



## **FDA and CDC should advise, but 'shouldn't decide' who should receive boosters, says doctor**

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WASHINGTON (SBG) - CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky went against her own advisory panel in approving a third booster shot for those 65 and older or at high risk, including those whose jobs put them at a higher risk of contracting COVID. The FDA gave a similar recommendation last week, but Dr. Jeffrey Singer of the Cato Institute shouldn't make judgment calls on what groups should receive the booster.

"I think it's presumptuous and paternalistic for government agencies to decide number one, how much protection is good enough for each individual. It should give advice, but it shouldn't decide," said Dr. Jeffrey Singer to The National Desk's Jan Jeffcoat. "Getting into the business of deciding what is an essential job to a family that's living paycheck to paycheck and having trouble putting food on the table, the wage earners in that family have essential jobs and they can't afford to miss work."

The Cato Institute and YouGov found in a recent poll that while 16% of people said they're open to being vaccinated, 17% of people would not get vaccinated. 67% of people said they'd already received a vaccination.

"The big takeaway is if you have the 16% who are persuadable, either they're planning to get a vaccine, haven't gotten around to it yet, or they can be convinced, to the 67% who've already got at least one dose, you already are over 80% which is our target," said Dr. Singer.

Of those who are unvaccinated, 74% said they would still not receive a vaccination even if their health insurance levied premium surcharges.

“Trying to use coercive tactics don't seem to be very effective and might even backfire,” said Dr. Singer.