



BRICKSTONE | FOUNDATION | HOME | MEADOWS

September 28, 2021

Dear St. John's Residents and Family Members,

As you are likely aware, today marks the first day when health care workers in New York State, who refuse to get vaccinated for COVID-19 (or do not have an approved religious/medical exemption), are no longer permitted to work in any hospital system or long-term care facility, including St. John's. It is with great appreciation for the notable efforts of our staff members involved with vaccination education and recruitment that I share with you that St. John's is in full compliance with the mandate. I am also grateful for all of our staff members at St. John's who have taken the courageous step to get vaccinated in order to protect themselves, their families, and the residents we are privileged to serve.

With recent information being released by the Centers for Disease Control and the Federal Drug Administration regarding the Pfizer booster vaccine being authorized for use, we also wanted to provide you with an update on how this impacts residents at St. John's Home.

Who will get a booster shot?

- The current recommendation is that all residents in long-term care facilities, who had the Pfizer vaccine 6 or more months ago, should get a booster shot.
- Currently, a Moderna booster is recommended for a small category of residents who have already had the Moderna vaccine. (Residents who fall into this category will be contacted directly.) This may be subject to change.
- St. John's will be administering Pfizer booster shots to residents without the use of an outside vendor. The vaccination booster process will be conducted over the next few days, beginning tomorrow, September 29.

What is the process for booster shot approval by residents and/or health care proxies?

- A new consent form has been designated for this booster process and can be found here: [covid-19-immunization-screening-and-consent-form_092421.pdf \(ny.gov\)](https://www.stjohnsliving.org/covid-19-immunization-screening-and-consent-form_092421.pdf)
- St. John's staff members will be filling out the form with demographics and medical background information for every resident receiving the booster. Consent will then be secured from residents who make their own medical decisions or for the residents who require it, by contacting a resident's designated health care proxy. Please expect our phone call and provide a prompt return call if you receive a voicemail message.
- More information about the Pfizer booster shot can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/booster-shot.html>

When will staff members be given the opportunity to receive a booster shot?

- We will be scheduling a booster shot clinic for staff members who have had the Pfizer vaccine after the vaccination of all eligible residents has been completed. Staff members may also go to other community providers (Walgreens, Wegmans, etc.) for a booster shot.

The following information noted above is what we know at this time. We will continue to share relevant information as updates become available through New York State Department of Health, which is the governing body that guides the processes and policies for nursing homes in New York State. If you have any further questions, please direct them by email to: updates@stjohnsliving.org.

Thank you for your continued support as we implement safe vaccination practices in protection of residents, staff members, and visitors.

Sincerely,

President and CEO

Embrace Living

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