

SKILLED NURSING AND OTHER LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES

Benefits of staff and residents getting the booster shot

Skilled nursing facilities (SNF) and long-term care facilities (LTCF) care for many of our most vulnerable. They have and continue to experience the hardest impacts of COVID. Vaccines continue to be our best defense against COVID and are increasingly important given the presence of Omicron.

We ask our SNFs and LTCFs to have their staff and residents get the booster shot to protect their communities.

Why should you get a booster shot?

- **They improve your body's immune response**
 - Booster shots are recommended because vaccines become less effective over time
 - You should still get a booster shot even if you had COVID. Your last infection may not protect you against the Omicron variant
- **The CDC recommends it**
 - The CDC asks all individuals 12 and older to get a booster shot. These recommendations continue to expand. Please visit www.cdc.gov for the latest guidelines
- **Booster shots are effective against Omicron infection**
 - Data from South Africa and the UK show that a booster shot provides 70-75% protection against symptomatic Omicron infection
 - Pfizer and Moderna found that the booster shot helps you fight COVID, including the Omicron variant
- **COVID is still a risk**
 - COVID is still in our communities and a risk, especially in the older populations

Best practices for enabling staff and residents' to get their booster shot

- **Vaccinate at the facility**
 - Host an onsite clinic with a local pharmacy
 - The Pennsylvania Department of Health can help your facility find a local pharmacy partner
 - Please fill out the [DOH Vaccine Access Survey](#) to request a match
 - The pharmacy will handle all logistics including supply, storage, and administration



COVID-FS-HCBB-EN

- **Utilize local providers**

- Identify a provider in your area where residents and staff can get the vaccine using www.vaccines.gov
 - Many providers are now taking walk-ins
 - Providers offering free transportation can be found on www.vaccines.gov

Other Resources

- If you are having issues finding a pharmacy provider to host a booster shot clinic, please fill out the [DOH Vaccine Access Survey](https://form.jotform.com/212066323150139) (form.jotform.com/212066323150139)
- If you are experiencing other reporting issues or barriers to vaccination, please send an email to RA-DHSNFQUESTION@pa.gov