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GOVERNOR

October 11, 2022

PIN 22-29-ASC  
**(Supersedes PIN 22-20-ASC)**

TO: ALL ADULT AND SENIOR CARE PROGRAM LICENSEES

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

SUBJECT: **CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH (CDPH)  
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-  
19) VACCINES AND UPDATED BOOSTER DOSES**

**Provider Information Notice (PIN) Summary**

PIN 22-29-ASC supersedes [PIN 22-20-ASC](#), dated June 22, 2022, and informs Adult and Senior Care (ASC) licensees about CDPH resources on COVID-19 vaccines, including how to access COVID-19 vaccines for updated (bivalent) booster doses.

***Please post/keep this PIN in the facility where persons in care can easily access it and distribute the PIN to persons in care and, if applicable, their representatives.***

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend everyone stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccination, including all primary series doses and boosters for their age group. COVID-19 vaccines available in the United States are effective at protecting people from getting seriously ill, being hospitalized, and dying. As with other diseases, individuals are protected best from COVID-19 when they stay up to date with the recommended vaccines, including recommended boosters. It is important to ensure optimal immunity against COVID-19 infection, especially for older and disabled adults and long-term care facility residents who are more vulnerable to severe infection.

Updated COVID-19 boosters can both help restore protection that has decreased since previous vaccination and provide broader protection against newer variants. The updated, or bivalent boosters, target the most recent Omicron subvariants, BA.4 and BA.5, that are more contagious and more resistant than earlier strains of Omicron.

The Community Care Licensing Division (CCLD) of the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) wants to ensure ASC licensees are aware of the latest guidance and how to access COVID-19 vaccines and updated booster doses.

## **CDPH WEBPAGES ON COVID-19 VACCINES**

For the latest information and recommendations from CDPH on COVID-19 vaccines, please visit the following webpages:

- [CDPH COVID-19 Booster Doses](#)
- [CDPH COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Questions & Answers](#)
- [CDPH Get the Facts on COVID-19 Vaccines, Boosters, and Additional Doses](#)
- [Questions and Answers: Additional COVID-19 Vaccines Doses for People with Compromised Immunity](#)

The CDPH webpages address COVID-19 vaccine questions including but not limited to the following:

- Information on updated Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna bivalent boosters.
- What type of COVID-19 vaccine products are recommended.
- Who is eligible to receive a COVID-19 additional or booster dose.
- The difference between additional doses for immunocompromised individuals and booster doses.
- Where to get a COVID-19 additional or booster dose.

**Important!** Please check these webpages frequently to be up to date with guidance and subsequent changes, and share with persons in care, families, facility staff, and representatives of persons in care.

## **ACCESSING VACCINES FOR AN ADDITIONAL OR A BOOSTER DOSE**

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

- **MyTurn.** The CDPH website [myturn.ca.gov](https://myturn.ca.gov) provides vaccine registration, scheduling for vaccine appointments, and notification.
- **Vaccine Finder.** The CDC website [Vaccine Finder](https://www.cdc.gov/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](#).

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

**Important!** If licensees 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](mailto:covidcallcenter@cdph.ca.gov)

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

**On-site Vaccination by Pharmacies**

For greater convenience of facility staff and persons in care, facilities may be able to arrange for on-site vaccination by pharmacy partners, including twenty-one [national federal pharmacy program participants](#) and [long-term care pharmacies](#).

Licensees may contact their nearest participating pharmacy to learn which services, such as an on-site vaccination clinic, they are able to offer. The CDPH [Long Term Care Facility \(LTCF\) COVID-19 Vaccine Toolkit](#) includes a flow chart to help facilities identify resources that fit their specific needs.

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

The following resources are available online:

- **General Resources**

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

- **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](#).