



NEW MEXICO HEALTH ALERT NETWORK (HAN)

ALERT

Latest Guidance from CDC and FDA on Booster Doses for Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine

September 27, 2021

Background

On September 22, 2021, the FDA amended the emergency use authorizations (EUA) for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine to allow for a single booster dose (i.e., a third dose) to be administered to select populations at least 6 months after completion of a Pfizer primary series.

Following FDA authorization, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (CDC/ACIP) met to weigh evidence for booster doses in the populations authorized by the FDA. The ACIP recommendations were amended by the CDC Director and on September 24, the CDC issued recommendations for select populations who are at higher risk of COVID-19 disease.

The ACIP and CDC's recommendations are bound by what FDA's authorization allows. At this time, the FDA's Pfizer-BioNTech booster authorization ***only applies to these select populations who received the Pfizer vaccine as their primary series.***

The New Mexico Medical Advisory Team reviewed and concurred with the CDC recommendations. Furthermore, the Department of Health strongly encourages providers to make every attempt to prioritize the highest risk people (those people the CDC says **should** receive the booster) for Pfizer boosters.