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Dec. 17, 2021

To: Individuals, families, providers and partners
From: Lilia Teninty, Director, Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS)
Subject: Booster doses and protecting yourself against COVID-19

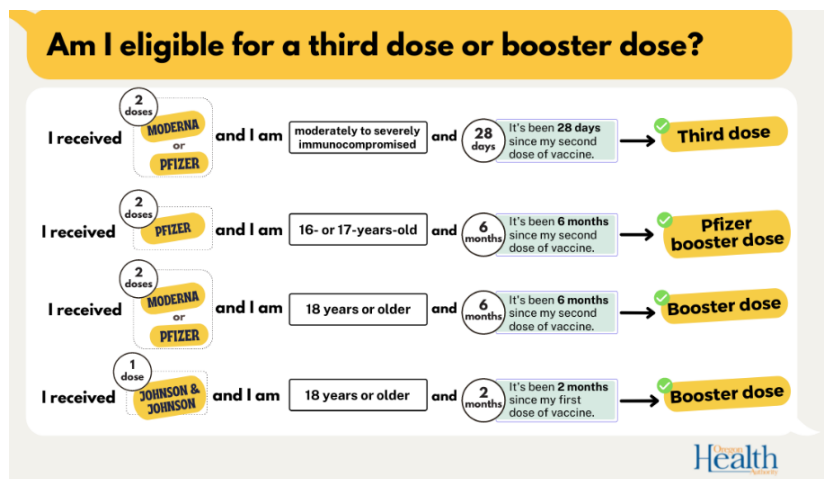
Many of you have likely heard by now that a new and concerning COVID-19 variant, [Omicron](#), has been identified in Oregon.

We have tools to help keep ourselves, our families and our communities safe. First, if you are eligible for a COVID-19 booster, [please get your booster dose](#). [Everyone 16 and older](#)

can get a booster dose six months after their second dose. This includes people who are immunocompromised and also received a third dose of Pfizer or Moderna. People 16–17 years old are only eligible to receive the Pfizer vaccine.

The Oregon Health Authority’s [vaccine locator tool](#) can help you find vaccines. There are also large “pop-up,” no-appointment sites throughout the state. Here is a list of those [vaccination sites](#).

Oregon Health Authority (OHA) has an online [technical assistance form](#) where providers, case management entities or individuals/families can request assistance getting access to the COVID-19 vaccine and boosters.



Specifically, this form is for providers of group homes with residents and staff that need vaccine assistance, or people receiving in-home services who, for whatever reason, cannot leave their home for a vaccine.

While provider staff are not currently required to get a booster dose by the state, I highly encourage everyone eligible to get one to protect the people you support, as well as yourself, your family and your coworkers.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), completing the vaccination series, including a booster, is the best protection against COVID-19. Other important measures include wearing masks indoors and in crowded outdoor settings, physically distancing from others, washing hands regularly and staying home when sick.

Let's work together to keep ourselves, the people we support and our communities safe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lilia". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning.

Lilia Teninty
Director
Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

Previous ODDS Director's Messages are available at
<http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/messages.aspx>

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