



State of California—Health and Human
Services Agency
**California Department of
Public Health**



February 24, 2022

AFL 22-09

TO: All Facilities

SUBJECT: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Vaccine and Booster Recommendations for Clinically Eligible Individuals

All Facilities Letter (AFL) Summary

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) recommends facilities offer COVID-19 vaccinations and booster doses to clinically eligible individuals.

The circulation of more transmissible recent variants of the SARS-CoV-2 virus has led to surges in COVID-19 cases. The majority of COVID-19 hospitalizations and deaths are occurring in unvaccinated individuals. The emergence of the Omicron variant further demonstrates the importance of vaccination, boosters, and other prevention efforts, including testing and masking, to protect eligible individuals (patients/residents), staff, and the community from COVID-19.

This AFL reminds facilities of the importance of offering and encouraging COVID-19 vaccinations, including booster doses, to clinically eligible individuals, especially those at highest risk of morbidity and mortality, at all interactions across the healthcare continuum. The following three vaccines are authorized for use in the United States:

- Pfizer-BioNTech
- Moderna
- Johnson and Johnson [J&J]/Janssen.

The COVID-19 mRNA vaccines from Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna are preferred over the Janssen (J&J) COVID-19 vaccine. However, vaccination should not be delayed in order to offer a specific product.

COVID-19 booster doses help keep immunity strong and increase protection against COVID-19. Booster doses are **especially urgent** for those at higher risk of severe disease. COVID-19 boosters help broaden and strengthen the protection against the Omicron variant.

For assistance in obtaining future COVID-19 vaccinations and/or booster doses, clinically eligible individuals may be directed to the MyTurn or CDC Vaccines websites.

Additionally, for any facilities not already providing COVID-19 vaccines that are interested in becoming a COVID-19 vaccine provider, please visit myCAvax. For COVID-19 vaccine provider enrollment instructions, please visit California COVID-19 Vaccination Programs.

If you have any questions about this AFL, please contact the Healthcare-Associated Infections Program at HAIPProgram@cdph.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original signed by Cassie Dunham

Cassie Dunham

Acting Deputy Director

Resources:

- California COVID-19 Vaccination Programs
- CDC COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Shots
- CDC Guidance for Vaccinating Older Adults and People with Disabilities for Vaccination Sites
- CDC Vaccines
- CDPH COVID-19 Booster Vaccines
- myCAvax
- MyTurn

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