



**Main Line Health®**

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## **FDA and CDC COVID-19 Booster Vaccine Recommendation**

### **Dear Residents and Family Members**

In the last 2 weeks the FDA and CDC have approved a second bivalent booster vaccine for seniors and immunocompromised patients. The exact effectiveness of the vaccine in preventing infection with currently circulating strains is not well established at this time.

Today in California at the annual meeting of the American Geriatrics Society (AGS) the Society's expert on the CDC's ACIP committee has made the following statements regarding the rationale for the CDC recommendations:

- "The bivalent COVID-19 vaccine continues to provide protection against severe COVID-19 disease;
- Immunity and vaccine effectiveness wanes over time in older adults, noticeable by 4 months after last dose;
- Immunity is restored by an additional dose;
- Some older adults may benefit from an additional bivalent COVID-19 dose prior to possible future recommendations for updated vaccines this fall."

What is known is that keeping up to date with all recommended vaccines is the best way to avoid severe COVID-19 infection. I am recommending this booster for patients in my own practice. The facility will be arranging for vaccine clinics in the coming weeks. If you have questions about your own health and whether you should receive the vaccine booster now, please check with your primary care physician.

Thank you.