In case you missed it...
To Boost or Not to Boost and How to Prevent and Treat COVID-19 in PALTC Now

At last week’s COVID-19 Grand Rounds: Pearls from Your Colleagues, our expert panelists discussed their thoughts and strategies regarding the second COVID booster shot and current treatments for people living in PALTC settings. You can access the recorded webinar here.

Here are key Pearls that we learned during the session:

The advantage of having a second booster versus only one booster in patients over the age of 60. The second booster protects longer-term against severe disease. Prevention of COVID infection is increased for about 4 weeks after the second booster (Reference: Second Booster Vaccine and COVID-19 Mortality in Adults 60 to 100 Years Old).

- Pearl: Don’t wait until your local COVID transmission rates are high before offering a second booster, as it may be too late. The majority of the Grand Rounds audience reported they had started boosting their eligible patients. Wasting immunization is generally acceptable if more patients can get immunized more quickly.

Paxlovid is a first-line treatment for COVID, followed by Molnupiravir. These medications are currently widely available through long-term care pharmacies.

- Pearl: The Liverpool Drug Interactions Group tool is an excellent at-a-glance resource to aid prescribers in the treatment of COVID–19 (Liverpool Drug Interactions Group PDF).

Pearl: Do a run-through exercise before your next COVID case. Clarify how to alert the physician, who does the medication review, and how to order the medications. Notify your medical staff of your plans.

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