



# Thinking About Getting a **Second COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Dose**

In March 2022, CDC updated its COVID-19 vaccination guidance to say that certain groups of people *may* get second boosters. If you're in one of those groups, it's up to you whether or not to get a second booster right now, based on the benefits and risks the vaccine may provide to you. Your healthcare provider can help you review your options.

Here are factors to think about as you consider a second booster.

## 1. Are you eligible?

Right now, you're eligible for a 2nd COVID-19 booster if you're:

- 50 years of age and older *and* received an initial booster at least 4 months ago.
- 12 years of age and older *and* moderately or severely immunocompromised *and* received an initial booster at least 4 months ago
- Received 2 doses of Janssen vaccine at least 4 months ago

## 2. Are you (or is someone you live with) more likely to get very sick?

Certain factors can make it more likely someone will get very sick from COVID-19. It may be helpful to get a second booster now if you are (or if someone you live with is):

- Moderately or severely immunocompromised
- More likely to get very sick from COVID-19
- More likely to be exposed to COVID-19 through your job, where you live, or other factors (such as frequent travel or large gatherings)
- In an area with medium to high COVID-19 community levels
- Or if someone you live with is unvaccinated.

## 3. Can you wait?

You may consider waiting to get a second booster if you:

- Had COVID-19 within the past 3 months
- Feel that getting a second booster now would make you not want to get another booster in the future (a second booster may be more important in fall of 2022, or if a new vaccine for a future COVID-19 variant becomes available).

## If you get a second booster:

- Make sure it's been at least 4 months since your last COVID-19 booster.
- Remember that second boosters can only be Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech (and for 12-17 year-olds, only Pfizer-BioNTech).
- You can self-attest that you have a moderately or severely weakened immune system. This means you do not need any documentation that you have a weakened immune system to receive COVID-19 vaccines (including boosters) wherever they're offered.

## CDC References and Resources:

COVID-19 by County [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html)

Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Approved or Authorized in the United States: [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/interim-considerations-us.html](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/interim-considerations-us.html)

Interim COVID-19 Immunization Schedule for Ages 5 Years and Older:

[www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/downloads/COVID-19-immunization-schedule-ages-5yrs-older.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/downloads/COVID-19-immunization-schedule-ages-5yrs-older.pdf)

People with Certain Medical Conditions

[www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html)

U.S. COVID-19 Vaccine Product Information: [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/index.html)

