

IMMUNIZATION COVID-19 Update

May 12, 2022 | Issue 59



Question of the Week

Post-COVID/long COVID is a concern for many. What information is available to providers addressing long COVID concerns?

The CDC maintains information and updates on [long COVID and post-COVID conditions](#) and the long-term experiences of people post infection. Post-COVID can be referred to by many names such as: long COVID, long-haul COVID, post-acute sequelae of SARS CoV-2 infection (PASC), and chronic COVID.

Post-COVID conditions may range in time and can last weeks, months, or years. While post-COVID conditions are found more frequently in individuals who experienced more severe COVID infection, individuals who had mild to no symptoms while infected may also experience post-COVID conditions.

General post-COVID conditions include tiredness or fatigue, fever and symptoms that worsen after physical or mental effort. Other symptoms that are commonly reported among individuals who experience post-COVID include:

- Respiratory and heart symptoms

An infographic with a blue background. At the top, it reads "WE DON'T REALLY KNOW WHO IS MOST AT RISK FOR DEVELOPING LONG COVID." Below this, it states: "Experts are looking at a number of potential factors that may explain who develops long hauler symptoms such as which variant they were infected with, how severe their initial symptoms were, and any co-morbidities." It then adds: "Although children are much less likely to become severely ill from COVID-19, studies show even patients with few or mild symptoms can experience long COVID." At the bottom, there are three hourglass illustrations. The first shows a person standing, the second shows a person sitting on a bench, and the third shows a person lying down, representing different stages or types of long COVID.

- Neurological symptoms
- Digestive symptoms, and
- Other symptoms such as joint or muscle pain, rash or changes in menstrual cycles

Researchers continue to investigate post-COVID symptoms, and the CDC has released various studies exploring the [science of post-COVID conditions](#). Visit [here](#) to learn more about post-COVID.

In-home vaccinations are available in Louisiana



Louisiana residents who cannot leave their homes for any reason can now access free at-home COVID-19 vaccination. LDH is committed to making the COVID-19 vaccination available to anyone, with a special focus on people with disabilities that prevent them from leaving their homes. Those who would benefit from the service can schedule an appointment online or by phone. Individuals who cannot leave their homes and call the hotline will be given information about side effects, follow-up and when they will receive their second dose, if needed.

How to Make a Request

- By phone: Call 855-453-0774 and request an appointment for an in-home vaccination. You will receive a follow-up call from your local mobile vaccination team to schedule your shot.
- Online: Just go to <https://ldh.la.gov/inhomeshots> and fill out the form to request an appointment. You will receive a follow-up call from your local mobile vaccination team to schedule your shot.

For Spanish or Vietnamese

LDH offers translation services for anyone who needs an in-home COVID-19 shot. Individuals who speak Spanish or Vietnamese can call 1-855-453-0774 and ask for a translator.

For Deaf/Hard of Hearing

LDH offers assistance for people who are d/Deaf, DeafBlind, or hard of hearing and need an in-home shot. Individuals in need of further assistance can call the Louisiana Commission for the Deaf at 800-256-1523 or 225-228-1203 for a video chat.

FDA updates guidance on Janssen COVID-19 vaccine



On May 5, the FDA issued further restrictions regarding who can receive the Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) COVID-19 vaccine due to the ongoing risk of rare but serious blood clots. The FDA said the Janssen vaccine should only be given to adults who cannot receive a different vaccine or specifically request J & J's vaccine because they would not otherwise receive a COVID-19 vaccine. In its guidance, the FDA also advised the Janssen vaccine should be given only to adults who cannot receive a different vaccine or specifically request this vaccine.

Per FDA guidance, the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine could, on rare occasions, cause thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS) which may be life threatening. When it does occur, TTS typically presents in the first two weeks after vaccination with the Janssen product.

Instructions to Providers

Healthcare providers should instruct patients who recently received the Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine and experience shortness of breath, chest pain, leg swelling, persistent abdominal pain, neurological symptoms (including severe or persistent headaches or blurred vision), or petechiae beyond the site of vaccination to seek immediate medical attention.

The clinical course of TTS following administration of the Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine shares features with autoimmune heparin-induced thrombocytopenia. In individuals with suspected TTS, the use of heparin may be harmful and alternative treatments may be needed.

Do not administer the Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine to individuals with a history of thrombosis with thrombocytopenia following the Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine or any other adenovirus vectored COVID-19 vaccine.

[Read more.](#)

Moderna files EUA request with FDA for pediatric vaccine

Moderna, Inc. has requested emergency use authorization for its COVID-19 vaccine to be administered to children 6 months to 6 years old based on a 25 µg two-dose primary series of mRNA-1273. The company reports that “Positive interim results from the Phase 2/3 KidCOVE study, announced [on March 23, 2022](#), showed a robust neutralizing antibody response in the 6 month to under 6 years of age group after a two-dose primary series of mRNA-1273, along with a favorable safety profile.

The antibody titers in the pre-specified 6 month to 23 month and 2 years to under 6 years age sub-groups met the statistical criteria for similarity to the adults in the COVE study, which satisfied the primary objective of the study.”

[Read more.](#)

Pfizer webinars for healthcare providers

The Pfizer webinars for healthcare providers are offered to educate providers and immunization staff personnel on the proper use of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine. The webinars follow a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday schedule and will be updated to reflect the latest information and recent changes which will be identified at the start of each session. Visit [here](#) for the full meeting schedule and access information.

Upcoming webinars:

- [Attendee link – Tuesday, May 17 - 3pm ET](#) | Password: r6V3H96bwkJ
- [Attendee link – Wednesday, May 18 - 12pm ET](#) | Password: unBcEjEJ838



CDC updates COVID-19 prevention and management guidance

The CDC has released an update to its [Guidance on Prevention and Management of Coronavirus Disease 2019](#), including the *Framework to Assess COVID-19 Risk and to Select Prevention Strategies in Correctional and Detention Facilities* and *Considerations for Applying COVID-19 Prevention Strategies in Correctional and Detention Facilities*. These updates make the guidance consistent with recommendations found in the recently published [COVID-19 Community Levels](#) and offer modified quarantine approaches that facilities can consider to reduce the impact of quarantine on mental health and staffing levels.

COVID Data Tracker updates

The CDC's COVID Data Tracker provides up-to-date data and visualization regarding COVID-19 through various interactive dashboards. The most recent COVID Data Tracker updates include:

- The [COVID-19 Vaccinations in the United States](#) tab was updated to include a count of the people in the United States who have received a second COVID-19 vaccine booster dose.
- The [Hospitalization by Vaccination Status - COVID-NET](#) tab was updated to display March 2022 rates of COVID-19-associated hospitalization comparing unvaccinated people, fully vaccinated people, and people
- Enhancements to the [Vaccination Equity](#) tab to improve page loading speeds.
- Updates to the COVID Data Tracker vaccination tabs to streamline information about how CDC estimates vaccination coverage and to link users to the [Data Definitions for COVID-19 Vaccinations in the United States](#) page.

Good reads

- [Long Covid is 'continuing to increase,' experts say. Here's how to know if you have it — and what to do about it](#)
- [Why Covid-19 vaccine boosters may be more important than ever](#)
- [Is COVID endemic? What experts say Americans should expect this summer](#)
- [New Orleans Health Director addresses summer COVID-19 surge concerns](#)
- [Growing share of Covid-19 deaths are among vaccinated people, but booster shots substantially lower the risk](#)
- [Asymptomatic spread still the majority of COVID transmission](#)

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE BOOSTER?

WHAT DID YOU GET?	WHEN CAN YOU GET A BOOSTER?	WHEN CAN YOU GET A 2ND BOOSTER?	WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR A BOOSTER?*
Pfizer	5 months after 2nd dose	4 months after 1st booster dose	12 years and older for 1st booster
Moderna	5 months after 2nd dose	4 months after 1st booster dose	18 years and older for 1st booster
Johnson & Johnson	2 months after initial shot	4 months after 1st booster dose	18 years and older for 1st booster

*We recommend you talk to your doctor about the best time to get your 2nd booster shot
** For 2nd dose eligibility, you must be age 50+. Also eligible are people age 12 and older with moderate or severe immunosuppression

Call 211 or visit covidvaccine.la.gov to find out when and where you can get vaccinated.



Submit a Question of the Week

Do you have a frequently asked question that you would like to submit or have answered in the QOW?

[SUBMIT HERE](#)