evaluation and guidance specific to the Johnson & Johnson vaccine is pending, according to the CDC panel.

"Immunocompromised people are at a much higher risk for severe outcomes from COVID-19 and may not develop a sufficient immune response from their primary vaccination series," said Dr. Bruce Vanderhoff, Director of the Ohio Department of Health. "These individuals have a reduced ability to fight infections and are particularly vulnerable now as the more contagious and more dangerous Delta variant is driving a surge in cases. This additional dose, combined with other prevention strategies including wearing face masks, avoiding crowds and maintaining physical distance, offers another important layer of protection for this small but important population."

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