

COVID-19 VACCINE “3RD DOSE” & FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

3 Dose Primary Series for Immunocompromised Patients.

- *A third dose of Pfizer or Moderna as part of the primary series is authorized for those who have undergone solid organ transplantation, or who are diagnosed with conditions that are considered to have an equivalent level of immunocompromise.*

Pfizer (EUA): at least 28 days after second dose for those 12 years of age and older

Moderna (EUA): at least 28 days after second dose for those 18 years of age and older

Johnson & Johnson: N/A

CDC’s definition of immunosuppression:

- Receiving active cancer treatment for solid tumors or hematologic malignancies
- Received an organ transplant and taking immunosuppressive therapy
- Received a CAR-T or stem cell transplant within the last 2 years
- Moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (e.g. DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome)
- Advanced or untreated HIV infection
- Active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids or other immunosuppressive drugs
 - ≥ 20 mg prednisone daily or equivalent for ≥ 2 weeks
 - Alkylating agents, antimetabolites, transplant-related immunosuppressives, TNF blockers, or other biologic agents that are immunosuppressive or immunomodulatory

Booster Dose

Pfizer (EUA):

6 + months after completed initial series (2 or 3-doses).

- ≥ 16 years of age

Moderna (EUA) (booster dose is ½ dose or 0.25mL):

6 + months after completed initial series (2 or 3-doses).

- ≥ 18 years of age

Johnson & Johnson (EUA):

2+ months after completed initial 1-dose series

- ≥ 18 years of age

“Mix and Match” (EUA):

- A single booster dose of any of the available COVID-19 vaccines may be administered after completion of a primary vaccination series (at least 2 or 6 months dependent on primary vaccine used) for adults ≥ 18 years of age. **If aged 16-17, Pfizer is the only authorized vaccine.**

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can patients get a booster from a different manufacturer?

A: Patients should not be mixing manufacturers within their primary series but patients ≥ 18 years of age **can** receive any of the available COVID-19 vaccines as their booster dose after their primary vaccination series. Patients aged 16-17 can only receive Pfizer as their booster dose. The timing of the booster dose is determined by their primary vaccine used (2+ months if Johnson & Johnson; 6+ months if Moderna or Pfizer).

Q: When can a patient with active COVID-19 infection receive the COVID-19 vaccine?

A: Patients admitted with COVID-19 should wait to be vaccinated, regardless of timing within the series, until they meet the criteria for discontinuing transmission-based precautions. This also applies to people who get COVID-19 before getting their second dose of vaccine. Patients who received monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma must wait 90 days after treatment to get vaccinated

Q: Can patients receive a COVID-19 vaccine at the same time as other vaccines?

A: The CDC states that COVID-19 vaccines and other vaccines may now be administered without regard to timing, including simultaneous administration. *Although data are not available for COVID-19 vaccines administered simultaneously with other vaccines, extensive experience with non-COVID-19 vaccines has demonstrated that immunogenicity and adverse event profiles are generally similar when vaccines are administered simultaneously as when they are administered alone.*

Q: Can patients who received one dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine, but are unable to complete the series due to contraindications, receive the J&J vaccine?

A: Yes. In limited, exceptional situations patients can receive the J&J vaccine at minimum of 28 days after the last dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine. More information available under the "Contraindications and precautions" section found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/covid-19-vaccines-us.html>

Q: What is the process for providing patients a third dose of the vaccine where appropriate?

A: Provider identification and ordering

Q: What vaccines are available for first doses while in the hospital?

A: Johnson & Johnson. Due to the inability to schedule second doses we are unable to offer first doses of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine at this time.

Q: Can patients who completed a Pfizer or Moderna 3-dose primary series receive a booster at 6 months?

A: Yes. Moderately and severely immunocompromised people aged ≥ 18 years who completed a 3-dose mRNA primary series should receive a single booster dose at least 6 months after completing their third dose. Ages 16-17 may received a single Pfizer booster dose at least 6 months after completing their third dose.

References:

1. Pfizer-Biontech COVID-19 Vaccine Information Fact Sheet. Revised December 9, 2021.
2. Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) of the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine. Revised November 19, 2021.
3. Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) of the Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine. Revised October 20, 2021.
4. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 2021. *COVID-19 Vaccination*. [online] <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/immuno.html>. Updated September 2, 2021.
5. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 2021. *COVID-19 Vaccines for Moderately to Severely Immunocompromised People*. [online] <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/immuno.html>. Updated September 2, 2021.
6. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 2021. *Quarantine & Isolation*. [online] <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/immuno.html>. Updated September 18, 2021.
7. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 2021. *Frequently Asked Questions*. [online] <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/immuno.html>. Updated September 28, 2021.
8. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 2021. *Vaccines & Immunizations*. [online] <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/covid-19-vaccines-us.html>. Updated December 10, 2021.
9. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 2021. *Infection Control Guidance*. [online] <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html>. Updated September 10, 2021.
10. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 2021. What Clinicians Need to Know About the Latest CDC Recommendations for Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Booster Vaccination. [online] https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2021/callinfo_092821.asp. Updated September 28, 2021.