



Indiana
Department
of
Health

Long-term Care NEWSLETTER

LTC Newsletter 2022-16
March 31, 2022

LTC Update:

- **Professional Resources Webpage – Update**
- **COVID-19 Test Results Reporting – Update**
- **COVID-19 Second Booster Recommendations**

Professional Resources Webpage – Update

The Long-term Care Facilities section on the Professional Resources page of IDOH's Coronavirus website has been updated. All outdated documents, including the Standard Operating Procedure, have been removed and replaced with the most up-to-date CDC and CMS guidance. Going forward, IDOH will post links to updated CDC and CMS guidance and reference changes in the LTC Newsletter. Reporting and data submission guidance, signage and forms, vaccine information, and the Essential Family Caregiver documents will remain.

<https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/professional-resources/>

COVID-19 Test Results Reporting – Update

Beginning April 4, 2022, long-term care facilities are **no longer required to report NEGATIVE Point of Care (POC) test results**. This includes rapid and antigen tests. **In addition, facilities are no longer required to report POSITIVE or NEGATIVE antibody test results**. This includes both reporting through the IDOH [COVID-19 Point of Care Test Reporting](#) and through NHSN. The LTC Facility Data Submission Guidelines will be updated to reflect this change next week when it takes effect.

[Lab Advisory: HHS Updates COVID-19 Laboratory Reporting Guidance \(cdc.gov\)](#)

COVID-19 Second Booster Recommendations

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) [authorized](#) a second booster dose of an mRNA vaccine for individuals 50 years of age and older. This dose can be given at least four months after the receipt of the first booster dose of any authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccine.

Additionally, a second booster dose may be administered to individuals with an immunocompromising condition. This dose can be given at least four months after receipt of a first booster dose of any authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccine. Pfizer vaccine can be administered to those aged 12 or older and the Moderna vaccine can be given to those age 18 or older.

The FDA's Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee (VRBPAC) will discuss future booster doses from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. EDT Wednesday, April 6. Watch it live on the FDA's [YouTube channel](#).

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updated its recommendations to be in alignment with authorization by FDA. Additionally, the [CDC](#) says that adults who received a primary vaccine and booster dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine at least four months ago may now receive a second booster dose of either the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine.

Booster doses have been shown to increase protection from hospitalization and death due to COVID-19 and the Omicron variant of the virus.