



March 18, 2024

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT INFORMATION: NCDHD Vaccine Coordinator  
North Central District Health Department 1-402-336-2406**

**COVID-19 and Measles Update**  
Public Service Announcement

North Central District Health Department (NCDHD) would like to provide a community update on changes with COVID-19 vaccinations and the rise in Measles cases in the US.

**COVID-19:** On February 28, the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' (ACIP) approved a recommendation for adults ages 65 years and older to receive an additional updated 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine dose. Adults 65 years and older are hit harder by COVID-19, with more than half of COVID-19 hospitalizations during October 2023 to December 2023 happening in this age group. An extra dose of the updated COVID-19 vaccine may bring back protection that has weakened since a fall vaccine dose, giving more protection to adults ages 65 years and older.

To be eligible for this dose, you must:

- Be 65 years or older
- Have had your last COVID-19 shot at least 4 months ago

**Measles:** Be aware that Measles cases are on the rise in the United States, and while Nebraska has not seen this yet, now is the time to make sure you and your family are up to date on your vaccinations. The State of Nebraska has issued a statement encouraging prioritization of vaccinations to safeguard our communities. MMR, the vaccine that covers Measles, is given at 12-15 months and at 4-6 years. It is safe and is 97% effective after 2 doses. If you plan to travel, talk to your provider or NCDHD about options for children that are too young to be vaccinated. If you are not sure about your vaccination history or do not know if you have had measles, contact your provider or NCDHD to see what options are available.

Contact your local clinic, hospital, pharmacy and NCDHD to see where you can get a COVID-19 or MMR vaccination. NCDHD's vaccination schedule is available at [www.ncdhd.ne.gov](http://www.ncdhd.ne.gov) or by calling 402-336-2406.

For more information on COVID-19 or Measles, check out [www.ncdhd.ne.gov](http://www.ncdhd.ne.gov) or call NCDHD at 402-336-2406.

See the full press release from Nebraska DHHS website here: <https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Measles-Cases-on-the-Rise-in-United-States.aspx> and the media release on the CDC website here: <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2024/s-0228-covid.html>

PO Box 191 | 422 E Douglas Street | O'Neill, NE 68763  
(402) 336-2406 | [ncdhd.ne.gov](http://ncdhd.ne.gov)

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