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Subject: Expanded COVID-19 Booster dose recommendations to 16 and 17-year-olds December 9, 2021



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

This communication is being sent to all key contacts at provider organizations administering COVID-19 vaccine— please read this message in its entirety. Please feel free to share it with others in your organization who may benefit from the update. Note that all of our communications are archived on our [web site](#).

Dear Connecticut COVID-19 Vaccine Providers,

This morning the [Food and Drug Administration's \(FDA\) amended the emergency use authorizations \(EUA\)](#) for Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines authorizing use of a single booster dose for individuals 16 and 17 years of age at least six months after completion of primary vaccination with the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine. Subsequently the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky accepted those recommendations and released this [statement](#):

"Today, CDC is strengthening its booster recommendations and encouraging everyone 16 and older to receive a booster shot. Although we don't have all the answers on the Omicron variant, initial data suggests that COVID-19 boosters help broaden and strengthen the protection against Omicron and other variants. We know that COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective, and I strongly encourage adolescents ages 16 and 17 to get their booster if they are at least 6 months post their initial Pfizer vaccination series."

At this time, only the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is authorized and recommended for adolescents aged 16 and 17. More information will be available on CDC's website soon.

COVID-19 vaccine providers in Connecticut may begin administration of booster doses in line with the FDA emergency use authorization and CDC recommendations.

Thank you for everything you are doing to keep Connecticut residents safe and healthy!

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