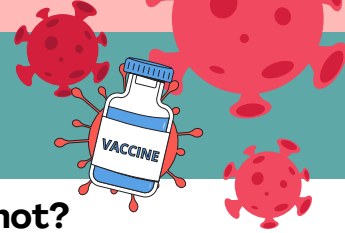


COVID-19 Third/Additional dose



What is the difference between a third/additional dose and a booster shot?

The difference between a third dose and a booster shot of COVID-19 is not due to differences in dosage, but differences in **eligibility** and **timing**.

The CDC recommends **third doses** for immunocompromised people at least four weeks after they receive their second vaccine of the Pfizer or Moderna mRNA shots. The CDC recommends all individuals 18+ years of age receive their booster shot, six months after their second dose for Pfizer or Moderna recipients, and two months after their single dose for JJ recipients.

Who is eligible to get a third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine?

Moderately to severely immunocompromised people ages **18 years and older** who completed their **Moderna** vaccine primary series should plan to get an additional primary dose 28 days after receiving their second shot. Moderately to severely immunocompromised people ages **12 years and older** who completed their **Pfizer-BioNTech** vaccine primary series should plan to get an additional primary dose 28 days after receiving their second shot.

This includes individuals with the following health conditions or receiving these treatments:

- People undergoing active treatment for cancer or cancers of the blood
- People who have received an organ transplant and are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- People who have received a stem cell transplant within the last 2 years or are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- People with moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (e.g., DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome)
- People with advanced or untreated HIV infection
- People who are receiving active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids or other drugs that may suppress your immune system

A [list of full conditions](#) can be found on the CDC's website. If you are unsure if you are recommended for a third dose, talk with your health care provider.

At this time, if you received the 1-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine you are not recommended to receive an additional primary dose of the COVID-19 vaccine but are recommended to get a booster shot at least 2 months after their single-dose.

Can I get any type of the COVID-19 vaccine for my third dose?

It is recommended that you receive the same brand of vaccine that you received for your first and second doses, either Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech.

Why do I need a third dose?

Immunocompromised individuals are especially vulnerable to COVID-19, and may not build the same level of immunity to 2-dose vaccine series compared to people who are not immunocompromised.

This additional dose is intended to improve immunocompromised people's response to their initial vaccine series.

I am immunocompromised, where can I get my third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine?

You can receive the booster dose from a healthcare provider of your choice. You do **not** need to receive the additional dose from the same location that you received your 2-dose series. To find a vaccination location near you, visit www.vaccines.gov.

ICHD COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic, dates and appointment times, visit: http://hd.ingham.org/coronavirus/r_1013.aspx

For information about the additional dose for immunocompromised individuals, visit the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website](#).