



CONVENTUS
MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE

RISK ALERT

January 14, 2022



COVID-19 CDC VACCINE, BOOSTER AND QUARANTINE UPDATES

COVID-19 Vaccine and Booster Shot Guidelines

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has authorized or approved three COVID-19 vaccines for use in the United States to prevent COVID-19. All three vaccines (*Pfizer-BioNTech*, *Moderna* and *Johnson & Johnson's Janssen*) have also been authorized for use as a booster shot, which is recommended for most individuals aged 12 and over who have completed their initial COVID-19 vaccine series.

The CDC has published a [recommended schedule](#) for obtaining a booster shot based upon vaccine manufacturer. Of note, the CDC now recommends a booster shot at five (5) months after the completion of the primary series of *Pfizer-BioNTech* COVID 19 vaccine, instead of the previous interval of six (6) months. The booster interval recommendation for people who received the *Johnson & Johnson* (2 months) or the *Moderna* vaccine (6 months) has not changed.

Booster Shot Eligibility for Adolescents Aged 12-17 Years Old

On January 5, 2022, the CDC endorsed the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' (ACIP) recommendation to expand eligibility of booster doses to those 12 to 17 years old. CDC now recommends that [immunocompromised children aged 5 – 11 years old](#) and [adolescents aged 12 to 17 years old](#) receive a booster shot five (5) months after their initial *Pfizer-BioNTech* vaccination series.

- At this time, only the *Pfizer-BioNTech* COVID-19 vaccine is authorized and recommended for adolescents aged 12-17.

COVID-19 Isolation and Quarantine Period for General Population

The CDC has shortened the recommended time for isolation for the public based upon what is known about the Omicron variant.

- People with COVID-19 should isolate for five (5) days and if they are asymptomatic or their symptoms are resolving (without fever for 24 hours), followed by five (5) days of wearing a mask around others to minimize the risk of transmission.

The CDC has also updated their recommendations for quarantine period for anyone in the general public who is exposed to COVID-19.

- For the unvaccinated or those more than six (6) months out from their second mRNA dose (or more than two (2) months after J&J vaccine) and not yet boosted, the CDC now recommends a quarantine of five (5) days followed by strict mask use for an additional five (5) days.
- Individuals who have received their booster shot do not need to quarantine following an exposure, but best practice would include a test for SARS-CoV-2 at day 5 after exposure.

For additional details regarding the Omicron variant as well as guidance on recommended isolation and quarantine periods, visit the [CDC website](#).

Guidance for Managing Healthcare Personnel with SARS-CoV-2 Infection or Exposure to SARS-CoV-2

On December 23, 2021, the CDC updated guidelines to enhance the protection for healthcare personnel (HCP), patients and visitors and to address concerns about potential impacts on the healthcare system given a surge of SARS-CoV-2 infections. The CDC now includes shorter “contingency” timeframes for isolation/restriction of exposed and infected HCP. For additional details on work restrictions for HCP with SARS-CoV-2 Infection and Exposures, visit the [CDC website](#).

NJ Department of Health COVID-19 Temporary Operational Waivers and Guidelines

The New Jersey Department of Health [website](#) provides useful listings of *COVID-19 Temporary Operational Waivers and Guidelines* including memos, executive orders, and other helpful resources.

As always, Conventus members can call our Practice Resources Department at (877) 444-0484 ext. 7466 to speak with a member of our team if you should have any questions.

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