



Public Health
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Greene County



Greene County Public Health

Melissa Howell MS, MBA, MPH, RN, RS, Health Commissioner
Kevin L. Sharrett, MD, Medical Director

Press Release

For Immediate Release
October 20, 2022

Contact: Laurie Fox, Public Information Officer
937-374-5669 office / 937-283-5178 cell
lfox@gcph.info

Public Health Receives Approval To Provide Updated COVID-19 Boosters to Ages 5-11 Beginning Friday, October 21

XENIA, OH – Greene County Public Health (GCPH) officials have announced that beginning on Friday, October 21, the updated COVID-19 booster will be available for ages 5-11 years old. The agency will only be offering the Pfizer brand at this time.

Since children are back in school and people are resuming pre-pandemic activities and behaviors, there is the potential for increased risk of exposure to the virus that causes COVID-19. GCPH is confident in the vaccine as an effective measure to prevent the severe consequences of COVID-19, including hospitalization and death. Even mild COVID cases in children have the potential to cause long-term effects.

The updated – or bivalent – boosters were created to combat a possible fall/winter virus surge and contain both the original SARS-CoV-2 strain and the omicron BA.4/5 variants. About 79% of the circulating strains are BA.5, and the rest are other omicron variants, [according to the CDC](#).

Children as young as 5 years who have completed a primary series are eligible for a single bivalent booster two months after previous doses. The booster for children does not have to be the same brand they received for their initial series.

GCPH offers a COVID-19 clinic every Friday morning from 8:30-10:00am and again in the afternoon from 2:00-3:30pm. You can register online at <https://gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov> or simply come as a walk-in. *No clinic will be offered on November 11th or 25th due to the observance of Veteran's Day and Thanksgiving.*

If you have questions, please send an email to covid19@gcph.info or call 937-374-5600 and listen for the prompts.

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360 Wilson Drive • Xenia, Ohio 45385
(937) 374-5600 • toll free (866) 858-3588 • Fax (937) 374-5675
www.gcph.info