

COVID-19 Vaccine FAQs

1. Who is eligible under federal guidelines (as of Sept 2025):

- **The FDA has approved the 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine for use in:**
 - Adults 65 years or older, OR
 - Individuals 6 months to 64 years with at least one underlying condition that puts them at high risk for severe COVID-19 outcomes
- **How this relates to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) /Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) guidance:**
 - The FDA licenses vaccines for safety and effectiveness, while the ACIP, a CDC advisory group, develops detailed recommendations on who should receive the vaccine and how.
 - The CDC then publishes ACIP’s recommendations as official U.S. policy, which CHP follows.

2. Does Capital Health Plan cover the updated COVID vaccine?

- Yes, COVID-19 vaccination is covered by CHP, in accordance with CDC and ACIP guidance. Eligible patients can receive the vaccine at no cost share.

3. Where to get vaccinated in our area of Florida:

- Currently, CVS is the only local pharmacy offering the updated COVID-19 vaccine, and they require a prescription.
- CHP is ordering the updated 2025–2026 vaccine for our physician group practices, but it is not yet in stock.

4. Support for patients:

- Our physicians have been provided guidance on writing prescriptions for patients who wish to receive the vaccine at a pharmacy.
- Once CHP receives the updated vaccine, our Physician group will administer it to eligible patients who are assigned to them as their PCP.

5. Updated guidance forthcoming:

- The CDC’s advisory panel (ACIP) has not yet issued final guidance (meeting scheduled for September 18), creating temporary access restrictions. Some pharmacies are awaiting this guidance before providing the vaccine.
- Once ACIP issues new recommendations, providers and pharmacies may adjust protocols and broaden accessibility.