

[CDC Endorses Fourth COVID-19 Vaccine for Adults](#)

Category: Policy Blog

written by Sam Sears | July 29, 2022

On Tuesday, July 19, 2022, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Director Rochelle Walensky, MD, MPH, [endorsed](#) the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' recommendation for Novavax's COVID-19 vaccine as another primary series option for adults 18 and older. Novavax's vaccine, Adjuvanted, was [granted an emergency use authorization](#) on July 13, 2022, by the US Food and Drug Administration.

The Novavax vaccine, Adjuvanted, is another two-dose vaccine that will be available to administer to adults 18 and older in the coming weeks. The Novavax vaccine is administered three weeks apart and uses a more traditional technology for vaccine delivery. In total, there are now four different COVID-19 vaccines for adults 18 and older to choose from; Moderna, Pfizer, Johnson & Johnson, and Novavax.

Background

American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/ANs) have been [disproportionately affected](#) by the COVID-19 pandemic. At the height of the pandemic, AI/ANs were 3.5 times more likely to test positive, 3.2 times more likely to be hospitalized and 2.2 times more likely to die due to COVID-19.

Indian Country has had highly successful vaccine rollouts and Urban Indian Organizations have been [instrumental in the success of vaccinating AI/AN populations in urban Areas](#). As of July 2022, AI/ANs have the highest vaccination administration rates in the US with 73% of AI/ANs having received at least one dose of one of the three previously available COVID-19 vaccines, per [CDC data](#).