



Androscoggin Valley Hospital
North Country Home Health & Hospice Agency
Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital
Weeks Medical Center

Information Regarding COVID-19 Third Doses and COVID-19 Booster Shots

Who Needs an *Additional* COVID-19 Vaccine?

Please note – this is a third dose, not a booster shot

Currently, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) is recommending that moderately to severely immunocompromised individuals who have already received the Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine (***this does not apply to the Johnson & Johnson vaccine***), and who have one or more of the conditions listed below, receive an additional dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Conditions include:

- Active cancer treatment for tumors or cancers of the blood
- An organ transplant recipient who is taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- A stem cell transplant recipient (within the last two years) or one who is taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- Moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (such as DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome)
- Advanced or untreated HIV infection
- Active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids or other drugs that may suppress the immune response
- 2nd dose was greater than 28 days ago.

Individuals are encouraged to talk to their healthcare provider about their medical condition, and whether getting an additional dose is appropriate for them.

Who Is Eligible to Receive a COVID-19 *Booster* Vaccine?

Eligible patients are individuals **who received their second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine at least six months ago and who meet at least one of the below criteria:**

- Are age 65 or older
- Live in a long-term care facility
- Are age 18 or older and have an [underlying medical condition](#) that could put them at higher risk of severe COVID-19. Eligible medical conditions include, but are not limited to:
 - Cancer
 - Down syndrome
 - Cerebrovascular disease, such as stroke, dementia
 - Obesity
 - Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, Cystic fibrosis, Pulmonary HTN

- Moderate to Severe Asthma
- Diabetes mellitus, type 1 and 2
- Heart condition, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, or cardiomyopathies
- Chronic kidney disease
- Cirrhosis
- Pregnancy and recent pregnancy
- Current or former smoker
- Are age 18 or older and work in a location that puts them at high risk of exposure to COVID-19. This includes:
 - Essential workers, such as healthcare workers, teachers, day-care staff, and first responders
 - Caregivers of an immunocompromised individual
 - Individuals who live in a congregate living setting, such as a homeless shelter, prison, or assisted living facility

The FDA has NOT yet authorized a booster for those who received the Janssen/Johnson & Johnson vaccine or those who received the Moderna vaccine.