

## CDC recommendations for COVID-19 vaccine 2nd booster doses

- On March 29, 2022, the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) announced its recommendations to allow certain immunocompromised individuals and people over the age of 50 who received an initial booster dose at least 4 months ago to be eligible for another mRNA booster to increase their protection against severe disease from COVID-19.
  - CDC's recommendations follow the [FDA's regulatory actions](#) authorizing second booster doses for these individuals.
  - The CDC issued the recommendations without convening its Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices (ACIP) Committee.
- The CDC also recommended adults who received a primary vaccine and booster dose of [Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 vaccine](#) at least 4 months ago may now receive a second booster dose using an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine.
  - This recommendation is based on [published data](#) showing vaccine efficacy (VE) against COVID-19–associated emergency department/urgent care visits was 24% after 1 Janssen dose, 54% after 2 Janssen doses, and 79% after 1 Janssen/1 mRNA dose, vs. 83% after 3 mRNA doses. VE for the same strategies against COVID-19–associated hospitalization was 31%, 67%, 78%, and 90% respectively.
- These recommendations are especially important for those 65 and older and those 50 and older with underlying medical conditions that increase their risk for severe disease from COVID-19 as they are the most likely to benefit from receiving an additional booster dose at this time.
  - Currently, [66%](#) of the U.S. population is fully vaccinated and [45%](#) of the booster eligible population has received a first booster dose.

### What's Next?

- A [Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee \(VRBPAC\)](#) meeting has been scheduled for April 6, 2022 to discuss considerations for use of COVID-19 vaccine booster doses and the process for COVID-19 vaccine strain selection to address current and emerging variants. The VRBPAC will discuss a general framework that will guide regulatory decision-making about the next wave of COVID-19 vaccine boosters.