

September 8, 2022

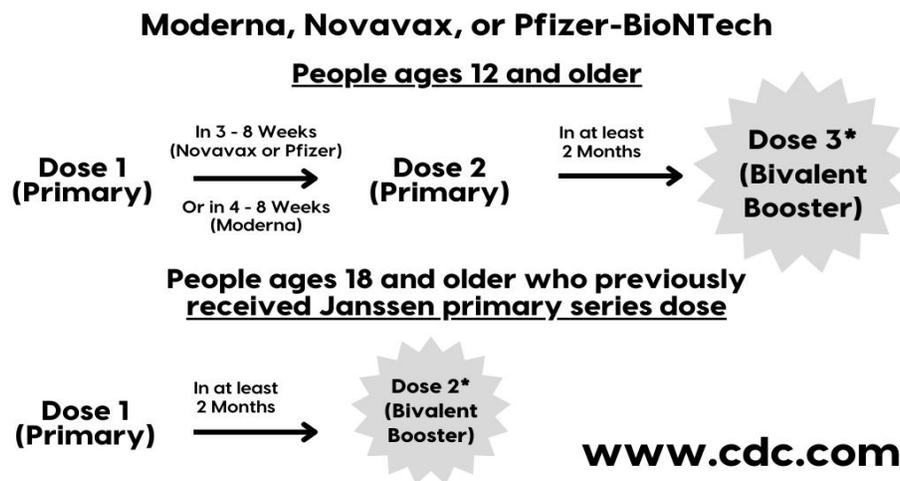
Dear Lorien Families and Residents,

As the fall season approaches, I'm reminded that this time of the year always brings changes such as the first days of school for my grandchildren and the changing colors of the leaves. Along with these changes comes the Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) new announcement about the **new bivalent booster vaccinations** that will offer additional protection in the months to come.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has reported that the new bivalent vaccines, also referred to as "updated boosters," contain two messenger RNA (mRNA) components of SARS-CoV-2 virus, one of the original strains of SARS-CoV-2 and the other one in common between the BA.4 and BA.5 lineages of the omicron variant of SARS-CoV-2.

According to the CDC "You are **up to date** with your COVID-19 vaccines if you have completed a COVID-19 vaccine **primary** series and have also received the **most recent booster** dose recommended for you." You may find additional information here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html>.

Below is a graph illustrating when you may receive the bivalent booster. **If you have recently received a booster after your primary series, you must wait another 2 months before receiving the bivalent booster.**



Beginning this week, all of the Lorien facilities will be holding vaccine clinics for both our residents and employees so please look out for communication from your Administrator for more details.

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Additionally, the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) reported that at this time, the availability of the bivalent booster is still limited and we hope that our hospital partners will have an adequate supply soon. However, until their vaccine supply can meet the needs of our residents, we are following the guidance set forth by MDH that states that any new residents and those returning to a Lorien facility from the hospital, and who are **not** up to date, will need to be placed on transmission-based precautions and quarantined for 10 days. Please note that this could affect room changes within the facility and while in quarantine, those residents will be unable to participate in group activities and dining.

As we transition into the fall season, please continue to wear your mask when visiting and test beforehand if your facility is in a high or substantial transmission county. I am optimistic that together, we will be able to navigate through these new changes smoothly.

Thank you again for your patience and cooperation.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lou Grimmel".

Lou Grimmel, CEO

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