



NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE  
Dave A. Chokshi, MD, MSc  
*Commissioner*

November 17, 2021

Dear Colleague,

On November 15, 2021, the New York City Commissioner of Health issued an [advisory](#) that health care providers should proactively offer booster doses of COVID-19 vaccine to individuals who meet any of the following criteria:

- 65 years and older;
- 18 years and older and have an [underlying medical condition](#) that increases their risk for severe COVID-19; or
- 18 years and older and received the Johnson & Johnson single dose vaccine at least two months ago.

Health care providers should not turn away an individual who, after evaluating and assessing their own level of risk exposure, requests a booster and meets any of the criteria below:

- 18 years and older and six months since being fully vaccinated with the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine; or
- 18 years and older and two months since being fully vaccinated with the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

No one should be denied a booster shot in NYC, as long as they are 18 or older and completed their primary Pfizer or Moderna vaccine series at least six months ago, or one dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine at least two months ago. Patients eligible for a booster shot can receive any of the three vaccines authorized or approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for their booster dose.

If you do not offer COVID-19 vaccination, please help your patients find a vaccination site online at [vaccinefinder.nyc.gov](https://vaccinefinder.nyc.gov) or by calling 877-VAX-4NYC (877-829-4692) (press 2 at the second prompt to schedule vaccination appointments for your patients).

Thank you for helping our community stay healthy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Celia Quinn'.

Celia Quinn, MD, MPH  
Deputy Commissioner  
Division of Disease Control