FORT DEFIANCE, AZ, - Fort Defiance Indian Hospital Board, Inc. (FDIHB) is receiving multiple inquiries regarding recent authorizations for a third Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine. The FDA, on August 12, 2021, authorized an additional dose of both Pfizer and Moderna vaccines for certain immunocompromised individuals. The Indian Health Service lists patients with the following conditions, among others, as “eligible population” for the third dose.

“These doses are intended for individuals with moderate to severe immunocompromised. Examples of conditions or therapies that cause moderate to severe immunocompromised are:

a. Active or recent chemotherapy for cancer
b. Receipt of a solid organ or stem cell transplant
c. Moderate to severe primary immunodeficiency
d. Advanced or untreated HIV infection
e. Active treatment with immunosuppressive medications such as: high dose steroids, chemotherapeutic agents, immunosuppressive medications for organ transplants, anti-TNF agents and other immunomodulatory biologic agents.

*Administration of an additional dose of COVID-19 vaccine is not limited to the conditions above and ACIP (Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices) recommends a patient’s primary clinical team is best positioned to assess an individual’s level of immune competence.”

Tséhootsooí Medical Center (TMC) and Nahata Dziil Health Center (NDHC) are reviewing this new authorization and are establishing a process to provide the COVID-19 vaccines to eligible patients. TMC and NDHC patients who are in this eligible population group will be notified and offered the additional COVID-19 vaccine dose.

This authorization is specifically for the “eligible population” defined above; other groups may be authorized in the coming weeks or months. FDIHB will provide additional details as they become available in the local media and also on social media outlets.

Hear us on the Radio:

- KTNN AM 660 / FM 101.5
- KGAK AM 1330
- KWRK FM 96.1
- KGLX FM 99.1/107.3
- KXTC FM 99.9
- KFMQ FM 106.1
Follow us on Social Media:

- Facebook: @tsehootsooi
- Twitter: @fdihbinc
- Instagram: @fdihbinc

For updates and changes, please look on our Facebook or Instagram pages. FDIHB has established a COVID-19 hotline (928-729-3435) that can receive public questions regarding symptoms, testing, and vaccines. Visit fdihb.org/covid19 to view COVID-19 vaccine & testing drive-up clinic schedule.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

FDA Additional COVID-19 Vaccine Dose Authorization for Certain Immunocompromised Individuals

Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine

Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine

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"To provide superior and compassionate healthcare to our community by raising the level of health, Hózhó, and quality of life"

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