



## NORTH GEORGIA HEALTH DISTRICT

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**August 18, 2021**

### **Public Health in North Georgia Provides 3rd COVID-19 Vaccine to Eligible Clients**

**NORTH GA** – North Georgia Health District officials announced that public health departments in Cherokee, Fannin, Gilmer, Murray, Pickens and Whitfield counties will provide a third dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine to certain patients with weakened immune systems.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend that people who are moderately to severely immunocompromised receive an additional dose of Pfizer or Moderna COVID vaccine at least 28 days after completion of the initial two doses. This recommendation does not include Johnson and Johnson vaccine recipients.

Eligible immunocompromising conditions for an additional dose of COVID-19 vaccine include:

- Active treatment for solid tumor and hematologic malignancies
- Receipt of a solid-organ transplant and taking immunosuppressive therapy
- Receipt of CAR-T-cell or hematopoietic stem cell transplant (within 2 years of transplantation or taking immunosuppression therapy)
- Moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (such as DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome)
- Advanced or untreated HIV infection
- Active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids ( $\geq 20$ mg prednisone or equivalent per day), alkylating agents, antimetabolites, transplant-related immunosuppressive drugs, cancer chemotherapeutic agents classified as severely immunosuppressive, tumor-necrosis (TNF) blockers, and other biologic agents that are immunosuppressive or immunomodulatory

Eligible patients must request a third dose of the vaccine, and to receive it, they may either provide documentation from their physician or self-attest to one of the medical conditions above by signing a consent form.

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**NORTH GEORGIA HEALTH DISTRICT 1-2**

Cherokee: Canton (770) 345-7371 / Woodstock (770) 928-0133      Gilmer (706) 635-4363      Pickens (706) 253-2821

Fannin (706) 632-3023      Murray (706) 695-4585      Whitfield (706) 226-2621

The vaccine is free, and no appointment is needed to receive COVID-19 vaccine at the county health departments in the North Georgia Health District; however, an appointment may be arranged by calling ahead. Phone numbers and addresses for county health departments in North Georgia are available at [www.nghd.org](http://www.nghd.org).

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**About Us:** The North Georgia Health District is part of the Georgia Department of Public Health. One of 18 health districts in the state, the North Georgia Health District (District 1-2) is comprised of six counties: Cherokee, Fannin, Gilmer, Murray, Pickens, and Whitfield. Many public health programs and services exist throughout the district, all of which are designed to meet the needs of the people of North Georgia. Learn more about us at [www.nghd.org](http://www.nghd.org), and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).



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