COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Expansion

November 29, 2021

On November 19, 2021, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended the expansion of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 and Moderna COVID-19 vaccination boosters. The ACIP previously recommended the use of mRNA COVID-19 vaccination boosters for individuals over 65 years of age and certain populations considered to be at increased risk for COVID-19.

All adults ages 18 years and older who received a primary mRNA COVID-19 vaccine series (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna) may receive a booster dose of any COVID-19 vaccine authorized or approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) at least six months after completing their primary vaccine series based on the individuals benefit and risk according to the new ACIP guidelines.

In addition, ACIP recommends a booster shot at least six months after completing their primary mRNA COVID-19 vaccine series for:

- Persons ages 50 years and older
- Residents ages 18 years and older in long-term care settings

Furthermore, ACIP continues to recommend the following:

- Persons ages 18 years and older who received a Janssen COVID-19 vaccine primary series should receive a single COVID-19 vaccine booster dose (Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna or Janssen) two months after their Janssen primary dose.
- Moderately or severely immunocompromised persons ages 12 years and older (Pfizer-BioNTech recipients only) or 18 years and older (Moderna recipients) should receive an additional primary dose of the same mRNA COVID-19 vaccine.
- Pregnant persons can receive any of the currently FDA approved or FDA-authorized COVID-19 vaccines as a booster dose.

These booster dose recommendations also apply to all persons, 18 years of age and older, who received two doses of different mRNA COVID-19 vaccine products for their primary series.

For additional information on COVID-19 vaccine boosters, visit:

- Updated Interim Clinical Considerations
- Booster webpage