



COVID VACCINE UPDATE

AUGUST 30, 2021

Dear Silverado Families,

As you may be aware, on August 24, the CDC reported that evidence is now convincing that booster shots will be needed for those who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. The specific rollout is still to be determined. However, the most current CDC recommendations (as of 8/20/21) are that those who are fully vaccinated with the mRNA vaccines (Pfizer and Moderna) receive a booster shot eight months after the date of their second vaccination.

This CDC recommendation still must be authorized by the FDA and CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. However, the CDC reports that if those two bodies approve the booster shots, the groups first to get those boosters will once again be residents in long-term care, healthcare providers, and other older adults.

Again, let me state that the vaccines available currently and that our residents received in February continue to be very effective at preventing hospitalizations, severe disease, and death. In addition, with our fully vaccinated communities and associate vaccine mandate since March, even with the arrival of the delta variant, we have had some rare asymptomatic breakthrough infections in a few communities but without any community-wide transmission or severe disease. Nevertheless, we practice appropriate infectious disease protocols, including masking and screening of associates and visitors.

It is unknown whether the federal government will support the booster shots for long-term care as was done before through the federal Long-Term Care Partnership Program, as that program has now ended. However, our pharmacy partners believe they will be able to support the administration of booster shots. The plan will be to provide the boosters in our communities after our flu shot clinics are held in mid-September. As soon as we can verify that, we will let you know. If that does not happen, we will be working to provide booster shots within our communities nevertheless.

Rest assured that at Silverado, we will continue to watch and advocate for our residents and associates to get booster shots as soon as they are indicated.

We will keep you updated as the federal government's plans for providing booster doses evolve.

Thank you!

Kim

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