

# COVID-19 Bulletin

 Southcoast Health

Exclusively for the employees  
of Southcoast Health

*June 30, 2022*

*Greetings, Southcoast Colleagues.*

In this Bulletin, you will find the following:

- **Reminder to assess and vaccinate patients to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19**
- **Contact tracing**
- **Return-to-Work (RTW): When to notify Employee Health if you test positive and what information to provide**
- **Criteria for “up to date”**
- **STATUS REPORT: COVID-19 cases**

Please scroll through the entire Bulletin for these updates, and be sure to visit Southcoast’s [COVID-19 Employee Hub](#).

*Thank you.*

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## **Reminder to assess and vaccinate patients to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19**

- Vaccination and compliance with all safety and Infection Prevention policies reduces the risks of spreading COVID-19.
  - + [Southcoast Guidance for PPE Use and Optimization \(Updated 06/24/22\)](#)
- All staff and patients should be “up to date,” with COVID-19 vaccination.

- You are **“up to date”** with your COVID-19 vaccines when you have received **all doses in the primary series and all boosters recommended for you**, when eligible. *See also Criteria for “up to date” in this bulletin.*
    - + A second booster is recommended for all adults  $\geq$  50 years old and those with immunocompromising conditions.
  - Quarantine, testing and follow-up is required for anybody who is NOT, **“up to date”** with vaccination.
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### **Contact tracing**

- Post-exposure contact tracing of patients and staff is still required when a positive COVID-19 case is identified.
- As per the “Return to Work” decision algorithms, leaders are expected to notify Infection Prevention when potential exposures may have occurred:
  - + **Employee notifies Manager if test result is positive.**
  - + **Manager notifies Infection Prevention if employee had patient contact within 2 days of symptom onset. Email: [InfectionPrevention@southcoast.org](mailto:InfectionPrevention@southcoast.org).**

#### Return to Work Algorithms:

- + [Return to Work Decision Algorithm for Asymptomatic Employees 01/20/22](#)
  - + [Return to Work Decision Algorithm for Symptomatic Employees 01/20/22](#)
  - Infection Prevention guides the contact tracing activities, in collaboration with leaders.
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### **Return-to-work (RTW): When to notify Employee Health if you test positive and what information to provide**

Employees who test positive for COVID-19 must be cleared to return to work.

The [return-to-work online form](#) should be completed (or an email sent to [SC-CovidReturn@southcoast.org](mailto:SC-CovidReturn@southcoast.org) with the information on the list below) **on day 5 after a positive test (not any sooner)**.

Employee:

Date of Birth:

Phone Number

Employee Email:

Home Department Name:

Employee Manager:

Test Date:

Test Result:

Describe Symptoms:

Date Symptoms Started:

Have your symptoms improved?

Dates Out of Work:

Received Vaccine:

Have you been fever free in the past 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication?

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**Criteria for “up to date”**

**Individuals are considered up to date with their COVID-19 vaccines during the surveillance period of June 27, 2022, through September 2, 2022 for the purpose of NHSN surveillance if they meet (1) of the following criteria\*:**

<b>If Under 50 Years:</b>	<b>If 50 Years and Older:</b>
<p>Received at least <b>one booster dose</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>or</u></p> <p><b>Recently</b> received all recommended doses in the <b>primary vaccine series</b> but is <b>not yet eligible for a booster dose</b>. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Those who completed their 2-dose primary series of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna) <b>less than 5 months ago</b>.</li> <li>b) Those who received a single dose of Janssen <b>less than two months ago</b>.</li> </ul>	<p>Received <b>second booster dose</b> (or received <b>first booster dose less than 4 months ago</b> and not yet eligible for a second booster dose)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>or</u></p> <p><b>Recently</b> received all recommended doses in the <b>primary vaccine series</b> but is <b>not yet eligible for a booster dose</b>. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Those who completed their 2-dose primary series of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna) <b>less than 5 months ago</b>.</li> <li>b) Those who received a single dose of Janssen <b>less than two months ago</b>.</li> </ul>

\*Individuals with a moderately to severely immunocompromising condition are considered up to date in the following cases:

- 1) Received an additional dose less than three months ago, if primary series was the Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine; or
- 2) Received an additional dose less than two months ago, if primary series was the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine; or
- 3) Received an additional dose and one booster dose **less than four months ago, or**
- 4) Received a second booster dose.

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## **STATUS REPORT: COVID-19 cases**

As of midday, we had 25 patients who tested positive for COVID-19 hospitalized across our system – with no positive cases in ICU. In addition, we had 15 PUI hospitalized across our system – with 2 PUI in ICU.

COVID-19 daily dashboards, generated by the Southcoast Analytics Team, are available [here](#).

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*Thank you, and be well.*