

# CDC Recommends a 2nd Dose of 2025–2026 COVID-19 Vaccine for Adults Aged 65 Years and Older<sup>1\*</sup>

Severe outcomes from COVID-19 infection remain a risk for patients aged  $\geq 65$  years.<sup>2</sup>



Older adults are at highest risk for hospitalization and death due to COVID-19 among other adult age groups<sup>2</sup>



Immune function diminishes with advancing age, leaving older adults vulnerable to infection<sup>3</sup>

**2<sup>nd</sup> Dose Administration is low : In 2023-2024 season only 8.9% of patients 65 years and older received a 2nd dose<sup>4</sup>**

A second dose may help protect adults aged  $\geq 65$  years against the severe outcome of a COVID-19 infection<sup>1,2</sup>

Without a clear recommendation, patients may assume they are fully protected after one dose<sup>1</sup>

Recommending a 2<sup>nd</sup> dose is a critical step to helping to protect patients aged  $\geq 65$  years against severe outcomes of a COVID-19 Infection<sup>1,2</sup>

**Older adults may not ask about a 2<sup>nd</sup> dose—but your recommendation may help protect them<sup>1,2</sup>**



**HELP PROTECT THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST WITH A 2ND DOSE<sup>1\*</sup>**

\*CDC recommends two doses of any 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine spaced 6 months apart (minimum interval 2 to 3 months, depending on product), based on shared clinical decision-making.<sup>1</sup>

CDC, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; COVID-19, coronavirus disease 2019.

References: 1. Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines in the United States <https://www.cdc.gov/covid/downloads/hcp/interim-clinical-considerations.pdf> 2. CDC. Accessed January 28, 2026. People with Certain Medical Conditions and COVID-19 Risk Factors <https://www.cdc.gov/covid/risk-factors> 3. Allen JC, Toapanta FR, Chen W, Tennant SM. Understanding Immunosenescence and its impact on vaccination of older adults. *Vaccine*. 2020;38(52):8264-8272. doi:10.1016/j.vaccine.2020.11.002 4. CDC. Accessed January 23, 2026. <https://www.cdc.gov/acip/downloads/slides-2024-10-23-24/06-COVID-Roper-508.pdf>.