**Common Questions for COVID Booster**

*Do I need to call the transplant clinic first to get it?*

* *No*

*Do I need a letter from the transplant center that I am a transplant recipient?*

* *No*

*When should I get the 3rd COVID vaccine?*

* *Now or at least 28 days from the 2nd COVID vaccine*

*Can I get other vaccines around the same time as the COVID vaccine*?

* *OK to get at the same time – previously CDC said separate by 2 weeks before we had enough data*

*I just received my organ transplant last month – how long do I have to wait to receive the vaccine?*

* *Depends on your induction immunosuppression – usually 1-3 months, sometimes 6 months*

*Do I need to test for antibodies before or after the vaccine*?

* *No*

*I got the J&J vaccine – do I Qualify?*

* *If you have received the J&J vaccine, a booster is not recommended at this time – we may be getting an announcement about this next week*

*Do I have to get the same brand as the first two vaccines I received?*

* *Yes, it is recommended you stick with the same manufacturer*

*Where can I get the vaccine?*

* *If you text your ZIP code to GETVAX (English) or VACUNA (Spanish), it will show you the closest pharmacies, what vaccines they have in stock, and if you need an appointment*
* *Local pharmacies such as: Walgreens (walk in), Walmart (appointment), Costco, CVS, Jewel Osco*

*Is Northwestern providing booster shots?*

* *Yes, but only Pfizer. Patients can find locations at* [**nm.org/covid-19**](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/read.nm.org/PoliteMail/default.aspx?page=FX7s-OSaJUecxE3PEsEiRQ&ref_id=7d3VG_dsTEG6ozWN6WHwfQ__;!!Dq0X2DkFhyF93HkjWTBQKhk!A4i_GogEDhyBscL9GbtaOcMuAAp7bpHZjM9fjlfInvzLMq8Wu2PCHOYh_pQGc7MiHvhBOp9G$)

*Can my kidney/liver donor get a booster dose of vaccine now as well?*

* *Unfortunately, not at this time – those who have a compromised immune system qualify; if they have not been vaccinated, they should*

*Can I travel after I get the booster?*

* *Still recommending to avoid non-essential travel, continue masking, social distancing, still take extra caution with increasing COVID cases and avoid high risk exposures – indoor dining, concerts, around unvaccinated individuals*

*What are the common symptoms we see for our transplant patients that do test positive for COVID?*

* *Unvaccinated – inpatient hospital stay, severe symptoms – SOB, uncontrolled fevers, vaccinated – Mild symptoms – cough, mild fever*

*My cousins who are unvaccinated want to come stay with me for a few days, can they?*

* *No*

*Do I have to change anything with my medications or frequency of lab draws?*

* *No*

*Are there any specific side effects that transplant patients get after the booster?*

* *Our patients commonly experience the same side effects as any other individual. So some arm soreness, headache, fatigue, mild fever that subsides in 24 hours, etc.*

*Can I still test positive if I received the vaccine?*

* *Yes*