Loudoun County, Virginia

Loudoun Offers COVID-19 Boosters to Eligible Groups of People Who Received Pfizer Vaccine

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) has authorized local health districts to begin administering booster doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for certain individuals as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Loudoun County is now offering booster doses of the COVID-19 Pfizer vaccine to these groups at its Dulles Town Center clinic by appointment only. The boosters for these specific populations are to be administered at least six months (180 days) after the second dose of Pfizer vaccine.

The recommendations from the CDC and VDH do not include people who received the Moderna and Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccines. Anyone who received Moderna or J&J COVID-19 vaccine should not seek a booster dose of Pfizer vaccine, and instead wait for future recommendations from the CDC and VDH.

"There's no evidence that people who received the Moderna and J&J vaccines need a booster right now," said Loudoun County Health Director Dr. David Goodfriend. "We expect to learn more about boosters for other vaccine manufacturers in the coming weeks, so I encourage everyone who received a vaccine other than Pfizer to stay tuned for more information about boosters soon."

Who Can Get Booster Shots Now

Loudoun County remains focused on providing vaccines to people who have not yet had their first shot. Additionally, booster doses of Pfizer vaccine for people who already received their initial two-dose series of Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine will be offered by appointment only at the Dulles Town Center clinic for the groups approved by the CDC and authorized by VDH:

- People 65 years and older.
- Residents of long-term care facilities.
- People 18-64 years old with underlying medical conditions.
- People 18-64 years old who are at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of occupational or institutional settings, such as, but not limited to, health care workers and caregivers for frail or immunocompromised people

Residents seeking a vaccine booster are not required to offer any proof of risk.

In addition to booster doses, Loudoun County continues to offer COVID-19 vaccination appointments for:

- Residents who are 12 and older and have not yet received their first and/or second dose of COVID-19 vaccine.
- Residents who are moderately and severely immunocompromised individuals and are recommended by the CDC for a third dose of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine.

Again, individuals who have already received a Moderna or J&J vaccine should not seek a booster dose at this time.

Know When You're Eligible for a Booster Dose

With the CDC guidance calling for booster doses to be administered at least six months (180 days) after the second dose of the Pfizer vaccine, it's important that people know when their second dose was given so that they can appropriately time a booster.

You can find the date of your second dose on your vaccination card. If you received your second dose in Virginia and have misplaced the card, you can find the date of your second dose by searching for your vaccine record online. If you need assistance over the phone, call 877-VAX-IN-VA (877-829-4682). Assistance is available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The Virginia Department of Health has added a scannable QR code to vaccination records. The technology allows anyone vaccinated in Virginia to show proof of vaccination with a digital or printed QR code instead of a paper card. If you have moved to Loudoun from another state since receiving your second dose, you should check with the health department for your previous jurisdiction for your vaccination record.

Know Where to Get a Booster Dose

State health officials have been working with pharmacies, medical offices and other providers to make sure there are convenient options available for Virginians to receive a booster dose.

All residents who need the initial series of COVID-19 vaccine or a booster may receive one from many providers in the community, such as medical offices and pharmacies including, but not limited to, CVS, Giant Food, Harris Teeter, Safeway, Walgreens, Walmart and Wegmans. These locations have the benefit of being able to also provide flu vaccine at the same time. Visit vaccines.gov to find a vaccination site near you.

To make an appointment for a COVID-19 vaccine at the county's Dulles Town Center site, visit loudoun.gov/covid19vaccine. Flu vaccine is not available at the Dulles Town Center clinic.

Booster Doses for Other Vaccine Manufacturers

Federal officials have not yet published guidance about booster shots for Moderna or Johnson & Johnson vaccines.

All three COVID-19 vaccines available in the U.S. (Pfizer, Moderna, and J&J) continue to be extremely effective after their initial series in preventing serious illness that could result in hospitalization and/or death from COVID-19.

While there is no booster recommendation at this time for anyone other than those who received two Pfizer doses, recommendations for Moderna and J&J vaccines are expected in the future. The CDC recommendations on boosters are based on the information currently available at this time, and serve as interim guidance. Federal health officials may recommend changes in the future as new evidence becomes available. People who received Modera and J&J COVID-19 vaccines are encouraged to stay informed.

Stay Informed

For additional information about COVID-19 and to sign up for COVID-19 text and email updates from Loudoun County, visit loudoun.gov/coronavirus. Anyone with questions or who needs assistance making an appointment for a vaccine may call the Health Department's information line at 703-737-8300, or send an email to health@loudoun.gov.

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