



KIM JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street • Sacramento, CA 95814 • www.cdss.ca.gov



GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

June 22, 2022

PIN 22-20-ASC
(Supersedes PIN 22-06-ASC)

TO: ALL ADULT AND SENIOR CARE PROGRAM LICENSEES

FROM: ***Original signed by Kevin Gaines***
KEVIN GAINES
Deputy Director
Community Care Licensing Division

SUBJECT: **CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) VACCINE ADDITIONAL AND BOOSTER DOSES**

Provider Information Notice (PIN) Summary

PIN 22-20-ASC supersedes [PIN 22-06-ASC](#), dated February 3, 2022, and informs Adult and Senior Care (ASC) licensees about updated booster recommendations including the availability of a second booster dose of the COVID-19 vaccine and provides information on the latest vaccine resources.

Please post/keep this PIN in the facility where all persons in care and facility staff as well as families and representatives of persons in care in the facility can easily access it and distribute the PIN to persons in care and/or, if applicable, their representatives.

The Community Care Licensing Division (CCLD) of the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) wants to ensure ASC licensees are aware of new guidance in regard to COVID-19 vaccine second booster doses.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), studies show decreasing vaccine effectiveness against infection over time. It is important to ensure optimal immunity against infection, especially for older and disabled adults and persons in care in ASC facilities who are more vulnerable to severe infection. Recent

increases in COVID-19 cases in the community and in ASC facilities among people who completed their primary COVID-19 vaccine series over 6 months ago and received their first booster dose over 4 months ago may reflect waning immunity, highlighting an urgent need for COVID-19 vaccine boosters in this population.

Important! For guidance related to vaccination and booster requirements for facility staff, please see [PIN 22-05.1-ASC](#): Adult and Senior Care Facility Worker Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Vaccination and Booster Requirements.

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH (CDPH) COVID-19 BOOSTER INFORMATION

CDPH has a webpage to help keep you up to date on the latest vaccine booster information and resources: [CDPH COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Questions & Answers](#).

The CDPH webpage addresses vaccine booster topics including but not limited to the following:

- Who is eligible for booster vaccinations?
- What is the difference between boosters and additional doses for immunocompromised individuals?
- When should I receive a booster dose?
- Can I receive a booster dose before the recommended time frame?
- Is a booster dose the same amount of vaccine as doses in the original vaccine series?
- How does someone find and receive a booster dose?
- Can a person get a booster dose from a different manufacturer from their original series, or do they need to stay with the brand for their original supplier?
- Can I get multiple boosters?
- Does receiving a booster eliminate the need for further harm-reduction precautions?
- How do we know booster doses are safe?
- What side effects should be expected after receiving a booster dose?

Please share this webpage with persons in care, families, facility staff, and representatives of persons in care. Visit periodically for new and updated resources.

SECOND COVID-19 BOOSTER DOSE RECOMMENDATIONS

The CDC and CDPH strengthened [booster recommendations](#) on May 19, 2022. Individuals aged 50 years and older and people aged 12 years and older who are immunocompromised **should** receive a second booster dose using an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna) at least four (4) months after the first booster dose.

Individuals aged 18-49 years old who received two doses of the Janssen (Johnson &

Johnson) COVID-19 vaccine may receive a second booster dose of Pfizer or Moderna if at least four (4) months have passed since the second dose.

What are the benefits of a second booster?

Protection from the first booster may decrease over time. A second booster dose will safely help restore and enhance protection against severe COVID-19 illness, hospitalization, and death. Persons in care and staff who are aged 50 years or older or immunocompromised are at high risk of getting very sick from COVID-19 and may especially benefit from a second booster. The initial series of doses and first booster provide strong protection against severe COVID-19 illness and should be offered to those who have not yet received these doses.

How can licensees help eligible persons in care and staff get a second COVID-19 booster dose?

Many persons in care in ASC facilities received their first booster at the end of 2021 and are now eligible for a second booster. Licensees are encouraged to inform eligible persons in care and staff about the new recommendations and how to access a second booster ([MyTurn](#), [Vaccines.gov](#)).

ACCESSING VACCINES FOR AN ADDITIONAL BOOSTER DOSE

Licensees, facility staff, and persons in care may continue to use existing resources to access COVID-19 vaccines for an additional booster dose. These resources include:

- **MyTurn.** The CDPH website myturn.ca.gov provides vaccine registration, scheduling for vaccine appointments, and notification.
- **Vaccine Finder.** The CDC website [Vaccine Finder](#) provides nearby vaccine locations, including retail pharmacy locations.
- **Local Health Departments (LHDs).** [LHDs](#) may have information available about locations where COVID-19 vaccine is available in the local community. Please check your LHD's website for vaccine information.
- **Local Retail Pharmacies.** Pharmacies and grocery stores such as [CVS](#), [Walgreens](#), [Rite Aid](#), [Albertsons](#), [Safeway](#), and others offer COVID-19 [vaccination appointments](#).
- **Healthcare Providers.** The COVID-19 vaccine may also be available through healthcare providers such as hospitals, clinics, doctor's offices, and other locations. Individuals seeking vaccination through a private healthcare provider should consult with, or check the website for, their primary care provider.
- **Regional Centers.** Information about accessing the COVID-19 vaccine may also be available through the [Regional Center](#) for a person in care with an intellectual and/or developmental disability.
- **On-site Vaccination Options.** For greater convenience of facility staff and persons in care, facilities are encouraged to consider on-site vaccination options including by pharmacy partners and by local health departments. Pharmacy

partners include long-term care pharmacies (see Appendix B of the [Long-Term Care Facility COVID-19 Vaccine Toolkit](#) which includes pharmacy information by county) and [national federal pharmacy program participants](#).

An in-home visit or assistance with transportation to receive an additional booster dose is available. Please visit the [MyTurn](#) website for more information.

As a reminder, COVID-19 vaccines are free. For more information, visit the CDC webpage [COVID-19 Vaccines Are Free to the Public](#).

For additional details on COVID-19 vaccine access, refer to the [Long-Term Care Facility COVID-19 Vaccine Toolkit](#) which includes a flow chart to help facilities identify resources that fit their specific needs.

Important! If licensees still have difficulties and are unable to arrange COVID-19 vaccination from any of the above resources, please contact the CDPH call center for support:

Provider COVID-19 Call Center

Email: covidcallcenter@cdph.ca.gov

Phone: (833) 502-1245 Monday – Friday from 8 AM–6 PM

ADDITIONAL COVID-19 VACCINE BOOSTER DOSE RESOURCES

General Resources

- [EZIZ Resources for Long-Term Care Facilities](#)
- [Second COVID-19 Booster Dose FAQs for Long-Term Care Facilities](#)

Resources to Promote COVID-19 Boosters

- [Everyone Could Use a Boost](#) poster
- [Everyone in Long-Term Care Needs Protection Against COVID-19 and Influenza](#) poster | [Spanish](#) | [Tagalog](#)
- [Give Your Immunity a Boost](#) infographic for healthcare workers
- [Resources about COVID-19 Boosters](#) (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters](#) (CDC)

RESPONDING TO THE QUARTERLY LICENSEE SURVEY

Licensees are reminded it is important to continue responding to the Quarterly Licensee Survey CDSS sends out via Everbridge. The survey relates to COVID-19 vaccines, boosters and access.

If you have any questions, please contact your local [ASC Regional Office](#).