

Primary Care COVID-19 FAQs

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Immunization Comparison

What is the comparison between natural immunity to individuals with the Covid vaccine primary series and individuals with the Covid vaccine primary series and a booster dose?

- It is important to note that individual levels of immunity vary. Data indicates that natural immunity from having recovered from a COVID-19 infection can allow for [90 days](#) of some level of immunity.

For individuals that have obtained the COVID-19 vaccine primary series, data indicates there is around [6 months](#) of immunity and that it wanes over time.

Data indicates that the COVID-19 vaccine booster provides [additional immunity](#) beyond the initial vaccine series. [Recent data](#) indicates that during the Omicron-predominant period, the vaccine effectiveness against reinfection was approximately 35% for the primary series and 68% for the primary series and a booster dose,

Vaccines

General Vaccine Information and Primary Series

If a patient is eligible for a primary dose or a booster dose, but was recently infected with COVID-19, when can they obtain that vaccine dose?

- Individuals that have tested positive for COVID-19 or have COVID-19 symptoms, should wait until they have recovered from illness and meet the appropriate [isolation guidelines per the CDC](#). Individuals with a known exposure should also wait until they meet the [quarantine guidelines per the CDC](#). The CDC does not advise any additional abstention period after completing the appropriate isolation and quarantine guidelines. Additional information can be found [here](#).

Which practices are providing vaccines for pediatric vaccines?

- The [Coronavirus page](#) on the MDH website includes a tool to find sites providing COVID-19 vaccines. This tool allows the user to filter by age bracket including an option to filter for sites administering vaccines for 6 mon-4-year-olds, 5-11-year-olds and 12-17-year-olds, and other groups.

Booster Doses

Who is eligible for an initial booster dose of the COVID-19 vaccine?

- The CDC now recommends that individuals that originally obtained Moderna or J&J for the primary series and are 18 years and older obtain a booster dose. Additionally, the CDC recommends that individuals that obtained Pfizer for the primary series and are 5 years and older obtain a booster dose. Timing and additional information on these booster doses can be found on the CDC website [here](#).

Further information on booster guidance can be found in this [COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Guide for PCPs](#).

Who is eligible for a second booster dose of the COVID-19 vaccine?

- The CDC recommends a second booster dose for all adults that are 50 years and older, as well as all adults that obtained J&J for their primary dose and first booster dose. The CDC guidance on eligible populations for a second booster dose can be found [here](#). The CDC does recommend that all individuals eligible for a second booster dose obtain an mRNA vaccine booster.

Further information on booster guidance can be found in this [COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Guide for PCPs](#).

What is the dosage for the Moderna booster if the individual originally obtained Pfizer or J&J?

- The dosage for the [Moderna COVID-19 booster is ½ dose](#) for everyone regardless of their initial COVID-19 vaccine type.

Third Doses and Booster Doses for Immunocompromised

What immunocompromised individuals are eligible for an additional dose of the COVID-19 vaccine?

- The CDC now recommends all [moderately-to-severely immunocompromised individuals](#) that are 6 months and older may be eligible for an additional dose. Immunocompromised pediatric populations ages 6 months to 4 years and have obtained Pfizer for the primary series do not need an additional dose. Immunocompromised pediatric populations ages 6 months to 11 years and have obtained Moderna are eligible for a third dose four weeks after the second dose. Immunocompromised pediatric populations ages 5 years to 12 years are also eligible for a third dose eight weeks after the second dose. Additional populations are eligible for a third dose and further information can be found on the CDC website [here](#).

Should immunocompromised individuals obtain a booster dose(s) in addition to their third dose?

- Some immunocompromised individuals are recommended to obtain a booster or two in addition to their third dose including individuals ages 5 years and older depending on the vaccine they obtained for the primary series. Additional information can be found on the CDC website [here](#).

Point-of-Care Testing

Is the state supplying point-of-care COVID-19 tests?

- Yes, primary care practices can request free point-of-care COVID-19 tests through the state. To submit your request, please fill out this [google form](#) and a staff member will follow up with you about your request.

COVID-19 Therapeutics

How soon can an individual be vaccinated for COVID-19 after receiving monoclonal antibody treatment?

- The CDC has recently updated its recommendations for COVID-19 vaccines after monoclonal antibody treatment. Individuals that have received monoclonal antibody treatment do not need to wait before obtaining a COVID-19 vaccine. Additional guidance and information can be found on the [CDC website](#).

What antiviral treatments are available to individuals under the age of 18?

- [Paxlovid](#) is an antiviral oral agent that is eligible for individuals that have mild-to-moderate COVID-19, are at high risk for progression to severe COVID-19, weigh at least 40 kg, and are at least 12 years old. [Molnupiravir](#) is only available for individuals that are at least 18 years old.

Which antivirals can be prescribed for pregnant or breastfeeding patients?

- Molnupiravir is not recommended during pregnancy. Breastfeeding is not recommended during the course of Molnupiravir treatment, but can be stopped for the course of treatment. For Paxlovid, there are patient-specific recommendations for pregnancy and breastfeeding, which are indicated in the Paxlovid FDA Fact Sheet.