

# It's Worth a Shot

Updates About the COVID-19  
Vaccine Mandate

January 19, 2022



# Housekeeping Items

- Add your webinar topics and clinician ideas or needs into chat!
- We will meet every Wednesday through April 13, 2022

# COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates



- + November 5, 2021**  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) established a rule that required COVID-19 vaccine immunization of nursing home staff.
- + November 30, 2021**  
Vaccine mandate placed on hold pending United States Supreme Court consideration.
- + December 15, 2021**  
Mandate injunction lifted for Hawaii, but Montana, Wyoming and Alaska are still pending.
- + January 14, 2022**  
United States Supreme Court lifted the injunction for the remaining 25 states.

# COVID-19 Vaccine Mandate

## Important Compliance Dates: Guam & Hawaii



### + **January 27, 2022**

- 30 days from the QSO-22-07; all issued on December 28, 2021
- Policies and procedures (P&P) are developed and implemented
- 100% of staff have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine or have a pending request or been granted a qualifying exemption

### + **February 28, 2022**

- 60 days past the issuance of memorandums
- 100% of staff have received the necessary doses to complete the vaccine series (or one dose of a single-dose series)

# COVID-19 Vaccine Mandate

Important Compliance Dates: Alaska, Montana and Wyoming



## + February 14, 2022

- 30 days from the QSO-22-09; all issued on January 14, 2022
- P&P are developed and implemented
- 100% of staff have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine or have a pending request or been granted a qualifying exemption

## + March 15, 2022

- 60 days past the issuance of memorandums
- 100% of staff have received the necessary doses to complete the vaccine series (or one dose of a single-dose series)



# Enforcement Thresholds for Non-compliance:



## + **Within 30 Days of Memorandum:**

- Facilities with  $<100\%$  or  $>80\%$  or higher staff vaccination compliance, who also have plans to achieve 100% compliance in 60 days will be given opportunities to return to compliance (RTC).

## + **60 Days After Memorandum:**

- If facilities achieve  $> 90\%$  staff vaccination within 60 days but  $<100\%$ , with a plan to achieve 100% compliance in yet another month will be given opportunities to RTC.

# How Enforcement be Surveyed



## **+ Within 30 Days:**

- Initial certification, standard re-certification or re-accreditation and complaint surveys
- Surveyors will not evaluate religious exemptions, according to CMS, nor the rationale for the facility's acceptance or denial of the request. Instead, they will review whether facilities have an effective process for staff to request religious exemptions for "a sincerely held religious belief."

# Nursing Home Clinical Office Hours





# Summary of Recent Changes in Clinical Considerations (January 6, 2022)



- Updated guidance for use of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine as a booster in people ages 12 to 17 years
- Updated guidance for administration of a COVID-19 vaccine booster dose at least five months after completion of an mRNA vaccine (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna) primary series
- Updated guidance for use of an additional primary dose for moderately or severely immunocompromised people ages 5 to 11 years who received a Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine primary series
- Updated recommendations for people who received COVID-19 vaccines outside the United States that are not Food & Drug Administration (FDA)-authorized or approved

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/covid-19-vaccines-us.html#considerations-covid19-vax-booster>

# Key Points from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)



- COVID-19 vaccines currently approved or authorized by FDA are effective in preventing serious outcomes of COVID-19, including **severe disease, hospitalization and death**.
- In most situations, Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccines are preferred over the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine for primary and booster vaccination.
- An additional primary mRNA COVID-19 vaccine dose is recommended at least 28 days later for moderately or severely immunocompromised people ages five years and older who received a two-dose mRNA vaccine primary series.
- A booster dose of COVID-19 vaccine is recommended for everyone ages 12 years and older (Pfizer-BioNTech for ages 12–17; an mRNA vaccine preferred for ages 18 years and older).
- Efforts to maximize the proportion of people in the United States who are up-to-date with their COVID-19 vaccines remain critical to ending the COVID-19 pandemic.

# COVID-19 Boosters

COVID-19 Boosters			
Vaccine type	Who should get a booster	When to get a booster	Which booster can you get
Pfizer-BioNTech	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Everyone 12 years and older</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>At least five months after completing your primary COVID-19 vaccination series</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna (mRNA COVID-19 vaccines) are preferred in most* situations</li><li>Teens 12–17 years old may only get a Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine booster</li></ul>
Moderna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Adults 18 years and older</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>At least five months after completing your primary COVID-19 vaccination series</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna (mRNA COVID-19 vaccines) are preferred in most* situations</li></ul>
Johnson & Johnson's Janssen*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Adults 18 years and older</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>At least two months after receiving your J&amp;J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccination</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna (mRNA COVID-19 vaccines) are preferred in most* situations</li></ul>

Adapted from CDC:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/booster-shot.html>

# FAQ: COVID-19 Booster Shots



- How long after having COVID-19 do I have to wait to get a booster shot?
- What if I have received monoclonal antibodies, how long do I have to wait to get a booster?
- What is the difference between being “fully vaccinated” status versus “up-to-date”?
- What is the difference between extra primary dose and a booster vaccine?
- What are common and rare side effects from booster vaccine?
- How effective are booster doses against the Omicron variant?



# Resources

- Clinical Considerations-CDC:
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/covid-19-vaccines-us.html#box02>
- Booster Vaccines-CDC:
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/booster-shot.html>
- Moderately or Severely Immunocompromised Recommendations:
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/immuno.html>
- FAQs:
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/hcp/faq.html>



# Thank you!

Join us next week on  
Wednesday, January 26, 2022.

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