



500 Summer St NE E44

Salem, OR, 97301

Voice: 800-336-6016

Fax: 503-945-6873

TTY: 711

[www.oregon.gov/OHA/HSD](http://www.oregon.gov/OHA/HSD)

**Date:** September 2, 2021

**To:** OHP providers

**From:** Nathan Roberts, Traditional Programs manager  
Medicaid Programs

**Subject:** Oregon Health Plan coverage for third dose of COVID-19 vaccine

Effective August 12, 2021, the Oregon Health Plan covers a third dose of mRNA vaccines when prescribed by a qualified health care provider. A patient's clinical team is best positioned to determine the degree of immune compromise and appropriate timing of vaccination. Moderately to severely immunocompromised persons should be offered a third dose of either Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, depending on the brand received previously. There is currently no indication for additional doses of Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

### Why is this happening?

People who are moderately to severely immunocompromised are especially vulnerable to COVID-19 because they are more at risk of serious, prolonged illness. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that people with moderately to severely compromised immune systems receive an additional dose of mRNA COVID-19 vaccine at least 28 days after a second dose of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine.

### What should you do?

Please consider the individual patient's immunization status and the vaccine brand received previously when assessing patient eligibility for a third dose of COVID-19 vaccines. Learn more about recommendations for immunocompromised individuals on the [CDC website](#).

To bill for vaccine administration, including third dose administration:

- Bill the member's coordinated care organization (CCO), or the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) for members not enrolled in a CCO.
- Providers **not** contracted with the member's CCO may bill OHA under our "no wrong door" policy for COVID-19 vaccine. Be sure to also [contact your local CCO\(s\)](#) to explore direct contracting options.
- Refer to the [Oregon Medicaid COVID-19 Provider Guide](#) for OHA's billing codes and rates.

### Questions?

- For CCO questions and billing details, [please contact the member's CCO](#).
- For other questions, contact the Provider Services Unit at 800-336-6016 (Option 5).

Thank you for your continued support of the Oregon Health Plan and the services you provide to our members.