Get the Updated (Bivalent) COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Fact Sheet for Dialysis Patients October 2022

What is the updated bivalent booster vaccine?

- The updated COVID-19 vaccine includes a part of the original virus strain to provide broad protection against COVID-19 and a part of the Omicron variant to provide better protection against COVID-19 caused by the Omicron variant.
- These are called bivalent COVID-19 vaccines because they contain these two parts.

Why should I get the updated booster?

- Vaccines are used to help teach our body’s immune system to fight off specific infection.
- Dialysis patients who develop COVID-19 infection are at higher risk of severe illness and death than non-dialysis patients.
- Several COVID-19 vaccines available in the US have been shown to provide protection against severe infection in over 90% of dialysis patients!
- Being protected against COVID-19 not only protects you, but also your friends and loved ones by preventing the spread of this dangerous infection.
- COVID-19 vaccines do not cause COVID-19 infection.

Which one should I get?

- You can get either the Pfizer or Moderna updated booster vaccine. Mixing and matching is okay.

Can I receive the updated booster vaccine at the same time I receive my yearly influenza (flu) vaccine?

- Yes. It is safe to receive the flu vaccine and updated COVID-19 booster at the same time. If you have had issues with vaccines in the past or have recently had COVID-19, talk with your doctor.

Can the COVID-19 vaccine give me side effects?

- The most common side effects are injection site pain, muscle aches, and fever. These symptoms are normal and are a sign that the body is building up your defenses against infection.
References:


https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/interim-considerations-us.html

https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/images/COVID19-vaccination-schedule-immunocompromised.png

Disclaimer: These guidelines are not medical advice. Please talk to your doctor if you have questions about COVID-19 or COVID-19 vaccination.

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