



DELAWARE COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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On August 12, 2021, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authorized immunocompromised individuals to receive mRNA COVID-19 vaccine. At least 28 days after completion of the initial two-dose COVID vaccine series.

Additional doses have been recommended for individuals with immunocompromising conditions as data have shown that these individuals are more likely to become severely ill from COVID-19 infection; are at a higher risk for prolonged SARS-CoV-2 infection and viral shedding; have documented lower antibody to SARS-CoV-2 variants; are more likely to transmit SARS-CoV-2 to household contacts; and are more likely to have breakthrough infections.

The New York State Department of Health has authorized a third COVID-19 vaccine dose for New Yorkers with compromised immune systems, following the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's recommendation last week. Eligible New Yorkers can receive their third dose 28 days after the completion of their two-dose vaccine series, effective immediately.

The CDC currently recommends that moderately to severely immunocompromised people receive an additional dose, including people who have:

- Been receiving active cancer treatment for tumors or cancers of the blood;
- Received an organ transplant and are taking medications 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, cancer chemotherapy that causes severe immunosuppression, or other medications that may suppress your immune response.

New Yorkers should contact their healthcare provider about whether getting an additional dose is appropriate for them at this time.