



## UPDATE! COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Eligibility

On Friday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, the CDC updated its guidance for COVID-19 vaccination for **people who are moderately or severely immunocompromised**:

- Immunocompromised persons who have completed a primary series of an mRNA vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna) are recommended to receive an mRNA booster dose **3 months (instead of 5 months)** after the last primary dose.
- Immunocompromised persons who have received a single **J&J COVID-19 vaccine** should receive one additional dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine and one booster dose (preferably mRNA) for a **total of 3 vaccine doses**.

The CDC also clarified that **immunocompromised persons who have completed their primary series of 3 mRNA doses should receive an mRNA vaccine booster dose—to make a total of 4 doses**.

**Also, for those who previously received passive COVID-19 antibody products, the CDC no longer recommends a waiting period prior to COVID-19 vaccination.**

*It is recommended that healthcare providers proactively outreach to all patients who are eligible for a booster with information about their eligibility, locations for receiving booster doses, and instructions for how to make an appointment/walk-in.*

*In addition, providers should not miss any opportunity to vaccinate the unvaccinated or provide boosters, by offering vaccine during routine or nonroutine visits to medical offices, clinics, pharmacies, and hospitals. **Note that AFL 21-20.1 recommends that GACHs and APHs offer COVID-19 vaccinations and booster doses to eligible individuals prior to discharge.***

**Vaccines and COVID-19 testing:** Diagnostic tests, such as PCR and antigen, are NOT affected by vaccination. Providers should continue to follow testing recommendations in patients with COVID-19 symptoms, regardless of how recently they received a dose of COVID-19 vaccine.