



COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

Daniel Kim

Interim County Administrator

625 Court Street, Room 202 ▪ Woodland, CA 95695
Phone: (530) 666-8042 ▪ Fax: (530) 668-4029
www.yolocounty.org

Frank Schneegas
Communications Coordinator
frank.schneegas@yolocounty.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 20, 2021

Contact: Frank Schneegas

Email: frank.schneegas@yolocounty.org

Third Doses Authorized for Those with Weakened Immunity

(Woodland, CA) – Emergency use authorization for Pfizer and Moderna vaccines has been expanded to approve a third dose of COVID-19 vaccine for people ages 12 and up with moderate to severe immune compromise. Third doses of COVID-19 vaccine are now available in Yolo County for people who have moderate to severely compromised immune systems. Residents who believe that they are eligible should contact their health care provider for consideration of an additional dose.

On August 12, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) extended the emergency use authorization of Pfizer and Moderna vaccines to allow an additional dose for those who are immunocompromised. Shortly after, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced their recommendation that people who are moderately to severely immunocompromised should receive an additional dose of mRNA COVID-19 vaccine after the initial 2 doses.

Individuals receiving treatments associated with moderate to severe immune compromise includes those who have:

- Been 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
- Moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (such as DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome)
- Advanced or untreated HIV infection
- Active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids or other drugs that may suppress your immune response

When possible, individuals should receive a third vaccine dose from the same vaccine manufacturer as the original series. A third additional dose of vaccine should be administered no sooner than 28 days after their second dose. The FDA authorization does not extend to those who received the Johnson & Johnson vaccine or to fully vaccinated individuals who are not moderately or severely immunocompromised. Studies of additional doses of Johnson & Johnson for immunocompromised persons are ongoing; the results of these studies will determine if and when additional doses of vaccine are needed for immunocompromised persons who received a single dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

While the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are highly effective for the majority of individuals, there is evidence that individuals who are severely immunocompromised are not fully protected after receiving the two-dose series and that this group may benefit from a third dose.

For more information about Yolo County's COVID-19 vaccine program and opportunities to get vaccinated, visit www.yolocounty.org/coronavirus-vaccine. Residents can also call Yolo 2-1-1 for related information and resources. For additional updates follow Yolo County on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/YoloCounty/> or Twitter at: <https://twitter.com/YoloCountyCA>.

###