

LDF COVID News

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What's Different About New COVID-19 Booster?

Now that the new vaccine booster has arrived at the Peter Christensen Health Center, community members may wonder what's the difference between the new COVID-19 vaccine booster and the original vaccines developed to protect people during the pandemic.

The newly authorized shots are the first updates to the original COVID-19 vaccines that were introduced in late 2020. They use the same mRNA technology as the original vaccines.

The key difference between the original COVID-19 shots and the new "bivalent" version is that the latter consists of a mixture of mRNA that encodes the spike proteins of both the original SARS-CoV-2 virus and the more recent omicron subvariants, BA.4 and BA.5.

Why Should You Get The New Booster Vaccine?

As of late August 2022, the BA.4 and BA.5 omicron subvariants are dominant worldwide. In the U.S., currently 89% of COVID-19 infections are caused by BA.5 and 11% are caused by BA.4.

The inability of the original vaccine strains to prevent reinfection and to trigger long-term protective immunity prompted the need for the reformulated vaccines. Put another way, the virus outsmarted the first vaccines and we now have a new, smarter vaccine to keep up.

Where Can I Find Free Test Kits In Our Community?

- 📍 Peter Christensen Health Center Entrance
- 📍 Lac du Flambeau Tribal Police Department Entrance

Got COVID Questions? Need COVID Supplies?

- 📞 Call Sarah Keuer (715) 588-3371 x1910
- 📞 Call Sandra Supinski (715) 588-3371 x1902