

Call to Action!



The nation's death toll from COVID-19 topped 800,000 last week, and the Omicron variant is spreading more rapidly than the Delta variant. There are projections for a surge in January/February that are far more intense than we experienced in August/September due to Delta. We need to increase our efforts NOW to mitigate potential impact and to protect our vulnerable LTC residents. There is an urgent need to step up our timeline to provide COVID-19 boosters to Long-Term Care staff and residents.

Get the Booster

COVID-19 Boosters are the most effective way to prevent illness from Delta or Omicron. While preliminary data suggests that Omicron may be less deadly than previous variants, it clearly is more infectious. Both Delta and Omicron variants cause breakthrough cases in fully vaccinated individuals, Omicron more so than Delta. Recent studies have shown that the third dose of coronavirus vaccine may protect against the worst outcomes (74% effectiveness), while the two shots produce a weaker antibody response (34% effectiveness).

The bottom line is getting a mRNA vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna) booster at least 6 months after the initial vaccine series appears to work against both Delta and Omicron. It takes about 10 days for the booster effect to kick in.

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Pfizer and Moderna are Now Preferred

The CDC is now expressing a clinical preference for individuals to receive an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer and Moderna) over Johnson & Johnson's COVID-19 vaccine. This is related to the latest evidence on vaccine effectiveness, vaccine safety and rare adverse events, and consideration of the U.S. vaccine supply.

Mix and Matching of Boosters is Approved

The same mRNA manufacturer should be used for all doses in the primary series, including an additional primary dose. However, it is OK to mix and match the brand of booster doses to differ from the brand used for the primary series (Pfizer or Moderna can be used for booster).

Consonus Solutions

If your plan to complete booster doses is no longer working, Consonus Pharmacy can assist with providing vaccine, problem solving vaccinators or education to encourage residents and staff to get the booster.

