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## PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY

### CURRENT GUIDANCE ON ADDITIONAL DOSES OF COVID-19 VACCINE

### AUGUST 16, 2021

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The Riverside University Health System - Public Health (RUHS - PH) provides this guidance based on current information. Updated guidance will be issued based on Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations.

#### **Situation**

An increase in the number of COVID-19 cases is being seen in multiple states, including California. As of August 15, 2021, 4,022,222 cases have been reported in California. Locally, in Riverside County, 319,733 cases have been reported thus far for 2021, with 1,052 cases reported on August 13, 2021. Case rates have been increasing, with a rate of 28.8/100K compared to 3.5/100K one month ago.

Covid-19 data is located at <https://www.rivcoph.org/coronavirus>.

#### **Background**

There is concern that variant strains of COVID-19, especially the Delta strain is contributing to the increase in cases. Delta appears to be more easily transmitted to others. Thus far, 67 Delta cases have been reported to Riverside County Public Health.

COVID-19 vaccinations are effective at keeping people from getting COVID-19, especially severe illness and death. The three current vaccines are effective against variant strains of SARS CoV-2, including Delta. Individuals who develop post vaccination illness, tend to have milder illness. Discussions are taking place regarding the need for additional doses of COVID-19 vaccine.

FDA amended the Emergency Use Authorization for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine and Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine to allow an additional dose to be administered to people with moderately to severely compromised immune systems after an initial 2-dose series. ACIP met on August 13, 2021 and recommended an additional dose of mRNA vaccine for immunocompromised persons, such as patients receiving cancer treatment, patients with advanced or untreated HIV, and patients who are organ transplant recipients.

### Recommendations for Clinicians

- Consider administering an additional dose of mRNA COVID-19 vaccine to your moderately and severely immunocompromised patients
- Continue to provide the current recommended number of doses of Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson and Johnson COVID-19 vaccines to patients who do not meet the above criteria
- Educate your patients that an additional dose of COVID-19 vaccine is not recommended for most patients at this time.

### For Additional Information

- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Update: FDA Authorizes Additional Vaccine Dose for Certain Immunocompromised Individuals | FDA](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccines for Moderately to Severely Immunocompromised People | CDC](#)
- [ACIP August 13, 2021 Presentation Slides | Immunization Practices | CDC](#)

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