

In A Nutshell September 2021

Covid Booster Shots

Should you get that extra shot? For now, it depends on how immunosuppressed you are.

The [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC), recommended the third dose for immunocompromised people. It said that people with compromised immune systems “may benefit from an additional dose to make sure they have enough protection against COVID-19.” The CDC, however, doesn’t specifically mention multiple sclerosis in their guidance, and not all people with MS have compromised immune systems.

By itself, MS doesn’t suppress the immune system. It’s actually the opposite. MS shifts the immune system into overdrive, hyping up cells that attack parts of the nervous system. Several disease-modifying therapies (DMTs), however, do suppress the immune system, which is how they halt those cellular attacks.

When you read that a third COVID-19 vaccine shot may be recommended for people with MS, it refers to the people whose immune systems are suppressed by one of these Disease Modifying Therapies (DMTs).

Immunosuppressive DMTs include Lemtrada, Mavenclad, Gilenya, Ocrebus and Rituximab.

It's important to understand that each of these DMTs suppresses the immune system a bit differently and for different lengths of time.

[Do People With MS Need a 3rd Vaccine Shot? \(multiplesclerosisnewstoday.com\)](https://multiplesclerosisnewstoday.com)

Just For Fun

Bottom Line-ask your doctors. I did and I got my 3rd Moderna shot on 9/3/21!

Karen Daniels

