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DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
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Technical Bulletin

Date: October 22, 2021
Topic: COVID Vaccine Booster Doses for Janssen/Johnson & Johnson (J&J) and Moderna
Contact: Susan Vilardi, RN, Nevada State Immunization Program
To: All Health Care Providers and Facilities; Pharmacists; Local Health Authorities

Background

On October 20 and 21, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) met to discuss the recent booster dose recommendations for both the Moderna and Janssen/J&J Covid-19 vaccines.¹ The Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) authorization and CDC's recommendation for use are important steps towards keeping Americans safe.

There are now booster recommendations for all three available COVID-19 vaccines in the United States. **Eligible individuals may choose which vaccine they receive as a booster dose.** Some people may prefer the vaccine type they originally received, and others may prefer to get a different booster. CDC's recommendations now allow for this type of mix and match dosing for booster shots.

Available data show all three of the [COVID-19 vaccines approved or authorized in the United States](#) continue to be [highly effective](#) in reducing risk of severe disease, hospitalization, and death, even against the widely circulating [Delta variant](#). Vaccination remains the best way to protect yourself and reduce the spread of the virus and help prevent new variants from emerging. **CDC and ACIP emphasized that the nation's priority should remain getting everyone fully vaccinated with their primary series.**

Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Dose Amendment to Emergency Use Authorization (EUA):

The **Moderna COVID-19 vaccine booster dose is 0.25ml** administered intramuscularly into the deltoid muscle.² Eligible individuals who received a primary series of the Moderna vaccine are recommended to receive a booster dose **six months after completing a two-dose primary series with Moderna.** Eligible populations for the Moderna vaccine booster dose include:

- People who are 65 years or older
- People who are 18 years or older and are residents in long-term care settings
- People who are 50-64 years with underlying medical conditions or at increased risk of social [inequities](#)
- People who are 18-49 years with underlying medical conditions
- People who are 18-64 years with increased risk of getting COVID-19 disease due to occupational or institutional exposure

¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/p1021-covid-booster.html>

² **Dose is 50mcg** which is half of full 100mcg dose administered in the primary series. The same Moderna COVID-19 vaccine formulation is used for both the primary series and the booster dose.

Any individual receiving a booster dose of the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine, regardless of the vaccine product they received for their initial dose/series, should receive the 0.25ml dosage.

Janssen/J&J COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Dose Amendment to EUA:

The **Janssen/J&J COVID-19 vaccine booster dose is 0.50ml** administered intramuscularly into the deltoid muscle to **any individual ages 18 years or older at least 2 months after receiving their initial dose of the Janssen/J&J COVID-19 vaccine.**

All those age 18 and older who received the Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) COVID-19 vaccine should receive a booster dose of COVID-19 vaccine.

Underlying Medical Conditions/Comorbidities:

- Cancer
- Cerebrovascular disease including Stroke (CVA)
- Chronic kidney disease (CKD)
- COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease), Asthma
- Other lung diseases including interstitial lung disease, pulmonary fibrosis, pulmonary hypertension
- Cystic Fibrosis (CF)
- Diabetes mellitus, type 1 and type 2
- Heart conditions (heart failure, coronary artery disease (CAD), or cardiomyopathies), Hypertension
- Overweight (BMI>25kg/m² ,30 kg/m²), Severe Obesity (BMI >30kg/m²-<40kg/m²)
- Morbid Obesity =to or >40kg/m²
- Pregnancy and recent pregnancy
- Down syndrome
- HIV (human immunodeficiency virus)
- Neurologic conditions, including dementia
- Blood Disorders such as Sickle cell disease (SCD) and Thalassemia
- Solid organ or blood stem cell transplantation
- Substance use disorders- e.g., alcohol, opioid, cocaine, etc.
- Immune deficiencies
- Use of corticosteroids or other immunosuppressive medications
- Smoking, current and former
- Liver disease, including Cirrhosis, Hepatitis, and nonalcoholic fatty liver disease

Providers administering booster doses of COVID-19 vaccines should check the patient's CDC COVID-19 Vaccine Card and/or search for the patient's record in [Nevada WebIZ](#) to ensure the appropriate time period has passed before administering a booster dose (i.e., 6 months following a mRNA series completion or 2 months following a J&J dose).

Providers are also encouraged to stock and administer seasonal flu vaccines, which can be safely coadministered with any COVID-19 vaccine.

Questions:

For updated guidance, please review the DPBH Technical Bulletin [website](#) and Nevada's health response [website](#) regularly. Email dpbhccovid19vax@health.nv.gov with questions.



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