

Who Should Get a 4th Covid Shot?

Health officials say that older adults and the most vulnerable would benefit most from a second COVID booster. One reason for seniors is that the immune system tends to weaken as it ages and does not produce the same quantity or quality of antibodies as it did when it was younger.

Federal health officials have cleared a fourth dose of the coronavirus vaccine for all adults 50 and older in the United States amid concerns that a highly infectious version of Omicron may be spreading across the country. The new subvariant, known as BA.2, has already pummeled most of Europe and China. While the winter Omicron wave may protect many Americans from becoming reinfected again soon, immunity from previous vaccinations is declining.

Last month, the FDA expanded its emergency-use authorization to allow adults 50 and older to get a second booster of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine four months after their first booster. That would make it the fourth shot for those who have already gotten three doses of an mRNA vaccine. (For adults who initially received the Johnson & Johnson vaccine and followed it up with an mRNA booster, this second booster authorization would technically be a third shot.)

People with weakened immune systems are also eligible for a second booster in the U.S. These include teenagers and adults who have had organ or stem cell transplants, are undergoing chemotherapy for cancer, have advanced or untreated H.I.V. or are on immune-suppressing drugs.

Hazle Drugs is offering Covid Vaccines and Covid Booster Vaccines daily Monday-Friday. No appointment is necessary. Wendy Murphy, Pharm D, Bill Spear, R.Ph, CCN, Mark Moran, R.Ph and Billy Spear, PharmD are immunization specialists who are certified to administer these vaccines.

Hazle Drugs also offers Pneumonia vaccines; Shingrix (Shingles); and Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis).

For more information please contact Certified Clinical Nutritionist, Bill Spear, R.Ph at Hazle Drugs 570-454-2476. Visit our website: www.hazledrugs.com to learn more about our services and shop our online store