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**October 25, 2021**

**CATEGORY:** Media Release  
**RELEASE DATE:** For Immediate Release  
**REGARDING:** Booster Vaccine Information

The COVID-19 vaccines are safe and are highly effective against hospitalization and severe outcomes of COVID-19. Booster shots are common for many vaccines as protection from a vaccine starts to wear off over time. An additional booster dose may be needed to boost your immune response to make sure we're protected from the virus. The scientists and medical experts who developed the COVID-19 vaccines continue to closely watch for signs of waning immunity, how well the vaccines protect against new mutations of the virus, and how that data differs across age groups and risk factors. As the science and the virus evolve, so do policies and recommendations.

The current recommendation for those who should receive a COVID-19 booster include:

- Pfizer and Moderna recipients who received their second dose at least 6 months ago and are:
  - Age 65 and older
  - Age 50-65 at high risk of severe COVID-19 illness
  - Age 18 and up at high risk due to medical conditions, an occupation where exposure to COVID-19 is likely or residing in a long-term care facility/institutional setting.
- All Johnson & Johnson recipients age 18 and older who received their single dose at least 2 months ago.

The CDC's clinical guidance advises people to get the same booster as their initial vaccine but does allow people to mix and match (i.e. get a different COVID-19 booster than their initial vaccine) if they have a different preference. If you're eligible for a booster dose, you may have questions about mixing and matching. If you are unsure what booster vaccine you should receive please consult with your healthcare provider.

There are [multiple vaccine events](#) happening this week across the tri county area where boosters will be available:

- October 27: 10am-1pm at the Colville Ag Trade Center
- October 27: 3pm-6pm at the Chewelah City Park/Children's Pavilion
- October 28: 10am-1pm at the Newport Community Hospital (corner of Scott & Spruce)
- October 28: 4pm-6pm at the Selkirk High School
- October 29: 10am-1pm in Nine Mile Falls at Stevens 1, Fire Station #8

Many local clinics and pharmacies in the tri county area are now offering COVID-19 boosters. Find a [vaccine provider](#) near you. For vaccine locations throughout Washington state visit: [Washington State Department of Health's Vaccine Locator](#).