

320 E. 9th Suite B
Winfield, KS 67156
Phone: (620) 221-1430
Fax: (620) 221-0389



City-Cowley County
Health Department

115 E. Radio Lane
Arkansas City, KS 67005
Phone: (620) 442-3260
Fax: (620) 442-1759

Contact: Daniel Vildasol
Public Information Officer
620-221-1430
Email: dvildasol@cowleycountyks.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 1, 2022

FDA Authorizes Moderna, Pfizer-BioNTech Bivalent COVID-19 Vaccines for Use as a Booster Dose

Yesterday, August 31st, the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) authorized the use of both the Moderna and Pfizer BioNTech bivalent COVID-19 vaccines as single booster doses for ages 12 and older. These new bivalent vaccines, also known as “updated boosters”, present the first update to the COVID-19 vaccine and will provide better protection against the current BA.4 and BA.5 lineages of the Omicron variant of COVID-19.

With this authorization, the FDA has also removed the authorization to use the monovalent vaccines as booster doses for ages 12 and older. As such, the Health Department will be unable to administer booster doses for those aged 12 and older until the new bivalent vaccines arrive in the coming weeks. The monovalent vaccines are still authorized to be used as vaccines for the primary series, as well as boosters for ages 5-11.

The Health Department will contact individuals currently scheduled for boosters to postpone their appointments until we receive the bivalent vaccines. Once these vaccines arrive, another news release will be issued to inform the public and booster scheduling will resume for those who wish to receive them.

For more information about the FDA’s authorization process, please read their press release linked below:
<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-fda-authorizes-moderna-pfizer-biontech-bivalent-covid-19-vaccines-use>

-End-