

## Third COVID-19 vaccines available for immunocompromised populations

Written by gallupsun  
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In accordance with the New Mexico Department of Health's guidelines, Rehoboth McKinley Christian Health Care Services' College Clinic is offering a third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine for certain immunocompromised populations.

The approved guidelines applies only to Pfizer and Moderna vaccines and individuals should receive the same type of vaccine they received for their initial two shots. The third dose should be administered at least 28 days after receiving the second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. RMCHCS has been administering the Pfizer vaccine.

Individuals with the following conditions qualify for the third dose:

1. Those on cancer treatments
2. Those receiving medication for organ transplants
3. Those who had stem cell transplants
4. Those on active treatments with:
  1. Prednisone equal to or greater than 20 mgs daily or equivalent
  2. Methotrexate
  3. Biologic agents used for treatment of Autoimmune Diseases (like Rheumatoid arthritis (RA), Juvenile arthritis, Lupus (SLE), Psoriatic arthritis, Ankylosing spondylitis, Ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease) and Severe Asthma which includes: Actemra, Benlysta, Cimzia, Cosentyx, Dupixent, Enbrel, Entyvio, Dupixent, Humira, Nucala, Orencia, Remicade, Rituxan, Simponi among others
4. Those with moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (e.g., DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome)
5. Those with advanced or untreated HIV infection

Qualifying patients may ask their healthcare provider whether the extra dose is appropriate for them. People interested in a third dose can call the College Clinic at 505-863-1820 to make an appointment for the third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.

College Clinic also offers COVID-19 vaccines for anyone who has not yet been vaccinated from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, Monday – Friday. No appointments are needed.

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