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**Sent:** Wednesday, March 30, 2022 10:21 AM  
**Subject:** CDC Recommends Second COVID-19 Booster Dose



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

**March 30, 2022**

*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 our communications are archived on our web site.*

Dear Connecticut COVID-19 Vaccine Providers,

Yesterday, the [Food and Drug Administration authorized](#) and the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) recommended](#) a second booster dose of either the Pfizer-BioNTech or the Moderna COVID-19 vaccines for [certain immunocompromised individuals](#) 12 or older and all people over the age of 50. This second mRNA booster should be administered at least 4 months after receipt of a first booster dose of any COVID-19 vaccine. Additionally, adults who received a primary J&J (Janssen) vaccine and booster dose of J&J COVID-19 vaccine at least 4 months ago should now receive a second booster dose using an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine. More detailed information on the updated guidance will be available from the CDC [here](#).

Providers can begin implementing the new guidance immediately. Providers should also update their scheduling procedures and tools to reflect the new guidance to ensure that 2<sup>nd</sup> booster dose appointments are scheduled at the appropriate interval. Connecticut DPH continues to support patient self-identification and attestation as a sufficient basis for confirming that an individual is eligible for a second booster.

The Department of Public Health issued a [press release](#) regarding the second booster dose yesterday.

### **Rationale and Summary of Updated Guidance**

These updated recommendations acknowledge the increased risk of severe disease in certain populations including those who are elderly or over the age of 50 with multiple [underlying conditions](#), along with the currently available data on vaccine and booster effectiveness.

Data continue to show the importance of vaccination and booster doses to protect individuals both from infection and severe outcomes of COVID-19. For adults and adolescents eligible for a first booster dose, these shots are safe and provide substantial benefit. During the recent Omicron surge, those who were boosted were 21-times less likely to die from COVID-19 compared to those who were unvaccinated, and 7-times less likely to be hospitalized. CDC continues to recommend that all eligible adults, adolescents, and children 5 and older be [up to date](#) on their COVID-19 vaccines, which includes getting an initial booster when eligible.

For the CT DPH Immunization Program, visit: [Contact Us](#)

For the COVID-19 webpage, visit: [COVID-19 Vaccine Program](#)

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