ARE COVID-19 BOOSTER SHOTS RECOMMENDED YET?

No approval has been granted for booster doses. The U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) will meet Sept. 17 to discuss recommendations. This will be followed by a meeting of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices to examine data that has come in since the last review. Remember: A booster dose is a “boost” to your immune system to support previous vaccine doses.

In contrast, an “additional dose” is given when the first dose(s) did not have an optimal effect in people who are immunocompromised. Both Pfizer and Moderna have Emergency Use Authorization from the FDA for third doses to those individuals.

MORE TESTING CLINICS STATEWIDE

The Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) is partnering with Gravity Diagnostics to expand access to COVID-19 testing across the state. Gravity Diagnostics is rolling out new test sites starting this week, and you can find more information on the IDOH or Gravity Diagnostics websites. Read the news release for more information about the partnership.

To date, 3,180,415 Hoosiers have been fully vaccinated!

FLU-SEASON

Don’t forget to get your flu vaccine this season. You can get a flu shot together with the COVID-19 shot. Vaccinating against different diseases at the same time is not new. COVID-19 vaccine and other vaccines may be administered on the same day. Side effects are not amplified when you get two or more different vaccines. Rather, you can expect the same side effects as you would get if you received the vaccines at separate times. Pharmacies and individual providers statewide can provide the flu shot, and a COVID-19 vaccine clinic can be found at OurShot.IN.gov.

Recent Study: COMPELLING DATA THAT VACCINES KEEP US SAFE

The CDC released data last week collected from April 4 through July 17 which showed people who were unvaccinated were 10 times more likely to be hospitalized with COVID-19, and 11 times more likely to die from it. Read the full report.

Helpful Resources

- What you can do if you are fully vaccinated.
- Know a homebound individual who needs a vaccine? Call 211. Agents can make an appointment.
- 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).