

September 16, 2022

MEMORANDUM

TO: Jewish Senior Services Community

FROM: Andrew H. Banoff
President & CEO

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Update #122

Hello all...

As a reminder, I plan to provide Family Updates through our monthly newsletter on the 1st of each month and a broader community Update mid-month unless there is something more substantive to add in the interim.

Some interesting information about vaccination in the United States – approximately 80% of the population has received at least 1 dose of the vaccine, and 68% has been fully vaccinated. That number drops off with regard to boosters, as only 50% of the booster-eligible population has received at least 1 dose. It does vary by age. Weekly data is available on the CDC website and you can subscribe to receive their reports.

As you all know, the CDC is now recommending that everyone ages 12 years and older receive an updated COVID-19 booster before a possible surge in illness later this fall and winter. Like the original boosters, the updated doses help restore protection that might have gone down since your last dose – and they also give extra protection for yourself and those around you against the most recent variants. The updated booster is a bivalent vaccine because it targets 2 Omicron subvariants: BA.4 and BA.5, which are more contagious and able to evade protection.

Flu season is also approaching, and the CDC has suggested getting BOTH the COVID-19 vaccine and a flu shot at the same visit. These are now becoming readily available throughout the community, and we will be providing them for Residents and staff.

In terms of cases on the campus, we continue to see small numbers of staff and Resident cases, and have been following all guidelines related to Infection Control precautions. This means that we still have screening protocols at our entrances, face coverings for everyone in the building (except while eating), and activities with food are still separated for Residents.

We are all looking forward to the upcoming Jewish Holidays, which begin on Sunday evening September 25th with the first night of Rosh HaShonah. I wish you and your families a sweet and happy and healthy new year 5783.

Stay safe and keep the faith!
Andrew