

# PALTmed Immunization: Recommendations and Resources

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## Long-Term Care: It's Different!

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### The population

- Particularly old and particularly frail = high risk of complications from vaccine preventable diseases
- The congregate setting facilitates easier spread of disease
- Staff are in close contact with residents, placing both at higher risk of transmission

### The delivery

- Facilities receive a global bundled payment for Part A residents – EXCEPT for several preventive services that are carved out and can be billed separately
  - Immunizations are carved out BUT facilities may not have technological capability to bill differently – and for Part A residents, the facility has to be the one that bills
- Pharmacies must bill Part D vaccines and may bill Part B outside of the Part A stay
- Assessment and recommendation points are less clear cut than ambulatory settings
- Sometimes individual vaccination but mostly clinics



## Long-Term Care: It's Left Out

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### Literature reviews

- Are dependent on published studies which frequently have small 80+ or multiple co-morbidity populations
- Because of immunosenescence, knowing the efficacy and safety profile of the 80+, multiple co-morbidity population is important
- Long-term care clinicians want long-term care specific recommendations

### Recommendations

- We appreciate the efforts of ACP and AAFP to address adults broadly and IDSA to address immunocompromised populations
- PALTmed tries to fill in specifics for long-term care residents and staff



## 2025-26 Recommendations

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### COVID-19

- Residents ( $\geq 18$  years): One dose of the 2025-2026 COVID-19 vaccine is recommended.
- Immunocompromised Residents: Should receive at least two doses of the 2025–2026 vaccine.
- Staff: Routine vaccination with the 2025-2026 vaccine is recommended.



## 2026-27 Recommendations

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- Hope to add influenza and RSV
- Watching timing of recommendations, given the late summer surge
- Watching new products licensed for older adults



## Resources

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- Implementation Guide
  - Practical suggestions for process change
  - Multivaccine consent form
  - Leadership tips
- Paper - Infrastructure, Access, and Cost: A Review of Systems Barriers to Immunizing Residents and Staff in Long-Term Care Settings
- Papers – Suggestions to facilitate EHR/IIS interoperability
- Billing guide
- Videos and handouts for staff

Learn more: [www.movingneedles.org](http://www.movingneedles.org)



# Thank you!

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