

U of U Health is now offering COVID-19 vaccine to all U of U Health solid organ transplant (SOT) recipients and patients who are currently listed for transplant and haven't yet received the vaccine.

While the number of people with COVID-19 is decreasing in most states, patients who haven't yet been vaccinated remain at risk of becoming seriously ill from COVID-19. If you haven't yet been vaccinated, it is still important for you, and those in your family, to receive the vaccine to prevent or reduce the chance of serious COVID-19 disease.

Now that the vaccine is more widely available, we recommend you choose the vaccine provider with the earliest available appointment. Check with your state's health department to identify available vaccine locations. **If you are unable to locate the vaccine in your community and would like to receive the vaccine at U of U Health, the vaccine can be scheduled directly in [MyChart](#) or you can call the U of U Health hotline at 801-587-0712 or (toll free) 844-745-9325.** You can receive the vaccine at a [U of U Health vaccine clinic](#) or choose to get your COVID-19 vaccine from other authorized vaccine providers within your state at [VaccineFinder.org](#).

Research is taking place to measure the effectiveness of vaccine in transplant recipients. It is currently unknown how transplant medications, taken to prevent rejection of the transplant, impact the effectiveness or level of protection from the vaccine. Initial studies suggest transplant recipients do respond to the vaccine but may have a lower level of immune system response and potentially higher risk for COVID-19. For this reason, U of U Health Transplant Physicians are encouraging our pre and post-transplant recipients to continue masking and all other infection control precautions until there is a lower level of transmission within your community.

U of U Health will be enrolling patients in a research study to evaluate immune responses to the vaccines more extensively than has been reported so far. You may receive additional communication by mail in the future with more contact information if you're interested in participating in this study.

Please notify your transplant team if you develop COVID-19 symptoms or have a positive COVID-19 test. There are treatments now available for patients who develop COVID-19 but they are most effective if started early soon after the beginning of symptoms.

If you have already received the vaccine outside of the U of U Health system, please call and let us know the date and information about your vaccine so we can update our records.

Please review the [current statement from the American Society of Transplantation regarding importance of COVID-19 vaccination](#), and thanks for working with us to provide the best possible transplant treatment, and protection against COVID-19.