



# Yakima Health District

## Media Release

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### **Second Dose of COVID-19 Vaccine**

YAKIMA, WA- With limited COVID-19 vaccine supply in Yakima County, many individuals are finding challenges in scheduling their appointment. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has released recommendations for individuals receiving their second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.

Currently, the authorized vaccines to prevent COVID-19 **require 2 shots** to get the most protection:

- Pfizer-BioNTech: doses should be given at least 3 weeks (21 days) apart
- Moderna: doses should be given at least 1 month (28 days) apart

You should **get your second shot as close to the recommended 3-week or 1-month interval as possible**. However, there is no maximum interval between the first and second doses for either vaccine. You should not get the second dose earlier than the recommended interval.

### **Washington State COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Update**

The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) gave an update on vaccine shipment delays and the allocation forecast for the next three weeks. There has been a major delay in vaccine shipments across the nation due to winter storms. DOH estimates that due to weather out east, 90% of this week's vaccine allocation will arrive late. Consequently, many locations will need to cancel or reschedule appointments.

In regard to allocation for the upcoming weeks, DOH will begin allocating more COVID-19 vaccines to counties who have a larger population under our current phase of vaccine distribution, which is Phase 1A and Phase 1B Tier 1. As a result, some counties may receive more COVID-19 vaccines than other counties across the state.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Dose of COVID-19 Vaccine Appointment**

Currently, individuals who receive their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine will either be scheduled for their 2<sup>nd</sup> dose at that time, or the facility will call the individual when it is near the minimum time to get their second dose. Due to limited 2<sup>nd</sup> doses of the COVID-19 vaccine, some hospitals and clinic have had to cancel 2<sup>nd</sup> dose appointments. Community members who had their appointment cancelled should not seek the vaccine elsewhere. Community members are expected to get their 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> dose from the same location. Each location has a list of individuals who have received the 1<sup>st</sup> dose and will work to ensure that their 2<sup>nd</sup> dose will be



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received. Community members should not be concerned that they will not receive their 2<sup>nd</sup> dose after receiving the 1<sup>st</sup> dose.

## **Quote**

“The 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> dose of the COVID-19 vaccine needs to be by the same manufacturer. The date of the 2<sup>nd</sup> dose is not as important as insuring you get that 2<sup>nd</sup> dose. Be assured that our clinics are working hard to get patients scheduled for both their first and second appointment with the resources available.” -Dr. Jecha, Interim Health Officer, Yakima Health District

## **Additional Information**

[Phase Finder Tool](#)

[Yakima COVID-19 Vaccine Locations](#)

[CDC COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

[CDC Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 Vaccination](#)

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