

Updated Bivalent Booster FAQs



Public Health
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Winnebago County
Health Department

What is the updated bivalent COVID-19 booster?

Up to now, COVID-19 vaccines have targeted the original COVID-19 strain. The updated bivalent vaccine provides protection against both the original strain and the new Omicron variants. This provides better protection against COVID-19.

What updated bivalent COVID-19 vaccine boosters have been recommended?

The CDC has recommended updated bivalent formulations of the Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines.

- The Moderna COVID-19 bivalent vaccine is authorized for use as a single booster dose in individuals aged 18 years and older.
- The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 bivalent vaccine is authorized for use as a single booster dose in individuals aged 12 years and older.

Am I still able to get a first dose or second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine?

YES. Vaccination is the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic and continues to be our priority. Please click here to find a vaccination location near you.

Can I get an updated bivalent booster now if I just recently got my second booster dose?

Not yet. You'll need to wait until two months have passed since your last booster shot. Don't worry, you can get the updated bivalent booster soon! The entire point of getting a booster shot is to continue expanding your protection. So, the more boosters you get, the better protection you'll have.

How long do I need to wait to get the bivalent booster if I've had COVID-19?

You'll need to wait at least until the worst of your symptoms have resolved, and you have met the criteria to leave isolation. Patients with recent COVID-19 infections also have the option of waiting three months instead of two (counting from the time they first showed symptoms or tested positive) to get a booster shot.