

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

SELECT SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

Majority (202) 225-5074
Minority (202) 225-5051

August 2, 2023

Ms. Mandy Cohen, M.D., M.P.H.
Director
Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
295 E. Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20024

Dear Director Cohen:

On July 27, 2023, during an interview with *Spectrum News*, you stated that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will likely issue new guidance regarding COVID-19 booster shots in early September 2023.¹ Specifically, you said that you, “anticipate that COVID will become similar to flu shots, where it is going to be you get your annual flu shot and you get your annual COVID shot.”² It is unclear if the science supports such a recommendation.

If this anticipated CDC recommendation occurs, it will mark a significant change in federal policy and guidance regarding COVID-19 vaccines and the way in which they are utilized. Given this significant change in course, we write to you today to better understand this potential decision.

To help better understand the decision-making process and any ramifications that may arise, we request the following information and documents as soon as possible but no later than August 16, 2023:

1. All documents and communications between or among CDC or Department of Health and Human Services employees or contractors regarding recommending annual (or any other time-based iteration) COVID-19 booster shots.
2. All documents and communications between or among CDC employees or contractors and the White House, including any personnel within the Executive Office of the President, regarding recommending annual (or any other time-based iteration) COVID-19 booster shots.

¹ Reuben Jones & Justin Tasolides, *CDC likely to recommend annual COVID shot similar to flu, director says*, SPECTRUM NEWS (Jul. 27, 2023), available at <https://www.ny1.com/nyc/all-boroughs/news/2023/07/27/cdc-director-covid-shot-annual>

² *Id.*

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3. All documents and communications between or among CDC employees or contractors and any CDC stakeholder, including the CDC Foundation, regarding recommending annual (or any other time-based iteration) COVID-19 booster shots.

Further, the Select Subcommittee requests a briefing regarding the CDC's process of recommending annual COVID-19 booster shots on August 9, 2023.

The Select Subcommittee is authorized to investigate "the development of vaccines and treatments, and the development and implementation of vaccination policies for Federal employees and members of the armed forces" and "executive branch policies, deliberations, decisions, activities, and internal and external communications related to the coronavirus pandemic" under H. Res. 5. To schedule the briefing or ask any follow up or related questions please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-5074.

Thank you for your attention to this very important matter.

Sincerely,



Brad Wenstrup, D.P.M.
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Raul Ruiz, M.D., Ranking Member
Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic