



December 03, 2021

**HEALTH ADVISORY: COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters Recommended for All Adults**

Please distribute to the Chief Medical Officer, Internal Medicine and Family Medicine Departments, Director of Nursing, Pharmacy Director, and all primary care clinics

**To:** Healthcare Providers, Healthcare Facilities, Pharmacies, and Local Health Departments

**From:** New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), Bureau of Immunization

**Key points:**

Guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) regarding COVID-19 vaccinations and boosters is quickly evolving. Below is a high-level summary of the most current recommendations. Please continue to visit the Department's website for the latest information at: <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-vaccine-information-providers>

- COVID-19 booster doses are now recommended for all adults ages 18 years and older at least 6 months after completion of an mRNA primary series (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna) or at least 2 months after completion of a one-dose Janssen primary series as follows:
  - Pfizer-BioNTech 30 µg as 0.3 ml dose (same as the primary series dose).
  - Moderna 50 µg as 0.25 ml dose (**half of the dose used for the primary series**).
  - Janssen  $5 \times 10^{10}$  viral particles as 0.5 ml dose (same as the primary series dose).
- Heterologous (mix-and-match) booster doses can be administered for any of the COVID-19 vaccines authorized or approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Heterologous dosing may be considered for the booster dose only; all doses in the primary series should be completed with the same vaccine product.
  - When using a heterologous booster dose, the interval is determined by the vaccine received for the primary series.
- Adults age 18 years and older who received a complete primary series of a COVID-19 vaccine that is listed for emergency use by the World Health Organization (WHO) but neither authorized nor approved by the FDA should receive a booster dose of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after completing their primary series. As of December 2, 2021, the WHO lists the following COVID-19 vaccines for emergency use:
  - Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines (e.g., COMIRNATY, Tozinameran)\*
  - Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) COVID-19 vaccine\*
  - Moderna COVID-19 vaccine\*
  - AstraZeneca-Oxford COVID-19 vaccines (e.g., Covishield, Vaxzevria)
  - Sinopharm Beijing Institute of Biological Products (BIBP) COVID-19 vaccine
  - Sinovac-Coronavac COVID-19 vaccine
  - Bharat Biotech BBV152 COVID-19 Vaccine (COVAXIN)

\* Also authorized by the FDA

- The NYSDOH strongly encourages healthcare providers who do not already offer COVID-19 vaccine to their patients to enroll in the COVID-19 vaccine program.
  - Enrollment information for NYS outside of New York City (NYC) is located at <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-vaccine-information-providers> under the “How to Order” section.
  - Enrollment information for NYC is available at <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-providers-vaccines.page> in the “Become a Vaccine Provider” section.

**Resources:**

- Additional detailed information on COVID-19 vaccine use in NYS is available at the November 8, 2021 [Guidance for the New York State COVID-19 Vaccination Program: Vaccination of Children Ages 5-11](#) and the November 30, 2021 [Guidance for the New York State COVID-19 Vaccination Program](#) for ages 12 and up.
- For additional questions about vaccines or immunization recommendations, contact the NYSDOH Bureau of Immunization via email at [immunize@health.ny.gov](mailto:immunize@health.ny.gov) or by phone at (518) 473-4437.