



# Pascua Yaqui Tribe Health Services Division

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## **Public Health Alert:**

### **COVID-19 Vaccines: Third dose for People who are Immunocompromised**

**CDC Recommends that people with moderately to severely compromised immune systems receive an additional dose of mRNA COVID-19 vaccine at least 28 days after a second dose of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. Widespread vaccination is a critical tool to help stop the pandemic.**

People who are moderately to severely immunocompromised are especially vulnerable to COVID-19 because they are more at risk of serious, prolonged illness.

Studies indicate some immunocompromised people don't always build the same level of immunity after vaccination the way non-immunocompromised people do and may benefit from an additional dose to ensure adequate protection against COVID-19.

Currently CDC is recommending that moderately to severely immunocompromised people 12 and older receive an additional dose.

This includes people who have:

- **Been receiving active cancer treatment for tumors or cancers of the blood**
- **Received an organ transplant and are taking medicine 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 or other drugs that may suppress your immune response**

People should talk to their healthcare provider about their medical condition, and whether getting an additional dose is appropriate for them.

At this time, an additional dose is not recommended for those who received the Johnson & Johnson (J & J) COVID-19 vaccine.

The FDA is reviewing and evaluating data related to booster shots for other fully vaccinated individuals to determine the safety and effectiveness of a third dose of the Pfizer and Moderna mRNA vaccines. A decision is forthcoming.

For any questions, Dr. Renteria will be available at [Adalberto.Renteria@pascuayaqui-nsn.gov](mailto:Adalberto.Renteria@pascuayaqui-nsn.gov)

*Nau te vo'oho'one allae'ewamta vetchivo*

*Together on the Journey to Health*