

Shared Clinical Decision-Making

Additional Doses of COVID-19 Vaccine for People Who Are Moderately or Severely Immunocompromised

People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised have the option to receive additional doses of 2024–2025 COVID-19 vaccine after receiving all the [recommended doses](#) of 2024–2025 COVID-19 vaccine. The decision to administer additional doses of COVID-19 vaccine is based on a shared clinical decision-making (SCDM) process between a patient who is moderately or severely immunocompromised and their health care provider. SCDM recommendations are intended to be flexible and informed by the characteristics, values, and preferences of the patient and the clinical discretion of the health care provider.

Consider the need for additional doses of COVID-19 vaccine with patients who are moderately or severely immunocompromised and have received all recommended doses of COVID-19 vaccine.



Remember:

- COVID-19 vaccination helps prevent severe COVID-19
- People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised are at increased risk for severe COVID-19, including hospitalization, ICU admission, and death
- People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised may not develop robust immunity after vaccination and may require more frequent vaccination to maintain protection



Consider:

- COVID-19 vaccination history, including time since last dose of COVID-19 vaccine
- Degree of immunosuppression
- Timing of immunosuppressive therapies
- Local indicators of SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19 (see [CDC COVID Data Tracker: Home](#))
- Occupational exposure to people with SARS-CoV-2 infection
- Residence in a long-term care facility
- Other [underlying medical conditions](#) associated with higher risk for severe COVID-19
- Planned travel (risk of exposure and availability of medical assistance at destination)
- Other situations in which the patient might have increased opportunities for exposure to other people with SARS-CoV-2 infection (e.g., large gatherings such as weddings and conferences)



If you vaccinate:

- Administer the additional COVID-19 dose at least 2 months after the patient has received the last recommended COVID-19 vaccine dose:
 - » See the [Interim Clinical Considerations for COVID-19 Vaccination](#) for the recommended COVID-19 vaccination schedule for people who are moderately or severely immunocompromised.
- Administer an age-appropriate COVID-19 vaccine for the additional dose:
 - » 6 months–4 years: Vaccine from the same manufacturer administered for the initial series
 - » 5–11 years: Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech
 - » 12 years and older: Moderna, Novavax, or Pfizer-BioNTech
- Patients should also consider using added [prevention measures](#) (e.g., wearing a mask, physical distancing, [adequate ventilation](#)) to further reduce the risk of getting COVID-19

Additional information

[Clinical Guidance for COVID-19 Vaccination | CDC](#)
[Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule by Age](#)
[Adult Immunization Schedule](#)
[ACIP Shared Clinical Decision-Making Recommendations](#)
[How to Protect Yourself and Others | COVID-19 | CDC](#)
[General Best Practices for Immunization: Altered Immunocompetence | CDC](#)

