

COVID-19 Vaccine Reference Guide for all who are Immunocompromised

People who are immunocompromised are especially vulnerable to infections including COVID-19.

If you have any of the following medical conditions, you are considered moderately to severely immunocompromised and may benefit from an additional dose of COVID-19 vaccine.

This includes people who:

- » Are receiving active cancer treatment for tumors or cancers of the blood
- » Received an organ transplant and are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- » Received a stem cell transplant within the last 2 years or are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- » Have moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (such as DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome)
- » Have advanced or untreated HIV infection
- » Are receiving active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids or other drugs that may suppress the immune response

This list is not inclusive of all immunocompromising conditions, please speak with your medical provider to determine if additional doses would be beneficial to you. If you are immunocompromised, check out the chart below to see how many doses you are eligible to receive to stay protected against COVID-19:

<i>If you got...</i>	Age Group	Primary Series	Should I get an ADDITIONAL DOSE?
Moderna	6 months through 5 years old	Two doses administered 28 days apart	Yes, you should receive an additional dose 2 months after your initial dose .
	6+ years old	One dose administered	
Pfizer	6 months through 4 years old	Three doses: First two doses administered 21 days apart; third dose 8 weeks after.	Yes, you should receive an additional dose 2 months after your last dose .
	5+ years old	One dose administered	Yes, you should receive an additional dose 2 months after your initial dose .
Novavax	12+ years old	Two doses, administered 21 days apart	<p>No additional primary dose at this time.</p> <p>Can I get a BOOSTER?</p> <p>Yes, an updated bivalent Pfizer or Moderna mRNA dose is recommended 2 months after the last dose for people 12 and older to be up to date.</p> <p>People 18 years and older who have not received a previous booster can also opt to receive a Novavax booster 6 months after completing their primary series if they cannot or will not receive an updated mRNA booster.</p>



Frequently Asked Questions

What underlying medical conditions place you at a higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19?

People of any age with the conditions listed below are more likely to get severely ill from COVID-19.

COVID-19 vaccines (initial and additional doses) and other preventive measures for COVID-19 are important, especially if you are older or have multiple or severe health conditions including those on this list. This list does not include all possible conditions that place you at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19. If you have a condition not included here, talk to your health care provider about how best to manage your condition and protect yourself from COVID-19.

- » Cancer
- » Chronic kidney disease
- » Chronic liver disease
- » Chronic lung diseases
- » Dementia or other neurological conditions
- » Diabetes (type 1 or 2)
- » Down syndrome
- » Heart conditions
- » HIV infection
- » Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system)
- » Mental health conditions
- » Overweight and obesity
- » Pregnancy
- » Sickle cell disease or thalassemia
- » Smoking, current or former
- » Solid organ or blood stem cell transplant
- » Stroke or cerebrovascular disease, which affects blood flow to the brain
- » Substance use disorders
- » Tuberculosis

Which COVID-19 vaccines are monovalent, and which are bivalent?

The original COVID-19 vaccines for most primary series and original boosters* were monovalent. These vaccines were created from the original strain of the virus that causes COVID-19 illness.

The updated Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines are bivalent. They were created with the original strain of COVID-19, and newer omicron variant strains, BA.4 and BA.5.

Will people who are moderately or severely immunocompromised need a doctor's note/prescription or other documentation to receive these doses?

No, individuals can self-identify and receive all doses anywhere vaccines are offered. This will help ensure there are not additional barriers to access for this population. If immunocompromised individuals have questions about their specific medical condition, they may discuss whether getting an additional dose is appropriate for them with their health care provider.

How do I show that I'm eligible for an additional dose?

You can self-report that you are eligible for an additional dose. You do not need to show a recommendation from a health care provider.

Please take your [vaccination card](#) to your appointment so the provider can first confirm that you've completed the entire primary vaccine series. If you don't have your card, the provider can look up your record.

More questions? Visit: doh.wa.gov/covidbooster

*The Novavax booster is monovalent and is available to adults who have completed a primary series but have not previously received a COVID-19 booster—and if they cannot or will not receive an updated bivalent mRNA dose. Novavax boosters do not target omicron variant strains.