

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Health Department now offering updated fall boosters for 5 to 11 year olds

Eau Claire, WI – October 25, 2022 – The updated fall booster doses for COVID-19 are now available for everyone age 5 and over. These booster shots help protect against the Omicron variant as well as the original strain of COVID-19. The CDC recommends that anyone age 5 or older who has already received their first doses of the COVID-19 vaccine make a plan to get this booster.

The Health Department is now taking appointments for the updated fall booster (and first doses of Pfizer or Moderna) at ecvaccine.as.me. Appointments are preferred, but walk-ins are welcome. People can find other places to get an updated fall booster or initial COVID-19 vaccines at vaccines.gov and at area heathcare providers.

"This booster can help strengthen our immune system against the most common strain of COVID-19," said Lieske Giese, Health Department Director. "Getting the COVID booster and the flu shot are great prevention steps to have a healthier fall and holiday season!"

COVID-19 Vaccine Strat-Cov Injection Only

Who is eligible for an updated fall booster?

- People who have already been vaccinated for COVID-19 and
- Are age 5 or older and
- It's been at least two months since the last dose of a previous COVID-19 vaccine

People who haven't gotten their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine are encouraged to make an appointment as soon as possible to start their vaccine series. Unvaccinated people continue to experience serious complications from COVID-19 at a higher rate than people who have received a vaccine, according to <u>data from the CDC</u>.

Follow the Health Department on <u>Facebook</u> or <u>Twitter</u> and check the <u>covid19eauclaire.org</u> website to learn about new appointments and clinic locations as they become available.