

Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health

Marcus J. Molinaro
County Executive



Livia Santiago-Rosado, MD, FACEP
Commissioner

Public Health Advisory

Friday, October 7, 2022 - 1 pm

BIVALENT COVID BOOSTERS APPROVED BY CDC AND FDA ***PFIZER AND MODERNA AVAILABLE IN DUTCHESS COUNTY***

With the onset of fall, the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health (DBCH) would like to remind healthcare providers:

- The FDA and CDC have approved and recommended use of the updated bivalent Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 boosters, which include the antigens present in the original vaccines, *plus* antigens specific to Omicron variants.
- The Pfizer vaccine is approved for those 12 years of age and older, and the Moderna vaccine is approved for those 18 years of age and older. **All eligible recipients who are at least two months out from their last dose or booster qualify to receive the updated booster vaccine, free of charge.**
- While more than 70% of Dutchess County residents completed their initial COVID-19 vaccine series, booster numbers lagged significantly in 2022. Now is the time for individuals to receive their updated COVID-19 booster shots. Healthcare providers are encouraged to remind their patients of the importance of being up-to-date on this and all vaccines.

Please note:

- DBCH offers the updated bivalent COVID-19 booster vaccines at its Family Health Clinic, located at the [Family Partnership Center](#), 29. N. Hamilton Street, Suite 109, in Poughkeepsie. Individuals without access to a primary healthcare provider can call the clinic for an appointment at (845) 486-3535.
- Providers who have difficulty obtaining vaccine, or who may require additional redistribution of vaccine, should contact Mario Gonzalez, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, at (845) 486-3534 or mgonzalez@dutchessny.gov.