

COVID-19 Booster Shot – Do I Need One?



WHAT IS A BOOSTER SHOT?

A vaccine booster shot is administered after the initial (primary) doses of a vaccination to help build back up immunity that might have decreased over time. Essentially, booster shots you help maintain protection against the virus.

WHAT BOOSTER SHOTS ARE AVAILABLE?

Currently, the FDA and CDC have only recommended a booster shot for the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for certain individuals, including long term care residents and staff.

Those individuals who received the Moderna or the Johnson & Johnson/Janssen vaccines are not currently eligible to receive a booster. However, this may change as the data continues to be reviewed.

WHO CAN GET A BOOSTER SHOT?

The CDC recommends the following individuals who completed the primary series of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for the booster shot:

- People 65 years and older
- Residents in long term care settings
- People aged 50–64 years with [underlying medical conditions](#)
- People aged 18–49 years with [underlying medical conditions](#) based on their individual benefits and risks
- People aged 18–64 years who are at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of occupational or institutional setting (e.g., workers in long term care) based on their individual benefits and risks

WHEN SHOULD I GET MY BOOSTER SHOT?

Individuals who qualify can get their COVID-19 booster any time six (6) months after they received their second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine.

HOW CAN I GET MY BOOSTER SHOT?

Ask your long term care facility. They may be organizing on-site clinics or can help you in finding a local vaccine provider.