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**Health Department of Northwest Michigan COVID-19 Update**

**Returning from spring break and wanting to get tested?  
Second booster available for those over 50, or immunocompromised**

If you're returning from spring break and want to get tested, the Health Department of Northwest Michigan has you covered! In addition, the health department is offering a second booster shot for those 50 and older or who may be immunocompromised and wish to further protect themselves from COVID-19.

"As many of us are returning from spring break travels, it is important to know your COVID-19 status," said Lisa Peacock, Health Officer for the health department. "We offer free and quick tests in convenient locations in all our counties," she added. To find a location near you, visit <http://nwhealth.org/covid19test.html>.

Should you or anyone in your household test positive, or if you are exposed to someone who is COVID-19 positive, you should [know the steps to take](#) to isolate or quarantine for the safety of you and those around you.

In addition to testing, residents are urged to make sure their vaccinations are up to date. The Health Department of Northwest Michigan offers [convenient COVID-19 vaccination clinics](#) across its four-county region of Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet and Otsego counties.

The health department is beginning to offer residents ages 50 and up, and moderately or severely immunocompromised individuals over age 12, a second booster vaccine.

Dr. Joshua Meyerson urges those who are at high risk of the severe complications from COVID-19, or who live with someone who is immunocompromised, to get the second booster shot.

"The second booster vaccine is meant to provide further protection in those with underlying health conditions," Dr. Meyerson said. "Each individual should base their decision to get the second booster shot on their medical conditions, whether they've recently had COVID (which provides some protection), and the makeup of others in their household who may be immunocompromised. These are all considerations to take into account," he said.

Four months after receipt of a first booster dose, the following options are available to individuals who choose to receive a second dose:

- A second booster dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine may be administered to individuals 50 years of age and older.
- A second booster dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine may be administered to moderately or severely immunocompromised individuals 12 years of age and older.

*The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is mandated by the Michigan Public Health Code to promote wellness, prevent disease, provide quality healthcare, address health problems of vulnerable populations, and protect the environment for the residents and visitors of Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, and Otsego counties. For more information, visit [nwhealth.org](http://nwhealth.org).*

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- A second booster dose of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine may be administered to moderately or severely immunocompromised individuals 18 years of age and older.

“Vaccination continues to be our best protection strategy against severe COVID illness and death,” Dr. Meyerson said, adding it is important to be up to date on your vaccination series, whether it is first or second doses or the booster shots.

Stay up to date on the latest information in the Health Department of Northwest Michigan jurisdiction by [liking and following our Facebook page](#) and visiting our [COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#). To locate a testing facility, visit the [Michigan COVID-19 Test Finder website](#). To track the risk levels of COVID-19 pandemic indicators, visit the [MI Safe Start Map website](#). For more information regarding the COVID-19 vaccine, visit the MDHHS [vaccine website](#) or the [CDC vaccine website](#).

CUTLINE:

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services developed a flyer to help individuals determine if they are eligible to consider receiving a second booster shot.

## Second COVID-19 booster doses are now available!

If you are **50+ years**, you may choose to receive a second booster dose once **4 months** have passed since your last booster.\*

If you are 12+ years and are moderately to severely **immunocompromised**, you may choose to receive a second booster dose once **4 months** have passed since your last booster.\*

\*Talk to your health care provider to decide which booster vaccine is right for you.

For help finding a vaccination site, visit [Michigan.gov/COVIDVaccine](https://Michigan.gov/COVIDVaccine) or call 2-1-1.

### COVID-19 CASE DATA

MARCH 30 - APRIL 5, 2022

	Total New Cases	Avg. Daily Cases	New Deaths
Antrim	6	0.9	0
Charlevoix	1	0.1	0
Emmet	8	1.1	0
Otsego	10	1.4	0

Public Health Information Line: 1-800-386-5959  
More COVID data: [www.nwhealth.org/covid19](http://www.nwhealth.org/covid19)  
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