

To: Medi-Cal and Cal MediConnect* network participants

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Subject: **COVID-19 All Plan Letters – APL 20-022 revisions regarding vaccination booster shots**

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) has issued several All Plan Letters (APLs) to Medi-Cal managed care plans (MCPs) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Recently, APL 20-022 was revised regarding COVID-19 vaccination booster shots. We are sharing a summary of these APL guidelines with you to ensure you are aware of the information.

Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan (Blue Shield Promise) also publishes other [COVID-19 information](#), some of which pertains to network Medi-Cal service providers.

APL 20-022

COVID-19 Vaccine Administration

Updates include:

- Individuals with suppressed immune systems should receive a third primary dose of the initial vaccine they received (Pfizer or Moderna) at least 28 days after their second dose.
- Booster shots are recommended for all eligible individuals. As eligibility recommendations are evolving rapidly, please refer to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/booster-shot.html>
- A [new public health order](#) requires healthcare workers to receive booster shots once they become eligible, or else they must be tested for COVID-19 twice weekly. Shots must be received by March 1, 2022 or within 15 days of becoming eligible for them.
- All workers in skilled nursing facilities should be tested for COVID-19 twice weekly, even if they are vaccinated and have received booster shots.

This summary is only meant as a brief description of the APL guidelines. Please see the entire APL for the complete requirements. The full text of all DHCS managed care APLs may be found at this URL: <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/Pages/AllPlanLetters.aspx>. Links to the DHCS.ca.gov website will take you off of the Blue Shield Promise website.

If you have questions about applying any of the information in this notice to Blue Shield Promise members, please call our Provider Services Department at **(800) 468-9935** from 6 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

*Cal MediConnect network participants are responsible for identifying and applying the guidance and requirements that pertain to their patients.