COVID-19 Response Efforts - March 30, 2022

The State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy is committed to protecting the health and safety of Ohioans during the COVID-19 outbreak. The Board posted a document on its website that provides COVID-19 guidance and response efforts, including the issuance of waivers to assist licensees in addressing operational needs. **Waivers can be found starting on page 5 of this document:** www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/COVID.

For more information on the state's efforts to address coronavirus, visit www.coronavirus.ohio.gov or call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH.

Second COVID-19 Booster Dose Authorized for High-Risk Individuals

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have authorized a second booster dose for individuals who are at the highest risk for severe illness or death from COVID-19. This authorization will provide high-risk individuals another layer of protection against the effects of COVID-19.

Individuals eligible to receive a second booster dose (as identified by the Ohio Department of Health) include:

- People age 50 and older who received an initial mRNA booster dose (Pfizer or Moderna) at least four months ago **MAY RECEIVE** a **second booster dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine**. A second booster dose may be most beneficial for people who are age 65 and older, or who are age 50-64 with certain underlying medical conditions.

- People age 12 and older who are moderately to severely immunocompromised who received an initial mRNA booster dose (Pfizer or Moderna) at least four months ago **MAY RECEIVE a second booster dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine** (Pfizer, age 12+; Moderna, age 18+). *This means individuals age 12 years and older who are moderately to severely immunocompromised may receive as many as five doses – the recommended three-dose primary series for people who are immunocompromised, plus two booster doses.*

- Based on a newly published CDC report, adults who received **a primary vaccine and booster dose of the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 vaccine** at least 4 months ago **MAY RECEIVE** a **second booster dose using an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine**.

Eligible individuals should talk to their healthcare providers to assess individual risks and the benefits of another dose in strengthening ongoing protection. They may also call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634) to locate a provider or make an appointment.

For further information, please visit www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/BoosterGuidance.