

COVID-19 FAQs
3.1.2022

Q: Are immunocompromised employees required to have the 4th COVID shot?

From the COVID-19 Response Team

A: People with moderate to severe Immune compromised status should follow the recommendations for the safety and efficacy of Covid vaccination which includes a 3rd dose 28 days after the 2 dose mRNA vaccine series and a booster dose three months following the 3rd dose. Employee Health would not have knowledge of an employee's moderate to severe immune compromised status unless it was shared with them and they would recommend to follow the CDC recommendations for the vaccine.

In accordance with our COVID-19 vaccine policy, employees are required to get a booster according to the updated state mandate.

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Order-of-the-State-Public-Health-Officer-Health-Care-Worker-Vaccine-Requirement.aspx>

Q: Now that we are at surge level 1, when checking in patients, does the front office team need to wear face shields?

From the COVID-19 Response Team

A: No matter the surge level, we will continue to require that staff wear eye protection when interacting with patients. Most front office areas have plexiglass separating staff from patients/visitors which doubles as eye protection. If you do not have plexiglass separating staff from visitors in the front office, staff will need to continue to wear eye protection, such as face shields or goggles for their safety and protection. We will update everyone when eye protection is no longer needed.

Q: What happens if an employee does not get their COVID-19 vaccine booster?

From the COVID-19 Response Team

A: If an employee does not get their COVID-19 vaccine booster, the employee would be violating our policy requiring all health care employees to be fully compliant with vaccines and boosters. Therefore, this employee would need to decide if they want to continue staying employed in AltaMed and agree to policy or not.

Q: I would like to know from a previous email we received that states you may either submit a medical or religious exemption. Are religious exemptions now being considered since the last time it was not an option?

From the COVID-19 Response Team

A: Religious exemptions are not accepted. Only medical.

Q: What is the protocol when encountering fake/fraudulent COVID-19 vaccine records?

From the COVID-19 Response Team

A: Fake/ fraudulent COVID-19 vaccine records are not accepted in AltaMed. The protocol, as with all fraudulent actions includes a policy violation. Therefore, this violation would require a discussion with the employee on whether or not the employee would want to continue being employed in AltaMed. As with all policy violations, a progressive write-up, including termination, will be considered.