Allegany COUNTY New York

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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To: Allegany County Media
From: Theresa Moore, Supervising Public Educator/Public Information Officer
Re: **COVID-19 Pfizer Booster Dose**
Date: September 29, 2021

News Release: COVID-19 Pfizer Booster Dose

On September 24, 2021, under the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) amended Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, the CDC issued recommendations for a single booster dose for:

- individuals 65 years of age or older
- long-term care facility residents
- Nursing homes
  - Assisted living facilities
  - Residential care communities
  - Group homes
  - Senior housing
- individuals age 50-64 with underlying medical conditions
- individuals age 18-49 with underlying medical conditions, based on individual benefit and risk
- individuals age 18-64 who are at an increased risk for COVID-19 exposure or transmission because of occupational or institutional setting.

For the purposes of booster dose eligibility, underlying conditions include:

- Cancer (current or in remission, including 9/11-related cancers)
- Chronic kidney disease
- Pulmonary Disease, including but not limited to, COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease), asthma (moderate-to-severe), pulmonary fibrosis, cystic fibrosis, and 9/11 related pulmonary diseases
- Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities including Down Syndrome
- Heart conditions, including but not limited to heart failure, coronary artery disease, cardiomyopathies, or hypertension (high blood pressure)
- Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) including but not limited to solid organ transplant or from blood or bone marrow transplant, immune deficiencies, HIV, use of corticosteroids, use of other immune weakening medicines, or other causes
  - *Does not apply to those moderately to severely immunocompromised who are already covered under the eligibility for additional doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 Vaccines 28 days after their second dose, as authorized by the FDA on August 12, 2021*

- Severe Obesity (BMI 40 kg/m2), Obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 30 kg/m2 or higher but < 40 kg/m2)
- Pregnancy
- Sickle cell disease or Thalassemia
- Type 1 or 2 diabetes mellitus
- Cerebrovascular disease (affects blood vessels and blood supply to the brain)
- Neurologic conditions including but not limited to Alzheimer's Disease or dementia
- Liver disease

For the purposes of booster dose eligibility, ACIP gave the following examples of occupational and institutional settings:

- Essential workers (frontline and non-frontline) https://www.cisa.gov/publication/guidanceessential-critical-infrastructure-workforce
- Unpaid caregiver of a frail or immunocompromised person
- Paid and unpaid workers who interact within <6ft of others
- Live in a congregate setting (e.g. homeless shelter, correctional facility)

We ask that at this time, individuals do not mix vaccine types and if you have received Moderna or J&J for your initial vaccines that you wait patiently until such data is sufficient to approve booster doses for those vaccine types.

Please share this information with family and friends. For COVID-19 questions or for help with vaccine registration please call the Allegany County Department of Health at 585-268-9250.

Get Vaccinated!

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Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.