

Date: 11/2/2021

Subject: Guidance on COVID-19 Booster Doses and Booster Dose Volume

Dear Immunization Partners,

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), based on the CDC [Interim Clinical Considerations](#), would like to provide clarification on the recommendations for COVID-19 vaccine booster doses and heterologous COVID-19 vaccine booster doses.

On October 25, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released the updated *Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Approved or Authorized in the United States*.

The following groups who received an mRNA (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna) COVID-19 vaccine are eligible for a booster shot at 6 months or more after their primary series:

- 65 years and older
- Age 18+ who live in [long-term care settings](#)
- Age 18+ who have [underlying medical conditions](#)
- Age 18+ who work or live in [high-risk settings](#)

People aged 18 years and older who received the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) COVID-19 vaccine primary series should also receive a single COVID-19 vaccine booster dose two or months after their J&J primary dose.

There are now **booster** recommendations for all three available COVID-19 vaccines in the United States and a heterologous (mix and match) booster dose may be considered. Eligible individuals may choose which vaccine they receive as a **booster** dose. Some people may prefer the vaccine type that they originally received, and others may prefer to get a different vaccine product for the **booster**.

### Booster Dose Volume

Vaccine Manufacturer	Booster Volume
Pfizer-BioNTech	.3 mL
Moderna	.25 mL*
Janssen	.5 mL

\*This is half the amount used for the primary series and additional dose.

### Key Points Regarding a Mix and Match Booster Dose:

- CDC's recommendations now allow for a mix and match dosing approach for booster doses. **Mixing and matching of COVID-19 vaccine only applies to the booster dose.**

- If a mix-match approach is used for the booster dose, the interval should follow the interval recommended for the primary series.

**EXAMPLES:**

<p>For those that received an <b>mRNA</b> primary series, and meet booster dose criteria, and it has been six months since the second dose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May receive either Moderna (0.25 mL) or Pfizer (0.3 mL) <b>OR</b>,</li> <li>• May receive J &amp; J (0.5 mL)</li> </ul>	<p>For those that received J &amp; J as their primary single dose, are 18 years or older, and it has been two months since the dose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May receive J &amp; J (0.5 mL) <b>OR</b>,</li> <li>• May receive an mRNA vaccine, either Moderna (0.25 mL) or Pfizer (0.3 mL)</li> </ul>
--	--

- Any COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer, Moderna, J&J) can be used for booster vaccination regardless of the vaccine product used for primary vaccination.
- If the booster dose is given earlier than the recommended interval, the booster dose does **not** need to be repeated.

Millions of people are now eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine booster dose and will benefit from additional protection. It is also important to ensure that unvaccinated people take the first step and get an initial COVID-19 vaccine primary series. Encourage those still needing protection to get vaccinated.

**Recommendations for Immunocompromised People**

*Primary series doses and additional (third) doses should utilize the same product.*

This additional (third) dose guidance only applies to those who are immunocompromised and received the initial two-dose mRNA COVID-19 primary series, (Pfizer or Moderna).

- Immunocompromised individuals are recommended to receive an additional (third) dose of an mRNA (Pfizer or Moderna) vaccine **28 days or more after their second dose** in the two-dose primary mRNA vaccine series.
- Immunocompromised individuals who received their two-dose mRNA primary series and the additional (third) mRNA vaccine are **recommended to receive any COVID-19 vaccine booster** (Pfizer, Moderna, or Johnson & Johnson) dose six months or more after the additional (third) mRNA vaccine dose.
- Immunocompromised individuals who received **Johnson & Johnson** are not recommended for an additional (third) dose. They are **recommended to receive a booster dose**. Give any COVID-19 vaccine booster (Pfizer, Moderna or Johnson & Johnson) dose two or more months after the initial Johnson & Johnson dose.

**Resources:**

- [Clinical consideration for use of a COVID-19 vaccine booster dose.](#)

- Information on preventing, reporting, and managing COVID-19 vaccine administration errors is found in [Appendix A](#).
- Vaccine administration errors should be reported to the [Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System \(VAERS\)](#).

Thank you for all your hard work to protect Michiganders from vaccine-preventable diseases!

**The Immunization Nurse Education Team,**  
*Andrea, Dianne, Heidi, Sarah, and Terri*