



206 West First Ave.  
Hutchinson, Kansas 67501-5245  
(620) 694-2929  
Fax (620) 694-2928  
www.renogov.org

## Press Release

For Release: Immediately

From: Laurie Moody  
Reno County Communications Specialist  
620-694-2568 | laurie.moody@renogov.org

### **Additional COVID-19 Dose Recommended for Immunocompromised**

**Reno County, Kan. - August 16, 2021-** The Kansas Department of Health and Environment announced last week that an additional dose of Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine may be administered to individuals who are moderately or severely immunocompromised due to a health condition or medical treatment and have already been fully vaccinated. This recommendation does not apply to those who received the Janssen/J&J vaccine as there is not enough data yet to determine if an additional dose will improve immune response.

#### ***Difference between additional dose and booster***

The **additional dose** is to be administered at least 28 days after the second dose and is recommended only for those who are immunocompromised due to a health condition or medical treatment. This includes receipt of an organ transplant and taking immunosuppressive therapy, active treatment for solid tumor and hematologic malignancies, receipt of Car-T-Cell or hematopoietic stem cell transplant, moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency, advanced or untreated HIV infection, or active treatments with high-dose corticosteroids, cancer chemotherapeutic agents classified as severely immunosuppressive, TNF blockers and other biologic agents that are immunosuppressive or immunomodulatory. An additional mRNA dose is given to individuals who may not have had a strong enough immune response after receiving the initial vaccine series due to a health condition or medical treatment. The additional dose recommendation is for a 3-dose series in severely or moderately immunocompromised individuals rather than a 2-dose series.

A **booster dose** is a supplemental dose given to those whose immune response has weakened over time; no booster doses are recommended at this time. An example of a booster dose is a Tetanus booster that is recommended every 10 years as its efficacy wanes.

All individuals should be taking preventative measures such as vaccinating, maintaining a healthy weight, and keeping up with regular doctor appointments. Mitigation methods such as mask wearing, social distancing, and hand sanitizing are also strongly recommended.

The Health Department, at 209 W. Second, is accepting walk-ins for COVID-19 vaccines during their normal operating hours or visit <https://vaccinefinder.org> to find other availability. The vaccine is free to any Reno County resident, regardless of citizen status or insurance. For more information, visit [www.renogov.org](http://www.renogov.org) or call 620-694-2900.

###