COVID-19 VACCINE
Latest Updates & Resources
Oct. 14, 2021

UNDER CONSIDERATION:
Vaccine for kids 5 to 11 | Moderna, Johnson & Johnson boosters
As more data comes in from clinical trials, vaccine manufacturers are moving forward in the approval process.
The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced two upcoming meetings of its Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee (VRBPAC).
• On Oct. 14 & 15, scientists will discuss booster shots for Moderna and Johnson & Johnson. (Both vaccines are currently approved for Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for primary doses only.) On Oct. 15, the committee will also hear a presentation on mixing vaccine types for booster dosage use.
• On Oct. 26, VRBPAC will review data on Pfizer vaccine for children 5 – 11.
The FDA's news release on upcoming VRBPAC meetings contains links to watch the meetings live.
REMINDER: Pfizer is the only manufacturer to have already received an EUA for booster doses, and an EUA for children 12 – 15.

PLEASE NOTE:
Fully vaccinated people who have had COVID-19 and are eligible can get a Pfizer booster as soon as their isolation period ends and symptoms have improved.

UPDATED ADVISORY FOR PREGNANCY
A health advisory from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention was released on Sept. 29 concerning low vaccination rates among pregnant individuals. The health advisory stressed the importance of COVID-19 vaccination in preventing serious illness, death and adverse pregnancy outcomes from COVID-19.

NEW SCHEDULE FOR STRIKE TEAMS
In August, the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) launched strike teams—combination mobile vaccine and test sites—at areas around the state where they are most needed. These strike teams operate Wednesday – Saturday, noon – 8 p.m. No appointment is needed, but you can search for one near you by visiting OurShot.IN.gov and typing in your ZIP code.

Strike teams in LaPorte, Perry and St. Joseph counties run through Saturday.

VACCINE TEAM IN SPEEDWAY
IndyCar parking lot, 4551 W. 16th St., Indy
The Indianapolis Motor Speedway (IMS) continues to host a vaccine site now through Oct. 30. Hours are noon – 8 p.m., Tuesday – Saturday. IMS offers the flu vaccine, too. Drive up or schedule an appointment at OurShot.IN.gov. Already had your COVID-19 vaccine? Drive up for your booster shot, (Pfizer only) or even just your flu shot.

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“While a booster dose may provide additional protection against COVID-19 for eligible Hoosiers, the most important thing everyone can do is get their first dose if they haven’t already,” said State Health Commissioner Kris Box, M.D., FACOG. “That’s the best way to protect the people we love and is the clearest path out of this pandemic.”

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HELPFUL RESOURCES
• What you can do if you are fully vaccinated.
• Know a homebound individual who needs a vaccine? Call 211. Agents can help.
• Get proof of vaccination at Access Indiana. Look for ‘Indiana Vaccination Portal’.
• Register for a vaccination appointment at OurShot.IN.gov (Chrome or Firefox). Call Indiana 211 or (1-866-211-9966) if you have difficulty registering online.
• Free rides to vaccine clinics are offered by IU Health. Call 1-888-IUHEALTH (1-888-484-3258) and choose option 9.
  ◦ Free rides are also available to vaccination appointments at select Kroger locations. You will receive a code to use for Lyft ridesharing service with your appointment confirmation.
• Learn about V-Safe, the after-vaccination health checker, and the new V-safe COVID-19 Pregnancy Registry.
• V-safe is also available now in multiple languages.
• Report any adverse effects from any vaccine to the Vaccine Adverse Effect Reporting System (VAERS).