

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Manisha Juthani, MD
Commissioner



Ned Lamont
Governor
Susan Bysiewicz
Lt. Governor

FACILITY LICENSING AND INVESTIGATIONS SECTION

BLAST FAX 2023-4

TO: All Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities

FROM: Manisha Juthani, MD, DPH Commissioner

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Barbara Cass, R.N. Senior Advisor for Long Term Care
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DATE: January 23, 2023

SUBJECT: Increasing COVID-19 Vaccination Rates Among Nursing Home Residents

The risk of severe illness and death from COVID-19 increases exponentially with age. [Recent data](#) show that adults aged 65-74 are 5 times more likely to be hospitalized and 60 times more likely to die because of COVID-19 and those aged 85+ are 15 times more likely to be hospitalized and 340 times more likely to die from COVID-19.

Currently, [COVID-19 vaccines are working well](#) to prevent severe illness, hospitalization, and death. However, COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness wanes over time and the emergence of new variants further emphasizes the importance of vaccination and boosters. The bivalent booster provides the best available protection against COVID-19.

In consideration of the health and safety of all residents and staff in the long-term care setting, the Connecticut Department of Public Health (CT DPH) is encouraging all long-term care facilities to continue their efforts of keeping their residents and staff [up to date](#) with their COVID-19 vaccine. Starting January 20, 2023, CT DPH will display staff and resident vaccination data reported by nursing homes in the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) system on the [COVID-19 in Nursing Homes](#) page. Data will be updated weekly.



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Additionally, CT DPH is pleased to announce that skilled nursing facilities can host a mobile clinic van to offer convenient access to COVID-19 vaccines for residents and staff. Long term care facilities can request a van by visiting ct.gov/dph/mobilevaccines and completing this [intake form](#). To expedite these requests, for the question “What type of organization is this?” please select “Skilled Nursing Facility/Long Term Care Facility.”