



# COVID-19 Third Vaccine Dose

## Frequently Asked Questions



### 1. When will COVID-19 third vaccine dose be available at GRHC?

Beginning August 31, 2021

### 2. Who is eligible?

- GRIC and Ak-Chin Indian Community tribal enrolled members and their household members, all federally recognized tribal members age 65 and older or age 12 and older with **immune compromising conditions**.
- Persons age 12 and older with the health conditions listed below may receive a **third vaccine dose** at least **four weeks after their second dose** of a Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine.  
*(Health conditions listed below are not inclusive, and individual patients should contact their primary care provider for any questions regarding a qualifying health condition)*

#### Health Conditions:

- Organ Transplant
- Cancer on chemotherapy treatments
- HIV
- Primary Immunodeficiency conditions
- Patients on oral high dose steroid medications (20 mg/day and above)
- Dialysis patients
- The Caring House Residents
- Auto immune conditions and on medications to suppress immunity:
  - Rheumatoid arthritis
  - Lupus
  - Sjogrens
  - Scleroderma
  - Multiple sclerosis
- All patients aged 65 and above without any chronic conditions listed above can get their **third vaccine dose** at least **five months after their second dose** of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine.

### 3. How do I schedule to receive a COVID-19 third vaccine dose?

Patients may call the COVID hotline or one of the primary care clinics for an appointment or visit the Primary Care Department Walk-In clinic for their booster vaccine.

- Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital ..... (520) 562-3321 Ext. 1495
- Komatke Health Center..... (520) 550-6000 Ext. 6060
- Hau’pal (Red Tail Hawk) Health Center..... (520) 796-2600 Ext. 2697
- Ak-Chin Clinic..... (520) 568-3881

#### **4. Where are the different vaccine clinic locations?**

Patients can also visit any walk-in vaccination clinic or MVU event for their third vaccine dose. Locations are:

- District Service Centers
- Mobile Vaccination Unit
- VLJ administration building at HHK – limited time only
- All Primary Care clinic locations



#### **5. Is a drive-thru option available?**

At this time, we are unable to offer a drive-thru option in our clinic locations or community outreach locations such as D3 head start, District Service Centers, or MVU events.

Drive-thru options may become available at a later date if large vaccination events are scheduled.

#### **6. Is transportation available for the VLJ vaccine clinic?**

Yes. GRHC Non-Emergent Transportation Service. Call 520-562-3321 Ext. 1384 to make arrangements.

#### **7. I lost my vaccination card, and don't remember when I got my second dose.**

If GRHC administered the 1st and 2nd doses, then verification can be done using GRHC's medical record system. If the vaccination was administered in the state of Arizona, Vaccination Verification can also be obtained using the state immunization database.

#### **8. What if I received the Janssen vaccine?**

At this time, there is no recommendation regarding a third vaccine dose for individuals who received the Janssen vaccine. There are insufficient data to support the use of an additional mRNA COVID-19 vaccine dose after a single-dose Janssen COVID-19 vaccination series in immunocompromised people. FDA and CDC are actively working to provide guidance on this issue.

#### **9. What are the side effects after receiving a third vaccine dose?**

Side effects with the third dose are similar to that of the two-dose series. The common symptoms include fatigue and pain at the injection site. These symptoms are mild to moderate and resolve within 48 hours.

#### **10. How soon after COVID-19 may I receive a vaccine?**

Most people can get the COVID vaccine after their quarantine period ends at 14 days.

- If you tested positive but didn't show any symptoms, you should wait at least 14 days from the positive test date to get the COVID vaccine.
- If you were treated for COVID-19 with monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma, you should wait 90 days before getting a COVID-19 vaccine.

- If you or your child has a history of multisystem inflammatory syndrome in adults or children (MIS-A or MIS-C), consider delaying vaccination until you or your child have recovered from being sick and for 90 days after the date of diagnosis of MIS-A or MIS-C.

## 11. Do I need a third vaccine dose if I've already been vaccinated and had COVID?

If you have a weakened immune system due to certain health conditions or are over 65 years of age, then yes, you will need the third vaccine dose even if you have had COVID-19 or have prolonged symptoms called post COVID syndrome.

## 12. Do I need to check my immunity before I get the third vaccine dose?

There is no need to check for immunity against COVID using a blood test to measure antibody levels before getting the COVID booster vaccine.

## 13. Can I receive a third vaccine dose with a flu vaccine or other vaccines?

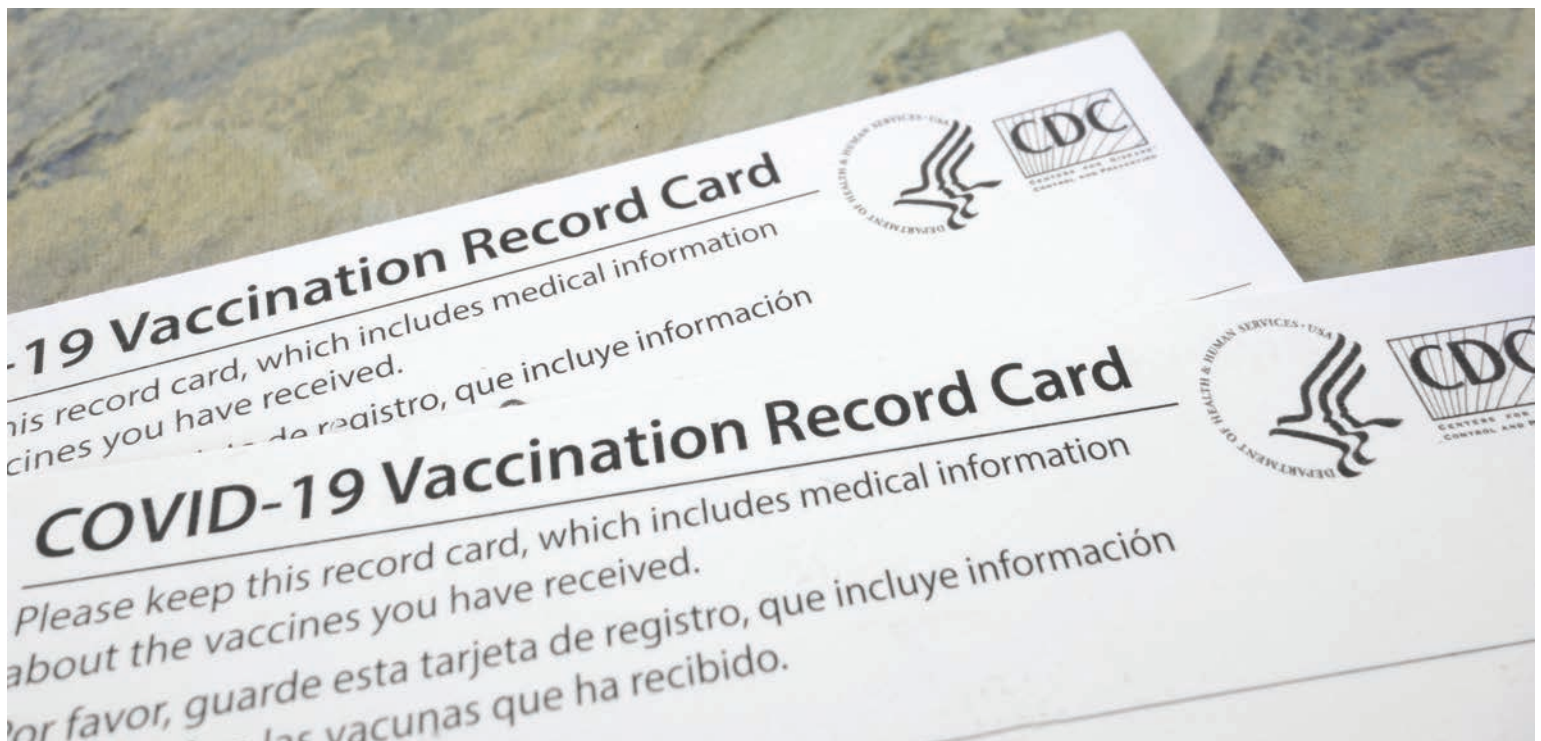
Yes, COVID-19 vaccines can be administered simultaneously with the flu vaccine or any other vaccine.

## 14. Is the vaccine FDA approved?

Pfizer received full FDA approval on August 23, 2021, for use as a 2-dose series to prevent COVID-19 in individuals 16 years of age and older.

It is also authorized under EUA to be administered to:

- Prevent COVID-19 in individuals 12 through 15 years, and
- Provide a third dose to individuals 12 years of age and older who have been determined to have a weakened immune system



Moderna vaccine is authorized under Emergency use authorization to prevent COVID-19 in individuals 18 years of age and older.

- It is also approved under EUA to provide a third dose to individuals 18 years of age and older who have been determined to have a weakened immune system

### **15. I am not an elder and don't have a qualifying health condition. When can I get my third vaccine dose?**

At this time, the COVID-19 third vaccine dose is approved only for elders 65 years of age and above and for individuals 12 years of age and above with a weakened immune system.

### **16. Does the third vaccine dose/COVID vaccine work against the Delta Variant?**

Available evidence suggests that COVID vaccines offer protection against known variants, including the Delta variant, particularly against hospitalization and death.

### **17. Does the COVID-19 vaccine work against the flu?**

COVID vaccines work against the COVID virus and effectively prevent severe COVID infection, hospitalization, and death.

Influenza vaccines are effective against the common strain of influenza virus in circulation this flu season and are also very effective in preventing hospitalization and death due to influenza.

