

## CDC Adopts New COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendation: Older Adults Should Receive 1 Additional Dose of Updated (2023-24 Formula) COVID-19 Vaccine

### ISSUE

On February 28, 2024, the CDC issued a [press release](#), officially endorsing the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' new recommendation for COVID-19 vaccination in older adults:

- **All people ages 65 years and older should receive 1 additional dose of any updated (2023–2024 Formula) COVID-19 vaccine (i.e., Moderna, Novavax, Pfizer-BioNTech) at least 4 months following their previous dose.**

The CDC has since updated their [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines](#) to reflect this additional dose recommendation, providing healthcare providers detailed guidance on current COVID-19 vaccine schedules.

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- **Older adults (≥65 years of age) are now eligible to receive 1 additional dose of any updated (2023-2024 Formula) COVID-19 vaccine (i.e., Moderna, Novavax, Pfizer-BioNTech), at least 4 months following their previous dose.**
  - CDC guidance states that older adults “*should*” receive this additional dose, indicating it is a strong recommendation (but not an absolute requirement).
  - In support of this recommendation, CDC states, “An additional dose of the updated COVID-19 vaccine may restore protection that has waned since a fall vaccine dose, providing increased protection to adults ages 65 years and older. Adults 65 years and older are disproportionately impacted by COVID-19, with more than half of COVID-19 hospitalizations during October to December 2023 occurring in this age group.”
- **CMS requires long term care facilities to educate, offer, and document the consent and/or declination of COVID-19 vaccines for both residents and staff.**
  - This requirement was originally referenced in [QSO-21-19-ALL](#) under the tag **F887** and was made permanent through the [COVID-19 Vaccination Final Rule](#), effective on August 5, 2023.
  - Consequent to this new vaccination recommendation for older adults, facilities should **identify eligible residents and staff, provide education regarding the updated guidance, offer the appropriate vaccine, and document consent and/or declination.**

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Use these 3 CDC resources to guide the recommended COVID-19 vaccine schedule for a resident, based on their age, vaccination history, and immunocompetence.

1. [CDC Interim Clinical Considerations Table 1](#) (COVID-19 vaccination schedule; NOT immunocompromised)
2. [CDC Interim Clinical Considerations Table 2](#) (COVID-19 vaccination schedule; ARE immunocompromised)
3. [CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Recommendations Infographic](#)

Use this 4<sup>th</sup> CDC resource to provide education to potential vaccine recipients. Refer to respective products' Fact Sheets for Recipients and Caregivers for COVID-19 vaccines used under EUA (e.g., Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine, Adjuvanted).

4. [CDC COVID-19 Vaccine Information Statement](#)

Use this 5<sup>th</sup> resource, published by PharMerica, to access vaccine consent forms (pg 93) and declination forms (pg 97).

5. [PharMerica Influenza an Adult Immunization Guide \(2023-24\)](#)