



Darcy Pickens
Interim Director

Milton Teske, M.D.
Health Officer

To promote and protect the health and well-being of Kings County residents through education, prevention, and intervention.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: November 22, 2021

Contact: Kings County Department of Public Health, 559-852-4991
EMAIL: KCDPH.PIO@co.kings.ca.us

Moderna, Pfizer, or Janssen Booster Recommended for Everyone 18+

Hanford, CA – The California Department of Public Health has updated its guidance recommending COVID-19 vaccine boosters. The updated guidance follows statements issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Western States Scientific Safety Review Workgroup (Workgroup) recommending booster shots for everyone age 18 and above who received one of the three COVID-19 vaccines used in the U.S.; Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, and Janssen.

A Booster dose of Pfizer BioNTech or Moderna vaccine is recommended if you:

- Received your second dose at least six months ago, and
- Are age 18 or older

A Booster dose of the Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) vaccine is recommended if you:

- Received your first dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine at least two months ago, and
- Are age 18 or older

“Because unvaccinated persons remain at much higher risk of COVID-19 than those who have received COVID-19 vaccines, the Workgroup continues to strongly support vaccination against COVID-19 for everyone 5 years of age and older to control the pandemic.” - Arthur Reingold, MD, Chair of the Western States Scientific Safety Review Workgroup.

The Kings County Department of Public Health (KCDPH) continues to offer all three booster products to eligible individuals. Individuals interested in receiving a booster shot must bring proof of vaccination dates to their appointment. Booster doses will be provided based on product availability and the KCDPH does not guarantee an individual’s vaccine product preference will be available or suitable in each instance.

For individuals age 12 and older who are immunocompromised, the primary Pfizer or Moderna vaccine series may consist of three doses instead of two. This “additional dose” serves to help vulnerable individuals reach comparable levels of protection demonstrated in the general population. In immunocompromised individuals, dose one and two are administered 21 days

apart, and dose three an additional 28 days later. The 6-month booster is then available to prolong vaccine protection.

If you have an underlying medical condition that you believe may qualify you for an additional dose, please talk to your medical provider about the vaccination plan that is right for you, based on your personal health history. Underlying medical conditions include but are not limited to:

- Cancer
- Chronic Kidney Disease
- Chronic Lung disease, including COPD, moderate-to-severe asthma, interstitial lung disease, cystic fibrosis, and pulmonary hypertension
- Dementia
- Diabetes
- Down Syndrome
- Heart Conditions
- HIV infection
- Liver Disease
- Overweight and Obesity
- Stroke or cerebrovascular disease
- Sickle cell disease or thalassemia
- Solid organ or blood stem cell transplant

It is strongly suggested that individuals make an appointment, rather than relying on walk-in availability. Visit <https://myturn.gov> or call (833) 422-4255 to make an appointment.

KCDPH continues to urge the public to take all COVID-19 prevention measures appropriate for them:

- Get vaccinated; to schedule an appointment visit: <https://myturn.ca.gov/>
- Wear a face covering, regardless of your vaccine status, to protect yourself and those who cannot get vaccinated at this time
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Get tested if you have COVID-19 symptoms
- Stay home if you are sick

Visit www.kingscovidinfo.com or www.kcdph.com/vaxinfo for current information and guidance.