



Ministry of Health & Human Services

P.O. Box 6027 Koror, Republic of Palau 96940

Phone: (680) 488-2552/3 Fax: (680) 488-1211

E-mail: administration@palahealth.org Website: www.palahealth.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 9, 2021

CONTACT: Ministry of Health and Human Services
Public Information Officer
Tel: +680-775-1138 Fax: +680-488-1211
Email: edolem.ikerdeu@palahealth.org

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

The Ministry of Health and Human Services (MHHS) would like to inform the public that the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is currently recommending that moderately to severely immunocompromised people receive an additional (3rd) dose of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. This includes people who have:

- Been receiving active cancer treatment for tumors or cancers of the blood
- Received an organ transplant and are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- Received a stem cell transplant within the last 2 years or are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- Moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (such as DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome)
- Advanced or untreated HIV infection
- Active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids or other drugs that may suppress your immune response

People with moderately to severely compromised immune systems are especially vulnerable to COVID-19, and may not build the same level of immunity to 2-dose vaccine series compared to people who are not immunocompromised. This additional dose is intended to improve immunocompromised people's response to their initial vaccine series.

THESE ARE NOT BOOSTER DOSES. Booster doses are for people with normal immune systems and are not yet approved by CDC at this time. MHHS will update the public when booster doses are recommended/available for the general public.

There will be two CLOSED points of dispensing (PODS)¹ to vaccinate this target population:

Target Group	Location/POD	Date	Time
People with moderately to severely compromised immune systems	National Gym	September 13	10am – 3pm
	National Gym	September 16	10am – 3pm

¹ Closed PODs are not open for the general public, but used to give out vaccines to target groups.

MHHS is currently calling these individuals who are registered in our database to come in for vaccination. If you think you fall into this category and was not called by an MHHS staff, you may talk with your healthcare provider about your condition. You will have to bring in your doctor's note to indicate that you require a 3rd dose of the vaccine.

For more information about COVID-19 vaccines, call Immunization Program Manager, Ms. Merlyn Basilius at 775-2898.

Thank you.