

2023-2024 Updated COVID-19 Vaccine: Long-Term Care Settings



What is the updated 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine? Does it target the newest variants?

The updated 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine is the newest vaccine authorized by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The virus causing COVID-19 has changed over time, transforming into different variants. This vaccine will target newer variants currently responsible for most infections and hospitalizations in the United States. This vaccine restores and enhances protection against current variants.

Who should receive the updated 2023-24 COVID-19 vaccine?

Adults should receive one dose of the updated 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine. Some adults who are immunocompromised may need additional doses. The updated vaccine should be given at least two months after their last dose if previously vaccinated.

Why is the updated 2023-24 vaccine important for long-term care staff and residents?

Hospitalizations for respiratory virus infections were higher than usual last year. These infections can occur at the same time and may increase risk of hospitalization or death. Vaccines add a layer of protection from infection for staff and residents.



- Adults aged 65 years and older, especially those in LTC settings, are at high-risk of serious complications from COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses due to weaker immune systems.

Motivating families and their residents to get vaccinated

Building trust with staff, residents, and families is essential. Creating frequent and transparent communication regarding the current state of COVID-19 within the facility and the protective measures being put in place by staff can help build this trust. Residents of LTCF's and their families should be made aware that the more people who live in a setting, the greater the risk of exposure. Share with families the ways they can help keep their family members and community safer from severe illness by staying up to date with COVID-19 vaccination.

How to give a strong vaccine recommendation:

- Share the importance of vaccination.
- Address residents' questions and concerns, and remind them that the benefits of vaccination outweigh the risks.
- Explain the potential risks of [COVID-19](#) illness when unvaccinated.

LTCF staff face the difficult task of caring for persons affected by illness while monitoring themselves for infection. **Protect yourself and your residents with the 2023-24 updated COVID-19 vaccine.**

