New York State Suspends Vaccine Booster Mandate

February 18, 2022, Friday

The New York State Department of Health (DOH) today announced it is suspending the vaccine booster mandate for health care workers. As a result, the mandate will not go into effect on Monday at Mount Sinai as previously planned. The DOH said it would reassess the need for a mandate or other steps to increase booster vaccinations in three months.

The DOH said—and we agree—that vaccines and boosters "are critical tools to keep both health care workers and their patients safe." We have stressed repeatedly that getting a booster is the most effective way to protect yourself and those around you against COVID-19, and that is still true. However, as a result of the new DOH announcement, boosters will no longer be mandatory at this time for Mount Sinai faculty, staff, trainees, or students.

We thank everyone across the Mount Sinai Health System who has received their booster dose, and especially those who worked diligently to prepare for the booster mandate over the past several weeks. Your efforts have helped to protect our patients and our community, and to bring this pandemic closer to an end.

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