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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

To: All Media

From: Joel Strasz, Public Health Officer – Bay County Health Department

Date: September 24, 2021

Re: **BAY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT PROVIDES THIRD DOSE, BOOSTER SHOTS FOR PFIZER BIONTECH STARTING SEPTEMBER 25**

**BAY COUNTY, MICHIGAN** – Based upon new CDC guidance for third doses of the Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine that was issued earlier today, the Bay County Health Department will begin administering third doses to adults over 65, Healthcare workers and other eligible persons for the Covid 19 Virus on Saturday September 25 from 9am to 12pm in a drive through clinic to be held at the Bay County Health Department located at 1200 Washington Ave in downtown Bay City. No appointment will be necessary.

In today's guidance the CDC recommends third doses for the following categories:

- people 65 years and older and residents in long-term care settings **should** receive a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech's COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after their Pfizer-BioNTech primary series,
- people aged 50–64 years with [underlying medical conditions](#) **should** receive a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech's COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after their Pfizer-BioNTech primary series,
- people aged 18–49 years with [underlying medical conditions](#) **may** receive a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech's COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after their Pfizer-BioNTech primary series, based on their individual benefits and risks, and
- people aged 18-64 years who are at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of occupational or institutional setting **may** receive a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech's COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after their Pfizer-BioNTech primary series, based on their individual benefits and risks.

Many of the people who are now eligible to receive a booster shot received their initial vaccine early in the vaccination program and will benefit from additional protection. With the Delta variant's dominance as the circulating strain and cases of COVID-19 increasing significantly across the United States, a booster shot will help strengthen protection against severe disease in those populations who are at high-risk for exposure to COVID-19 or the complications from severe disease.

Future BCHD vaccination clinics will also be held at the times and locations that will be published on the Bay County Health Department [Website](#). The Health Department will continue to give first shots, second shots, and third shot booster shots to Immunocompromised. To receive the third shot booster, identification and evidence of the first and second shot will be needed. Only the Pfizer vaccine will be provided to those who received the second shot of the Pfizer vaccine after 6 months.

At this time, 62% of Bay County residents over the age of 12 have initiated vaccination for COVID-19. [Vaccinations are available](#) through the Bay County Health Department, individual providers, Great Lakes Bay Health Center, and many area pharmacies.

Please do your part and help minimize the spread of COVID-19. For the latest and most accurate information regarding the COVID-19 please go to the Bay County Health Department website at <https://www.baycounty-mi.gov/Health/COVID19/>.