



To: CAHAN San Diego Participants

Date: September 15, 2023

From: Public Health Services

Health Advisory Update #63: COVID-19 Vaccine Update

Key Messages

- The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have authorized the updated Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 mRNA 2023-2024 monovalent vaccines for use in individuals 6 months of age and older.
- People can schedule a vaccine appointment by visiting [MyTurn.ca.gov](https://myturn.ca.gov) or contacting their local pharmacy or health care provider.
- The vaccines will continue to be free for most people through their health insurance plans, including Medi-Cal and regular health care providers.
- Vaccine will be available to uninsured/Vaccine for Children eligible children and uninsured adults through the California Bridge Access Program.

Situation

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that everyone 6 months of age and older receive a newly formulated COVID-19 mRNA vaccine manufactured by ModernaTX Inc. and Pfizer Inc. The Moderna and Pfizer vaccines have been updated to include a monovalent component that corresponds to the circulating Omicron variant XBB.1.5 and have been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for individuals 12 years of age and older and authorized for emergency use in individuals 6 months through 11 years of age.

Background

On September 11, the FDA [approved and authorized for emergency use](#) newly formulated COVID-19 mRNA vaccines manufactured by ModernaTX Inc. and Pfizer Inc. The updated Pfizer and Moderna mRNA vaccines (2023-2024 formula) are approved for individuals 12 years of age and older and are authorized under emergency use for individuals 6 months through 11 years of age.

On September 12, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended (by a vote of 13 in favor and 1 against), a universal recommendation the updated vaccine for individuals 6 months of age and older which was subsequently [adopted by the CDC](#).

As of September 15, 2023, the [CDC recommends](#) that:

- Everyone aged 5 years and older should get a single dose of the 2023-2024 Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine to be up to date.
- Children aged 6 months–4 years may need multiple doses of COVID-19 vaccine to be up to date, including at least 1 dose of 2023–2024 Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, depending on the number of doses they've previously received and their age.

- People who are 6 months of age or older who are moderately or severely immunocompromised should get at least one dose of the 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine. They may receive additional doses of the 2023–2024 Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine.

Actions Requested

1. Register as a vaccine provider on myturn.ca.gov and vaccines.gov if your practice offers vaccine to the general public.
2. Remain up-to-date on COVID-19 vaccine clinical considerations, including contraindications and precautions.
 - a. Providers can join a Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity ([COCA call/webinar by the CDC on September 19th](#)) to receive updates about the latest recommendations and clinical considerations for administering influenza, COVID-19, and RSV vaccines to adults 60 years and older.
3. Provide the 2023-2024 updated mRNA vaccine to eligible children down to 6 months of age using either the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine as follows:
 - a. Everyone ages 5 years and older is recommended to receive 1 dose of 2023–2024 mRNA COVID-19 vaccine.
 - b. Children ages 6 months–4 years
 - i. Initial vaccination: should receive either 2 doses of 2023–2024 Moderna or 3 doses of updated (2023–2024 Formula) Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine.
 - ii. Received previous mRNA doses: need 1 or 2 doses of 2023–2024 Moderna or updated 2023–2024 Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine, depending on the number of prior doses.
 - c. People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised
 - i. Initial vaccination: should receive a 3-dose series of 2023–2024 Moderna or 2023–2024 Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine.
 - ii. Received previous mRNA doses: need 1 or 2 doses of 2023–2024 Moderna or 2023–2024 Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine, depending on the number of prior doses.
 - iii. May receive 1 or more additional 2023–2024 mRNA COVID-19 vaccine doses.
4. Bivalent mRNA COVID-19 vaccines are no longer recommended in the United States
5. Co-administer routine childhood and adolescent vaccines including influenza vaccines, with COVID-19 vaccine to avoid missed opportunities to keep children [up-to-date](#) with all recommended vaccines.
6. Report vaccine-related adverse events and deaths, as well as vaccine administration errors to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) and to the County Immunization Program at IZINFO.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov or Fax: (619) 692-5677.

Resources

CDC | [Stay Up to Date with COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

California Department of Public Health (CDPH) | [COVID-19 Vaccine Resources – California Vaccines for Children \(VFC\)](#)

County of San Diego | [Coronavirus Disease 2019](#)

Thank you for your participation.

CAHAN San Diego

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