

December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021



CDC Says Everyone 16 and Older Should Get Covid-19 Booster Due to Omicron Variant

Pfizer-BioNTech's booster dose of their vaccine offers significant protection against the Omicron variant, the companies said

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/booster-shot.html>

COVID-19 Vaccine booster shots are available for the following Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine recipients who completed their initial series at least 6 months ago:

- 16 years and older
- There's no known mutation that can make a virus evade precautions such as face masks, handwashing and physical distancing. Even if a mutation helps a virus become more viable as an airborne pathogen, better ventilation can help prevent transmission.

## COVID-19 VACCINATION BOOSTER CLINIC

**LOCATION:** Cultural Center

**DATE:** DECEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>, 15<sup>TH</sup> & 16<sup>TH</sup>

**TIME:** 8AM – 2PM

**ELIGIIBILITY:** 16 YRS +

**NOTE:** *THE MEDICAL CENTER ADMINISTERS PFIZER. FOR THE PURPOSES OF A BOOSTER; IT DOES MATTER WHAT PRIOR COVID VACCINATION YOU HAVE*

## MCOR'S CURRENT COVID-19 VACCINATION QUALIFICATIONS:

**Vaccine:** Pfizer (A Pfizer booster can be received even if prior vaccination are Moderna or J&J)

**Dose Type:** 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and Booster

### Eligibility:

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> dose 12+ years of age

Minors 5 – 11 years of age should be directed to schedule with Dr. Monte-Fernandez/Nicklaus Children's Hospital

16+ years of age for a Booster dose (FDA/CDC approved the drop in age last night). Minors will need to be accompanied by their guardian

3wks (21 days) between 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> dose

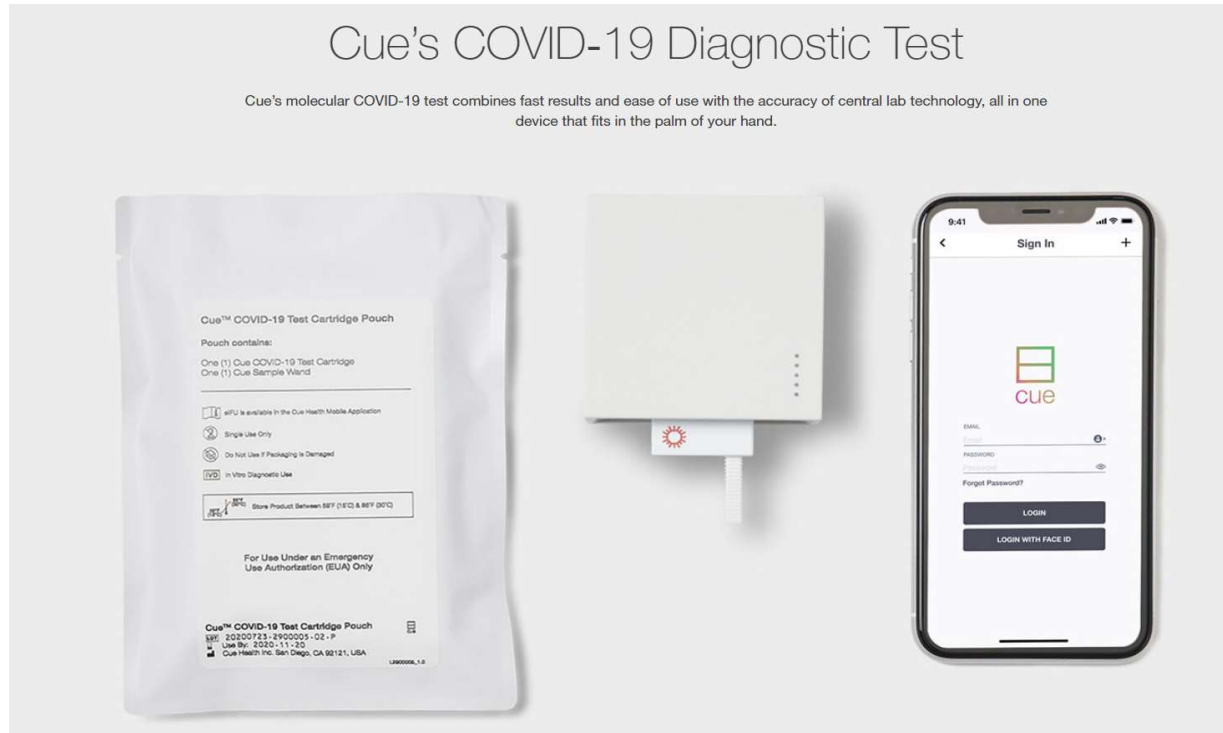
6 months between 2<sup>nd</sup> dose and Booster

2wks between Flu vaccination and COVID-19 vaccination

Participants must have access to Ocean Reef

90 days post COVID Antibody Treatment

## RAPID PCR TESTING NOW AVAILABLE AT THE MEDICAL CENTER



Cue's COVID-19 test is the first molecular test authorized by the FDA for at-home, over-the-counter use, without a prescription.

The Medical Center is pleased to announce the addition of CUE's COVID-19 Diagnostic Test kit to our array of testing modalities. CUE's kit provides the Medical Center with the ability to satisfy International PCR-testing requirement. <https://cuehealth.com/solutions/healthcare/>, <https://cuehealth.com/products/how-cue-detects-covid-19/>

In addition, we continue to monitor international testing requirements. Canada is poised to transition from PCR to Rapid Antigen testing November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 for those individuals who travel out of the country for 3-days or less, <https://www.wmur.com/article/canada-covid-testing-requirements/38305159#>. As with all testing, please call the Medical Center to schedule your appointment.

## VARIANT UPDATE:

### OMICRON

Early reports on the quick spread of the Omicron variant in South Africa were at first frightening, but then began to offer some hope. The new variant may have quickly overtaken other strains of the virus in South Africa as it enters the summer, but cases so far appear to have been overwhelmingly mild.

Then came [a report showing the variant](#) carries a portion of genetic material that's very similar to segments seen in one of the types of coronaviruses that causes the common colds -- one called HCoV-229E. A few researchers said it just might indicate the variant is starting to look more like a nuisance virus than a big killer.

It's a tantalizing idea. Many infectious disease experts have been predicting that the novel coronavirus, named SARS-CoV-2, would go in this direction, evolving into a milder form that joins the annual mix of seasonal respiratory viruses. The data from South Africa, the first country to spot the Omicron variant, does look hopeful.

It's becoming evident that Omicron is highly transmissible. "Over the last week, the number of daily infections has increased five-fold," South African President Cyril Ramaphosa said in a weekly newsletter Monday.

The rate of positive Covid-19 tests in South Africa has jumped by 24% since the Omicron variant was detected two weeks ago, according to the latest data from the South African National Institute for Communicable Diseases.

A virus that is more transmissible while causing milder disease is just what scientists would expect to see in something that was evolving to become more like other common cold viruses.

"While we are preoccupied and fascinated by Omicron, Delta, the old enemy of the summer is still here causing damage," he said. "We have all got to be vaccinated. All this enchantment with Omicron is not an excuse to not get vaccinated."

<https://www.cnn.com/2021/12/07/health/omicron-variant-milder-not-yet/index.html>



**PLEASE NOTE THE MEDICAL CENTER'S HOLIDAY HOURS:**

CHRISTMAS EVE, FRIDAY DECEMBER 24 <sup>TH</sup>	8AM- NOON
CHRISTMAS DAY, SATURDAY DECEMBER 25 <sup>TH</sup>	CLOSED
NEW YEARS EVE, FRIDAY DECEMBER 31 <sup>ST</sup>	8AM- NOON
NEW YEARS DAY, SATURDAY JANUARY 1 <sup>ST</sup>	CLOSED

VISITING SPECIALIST UPATE:



Ophthalmology:

Effective December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 the telephone number patients call to register/schedule appointments for University of Miami Bascom Palmer Eye Institute Ophthalmology and University of Miami Urology is:

**786-530-2289.**

AUDIOLOGY:

Daisy Elwick will be adding on Saturday January 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> from 9AM -2 PM.

## Holiday Celebrations: What to know!

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays/celebrations.html>

### In Other News:



### UPDATE

Travel requirements to enter the United States are changing, starting November 8, 2021. More information is available [here](#).

Know travel requirements and recommendations for international travel.

[U.S. Citizens, U.S. Nationals, U.S. Lawful Permanent Residents, and Immigrants](#)  
[Non-U.S. Citizen, Non-U.S. Immigrants: Air Travel to the United States](#)  
[Travel Recommendations by Destination](#)

### DETAILS ABOUT TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS

[Required Testing before Air Travel to U.S.](#)  
[Mask Requirement](#)  
[Vaccine Requirement](#)

CDC has temporarily extended the [Framework for Conditional Sailing Order](#) (CSO) through January 15, 2022, with minor modifications. The CSO, as modified, applies to *foreign-flagged* cruise ships operating or seeking to operate in U.S. waters. The temporary extension is effective upon expiration of the current

CSO on November 1, 2021. Passenger operations have now resumed on cruise ships. The CSO as modified aligns with current public health considerations and other factors onboard cruise ships.

CDC has issued a [Level 3 Travel Health Notice](#) for cruise ship travelers.

The chance of getting COVID-19 on cruise ships is high because the virus spreads easily between people in close quarters aboard ships.

The following groups of people **should avoid** traveling on cruise ships, including river cruises, worldwide:

- People who are **not fully vaccinated**
- People with an [increased risk of severe illness](#), regardless of vaccination status

People who decide to go on a cruise should [get tested](#) 1–3 days before their trip and 3–5 days after their trip, regardless of vaccination status.

## RESOURCE

Additional information, links to community and local resources, MCOR's updated COVID-19 tracking grid and more is available at:

[WWW.MCOR.ORG](http://WWW.MCOR.ORG)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/children-teens.html>

Johnson & Johnson's Covid-19 vaccine is 73.6% effective, according to new real-world study  
<https://www.cnn.com/2021/11/02/health/johnson-covid-vaccine-study/index.html>



