



Columbiana County Health District

P.O. Box 309 – 7360 State Route 45 – Lisbon, Ohio 44432
Phone: 330-424-0272 – **General Fax:** 330-424-1733 – **Nursing Fax:** 330-424-1843
Email: cchd@columbiana-health.org **Web:** www.columbiana-health.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 18, 2021

Contact: Laura Fauss, Public Information Officer

E-mail: lfauss@columbiana-health.org

The U.S. Food & Drug Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have made a 3rd dose of COVID-19 vaccine available to certain immunocompromised individuals. This dose should be given at least 28 days after the completion of the primary mRNA vaccination series. The CDC states that the purpose of this additional dose is to strengthen the immune response when the initial immune response to the primary two-dose vaccine series is likely to be insufficient.

It is recommended that qualifying immunocompromised individuals, age 12 and older who have received the Pfizer series, and 18 and older who have received the Moderna series, speak with their healthcare provider to determine their degree of immune system compromise and the appropriate timing of their vaccination.

The CDC has defined the current eligible population to include:

- Individuals undergoing active treatment for cancer (solid tumor and hematologic malignancies).
- Individuals who have received a solid-organ transplant and are taking immunosuppressive therapy.
- Individuals who have received a CAR-T-cell or hematopoietic stem cell transplant (within two years of transplant or taking immunosuppression therapy).
- Individuals with moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (e.g., DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome).
- Individuals with advanced or untreated HIV infection.
- Individuals undergoing active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids (i.e., ≥ 20 mg prednisone or equivalent per day), alkylating agents, antimetabolites, transplant-related immunosuppressive drugs, cancer chemotherapeutic agents classified as severely immunosuppressive, tumor-necrosis (TNF) blockers, and other biologic agents that are immunosuppressive or immunomodulatory.

The Columbiana County Health District is now taking 3rd dose appointments for eligible immunocompromised individuals, 18 years of age or older, who have completed their primary Moderna series. Please call 330-424-0272 extension 114 to schedule your appointment.

The rate of COVID-19 positive tests continues to increase in Columbiana County, and our department encourages all residents who have not yet been vaccinated to do so. With the multitude of locations in the county currently available to residents there has been no better time to receive your COVID-19 vaccine.

###