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## **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT - RENO COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

**Reno County, Kansas – September 13, 2023**

On September 12, 2023, the Reno County Health Department was notified by KDHE that the FDA took action to approve the Emergency Use Authorization of an updated mRNA vaccine to provide better protection against currently circulating COVID-19 variants. The new vaccines will include a monovalent (single) component that targets the dominant COVID-19 virus variant Omicron XBB.1.5.

As a result of these actions, the current bivalent vaccines are no longer authorized for use in the United States. Effective immediately, the Reno County Health Department will not have COVID-19 vaccine available until we receive our shipment of the newly authorized vaccine. We expect to receive limited doses in the next few weeks, with more coming in as it is available.

Anyone, regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status, may receive the updated monovalent vaccine as long as it has been at least two months since the last dose of any COVID-19 vaccine. There are a few exceptions, so please call for more information.

This action only affects bivalent mRNA vaccines manufactured by Pfizer, Inc and ModernaTX, Inc. This does not affect Novavax at this time.

Contact the Reno County Health Department at 620-694-2900 or your primary care physician if you have any questions.

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