

## NF/SGVHS COVID-19 Vaccine Updates

North Florida/ South Georgia Veterans Health System is offering COVID-19 VACCINES, as supplies allow to:

- All Veterans (anyone who served in the military regardless of character of discharge)
- Spouses and surviving spouses of Veterans
- Caregivers of Veterans. For COVID-19 vaccine eligibility, we define a caregiver as a family member or friend who provides care to a Veteran. Caregivers may help a Veteran with personal needs like feeding, bathing, or dressing. They may also help a Veteran with tasks like shopping or transportation.
- Recipients of Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA) benefits.
- VA Employees

In addition, the health system is providing 3<sup>rd</sup> Dose Vaccines of the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccines **AND** meet CDC's definition of moderate to severe immune compromised. This includes:

- Active treatment for solid tumor and hematologic malignancies
- Receipt of solid-organ transplant and taking immunosuppressive therapy
- Receipt of CAR-T-cell or hematopoietic stem cell transplant (within 2 years of transplantation or taking immunosuppression therapy)
- Moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (e.g., DiGeorge, Wiskott-Aldrich syndromes)
- Advanced or untreated HIV infection
- Active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids (i.e., >20mg prednisone or equivalent per day), alkylating agents, antimetabolites, transplant-related immunosuppressive drugs, cancer chemotherapeutic agents classified as severely immunosuppressive, TNF blockers, and other biologic agents that are immunosuppressive or immunomodulatory

## Requirements for COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters

While the initial series of vaccines remain highly effective in reducing the likelihood of infection and preventing severe illness, hospitalization, or death among those infected, NF/SGVHS is offering PfizerNTech, Moderna, and Johnson& Johnson COVID-19 vaccines boosters under Emergency Use Authorization.

- For those who completed a Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine series, the following groups are eligible for a booster shot **at least 6 months** after their second dose:
  - 65 years and older
  - Age 18+ who live in [long-term care settings](#)
  - Age 18+ who have [underlying medical conditions](#)
  - Age 18+ who work or live in [high-risk settings](#)

- For those who had a J&J COVID-19 vaccine, booster shots are recommended for those who are 18 and older and who were vaccinated **at least 2 months ago**.

Eligible individuals may choose which vaccine they receive as a booster dose. Some people may have a preference for the vaccine type that they originally received and others, may prefer to get a different booster. CDC's recommendations now allow for this type of mix and match dosing for booster shots.

## **How to receive COVID-19 Vaccines (initial series and boosters)**

Those who are eligible are encouraged to call 352-548-6000 ext. 103755 to schedule an appointment. No appointment needed clinics are also available. **Please make sure to bring your CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card with you.**