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October 22, 2021, Time 1730 (5:30 PM EDT)  
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## COVID-19 Pandemic, Update # 47 *Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, and Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Dose Recommendations*

### Key Points and Recommendations:

- On October 20<sup>th</sup>, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) updated the Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for the [Pfizer-BioNTech](#), [Moderna](#), and [Janssen](#) COVID-19 vaccines to use these vaccines as booster doses in certain persons; the updated EUAs also allow for heterologous (or “mix and match”) dosing for booster doses (but not for the primary series).
- On October 21<sup>st</sup>, the U.S. CDC issued updated booster dose [recommendations](#):
  - Persons who received their primary COVID-19 vaccine series with either the **Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna** vaccine, are able to receive a booster dose at least **6 months** after completion of their primary series, based on age and risk factors:
    - People 65 years of age or older **should** receive a booster dose.
    - People 18 years of age or older who live in long-term care settings **should** receive a booster dose.
    - People 50–64 years of age with [underlying medical conditions](#) **should** receive a booster dose.
    - People 18–49 years of age with [underlying medical conditions](#) **may** receive a booster dose, based on an individual’s own assessment of their risks and benefits.
    - People 18-64 years of age who are at [increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission](#) because of [occupational or institutional setting](#) **may** receive a booster dose, based on an individual’s own assessment of their risks and benefits.
  - Persons 18 years of age or older who received the single-dose **Janssen** COVID-19 vaccine **should** receive a booster dose (regardless of risk factors) at least **2 months** after completion of their first dose.
    - Note: limited data suggest that providing a booster dose at least 6 months after receipt of the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine may provide higher antibody boosting.
- The Moderna vaccine booster dose is a half-dose (50 mcg) – providers should pay close attention to a person’s indication for vaccination to ensure they receive the appropriate vaccine product at the appropriate dose to avoid vaccine administration errors.
- Heterologous dosing is allowed, and persons eligible for boosting can choose which COVID-19 vaccine product they receive as booster, regardless of the vaccine product received for their primary series (assuming there are no contraindications to use, such as anaphylaxis).
  - Note: limited data suggest that the single-dose Janssen vaccine (an adenovirus vector COVID-19 vaccine) followed by an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine may provide higher levels of antibody boosting compared to two doses with an adenovirus vector vaccine.

- CDC will update their [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines](#); providers should monitor this website for more details and information about CDC's recommendations.
- People can find vaccination locations (including sites offering a specific COVID-19 vaccine product) at [www.vaccines.gov/search](http://www.vaccines.gov/search).
- For public health purposes, people are still considered "fully vaccinated" when they are at least 14 days beyond receipt of their second dose of either the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccines, or 14 days beyond receipt of the single dose Janssen vaccine.
- A CDC Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA) webinar is scheduled this Tuesday October 26<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 - 3:00 pm and can be accessed online at: [https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2021/callinfo\\_102621.asp](https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2021/callinfo_102621.asp).
- NH Division of Public Health Services (DPHS) continues to host **Healthcare Provider and Public Health Partner** webinars the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month from 12:00 – 1:00 pm (next call will be Thursday, October 28<sup>th</sup>):
  - Zoom link: <https://nh-dhhs.zoom.us/j/94059287404>
  - Call-in phone number: (646) 558-8656
  - Meeting ID: 940 5928 7404
  - Password: 353809

- For any questions regarding this notification, please call the NH DHHS, DPHS, Bureau of Infectious Disease Control at (603) 271-4496 during business hours (8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.).
- If you are calling after hours or on the weekend, please call the New Hampshire Hospital switchboard at (603) 271-5300 and request the Public Health Professional on-call.
- To change your contact information in the NH Health Alert Network, please send an email to [DHHS.Health.Alert@dhhs.nh.gov](mailto:DHHS.Health.Alert@dhhs.nh.gov).

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