

# COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO HEALTH AGENCY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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#### **PROVIDER HEALTH ADVISORY**

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## **COVID-19 Update: Boosters for Age 5+ Now Authorized and Recommended**

Plus, CDC Strengthens Recommendation for Second Booster (Immunocompromised & 50+)

#### New Recommendations for Booster Doses for Ages 5–11

COVID-19 vaccine booster doses for children ages 5-11 are now authorized by the U.S. FDA and recommended by the CDC and the <u>Western States Scientific Safety Review Workgroup</u>. A single booster dose of Pfizer-BioNTech's COVID-19 vaccine is recommended for this age group at least five months after completing their primary series.

Children ages 5–11 can receive the Pfizer-BioNTech pediatric COVID-19 vaccine series (**10mcg dose**) at least **five months** after completing their primary series. Those age 12-17 can receive the Pfizer-BioNTech adult COVID-19 vaccine series (30mcg dose) at least five months after completing their primary series.

Pediatric boosters are available at <u>SLO County Public Health Clinics</u> and from many pediatricians and pharmacies in SLO County.

#### **CDC Strengthens Recommendations for Second Booster Doses**

CDC has strengthened its recommendation that adults age 50 and older should receive a second booster dose at least four months after their first booster dose. CDC strengthened the same recommendation for those age 12 and older with <u>certain immune-compromising</u> conditions.

Most older Americans received their most recent dose many months ago, leaving many who are considered high-risk with less protection against severe disease, hospitalization, and death.

### **Importance of Booster Doses for All Ages**

Boosters help maintain strong protection against COVID-19. Getting a booster dose greatly reduces the risk of infection, hospitalization and death from COVID-19 by creating antibodies that fortify the immune system. Booster doses are effective at preventing severe illness, including against current variants.

#### **Stay Informed**

For more information on booster doses, visit <u>slopublichealth.org/boosters</u>. For updates on COVID-19 in SLO County, visit <u>slopublichealth.org/covid19</u>.