

Older adults now eligible for additional dose of updated COVID-19 vaccine in New Mexico

Written by gallupsun
Sunday, 03 March 2024 21:16

SANTA FE — In response to THE Feb. 28 endorsement from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention regarding the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' recommendation, the New Mexico Department of Health is urging adults aged 65 and older to receive an additional updated 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine dose for enhanced protection against severe outcomes of the virus.

"Most COVID-19 deaths and hospitalizations last year were among people 65 years and older," Dr. Miranda Durham, chief medical officer for NMDOH, said. "An additional vaccine dose can provide added protection that may have decreased over time for those at highest risk."

Previous CDC recommendations ensured that people who are immunocompromised are already eligible for additional doses of the COVID-19 vaccine.

COVID-19, flu and RSV vaccines are readily available at healthcare providers and pharmacies throughout the state. For assistance with scheduling or questions, contact the NMDOH Help Line at 1-833-796-8773 (1-833-SWNURSE), which is available M-F 7 am to 8 pm and weekends 10 am to 4 pm.

Adults with insurance can schedule an appointment directly with their pharmacy.

COVID-19 vaccines remain readily accessible at no cost through private health insurance, Medicare, and Medicaid. Uninsured individuals can receive the COVID-19 vaccine free of charge through a network of health centers, public health offices, and participating pharmacies in the CDC's Bridge Access Program, ensuring universal vaccine access.

To find a pharmacy or a local healthcare provider for an appointment, members of the public can view the interactive map at VaccineNM.org or schedule appointments directly with pharmacies and healthcare providers.

Those interested in accessing their vaccine history can do so at VaxViewNM.org. Support for

Older adults now eligible for additional dose of updated COVID-19 vaccine in New Mexico

Written by gallupsun
Sunday, 03 March 2024 21:16

login issues is available through the NMSIIS Help Desk at 833-882-6454, available M-F 8 am to 5 pm, closed for the lunch hour at noon, customers can leave a voicemail and receive a call back.

Data from the CDC indicates that adults aged 65 and older bear a disproportionate impact from COVID-19, with more than half of the hospitalizations occurring within this age group between October 2023 and December 2023. Recognizing the significance of vaccination, NMDOH encourages eligible individuals to stay up to date on their COVID-19 vaccines.

For more information about DOH's Immunization Program visit nmhealth.org.

