



**CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
DEPARTMENT FOR PUBLIC HEALTH**

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Eric C. Friedlander
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Commissioner

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Dear LTC and/or pharmacy provider:

Certain immunocompromising conditions, as well as advanced age and other physical infirmities, can affect an individual's immune response to vaccination. Current Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance recommends that individuals who are moderately to severely immunocompromised and who have been fully vaccinated with an mRNA vaccine 28 days or more prior should be offered a 3rd dose of vaccine.

Due to the age, condition, and high COVID-19 mortality rate of nursing home residents across the Commonwealth, I am deeming all residents of licensed nursing homes to be moderately to severely immunocompromised and therefore immediately eligible for a 3rd dose of vaccine under the current FDA EUA for these vaccines to increase their immunity to COVID-19.

All fully vaccinated residents of licensed nursing homes in Kentucky who have completed an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna) at least 28 days ago **should be offered a 3rd dose of mRNA vaccine unless contraindicated** or they have received COVID-19 antibody therapy within the past ninety (90) days. This is consistent with CDC guidance based on recommendations from the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.

For additional information, please consult the 3rd dose FAQ attached.

Thank you for your care and support of our LTC residents in Kentucky.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steven J. Stack".

Steven J. Stack, MD
Commissioner

TEAM
KENTUCKY