



# Immunization Program Provider Update – 01/25/2022

Merideth Plumpton, RN - *Nurse Program Coordinator*

Meghan Knowles, MS – *Provider Communication and Training Coordinator*

# Agenda – 01/25/2022

Slides and recording will be posted by **end of the day** at [www.healthvermont.gov/COVID19-vaccine-healthpros#resources](http://www.healthvermont.gov/COVID19-vaccine-healthpros#resources)

## COVID-19 Vaccine Topics to Cover

- Review of current COVID-19 booster guidelines
- Fully Vaccinated vs. Up To Date
- COVID-19 vaccine ordering and guidance
- Monitoring BUD and Expiration
- VAERS reminder
- Documenting COVID-19 vaccines into the IMR
- COVID Vax for under age 5
- VDH partnerships to vaccinate your patients
- Upcoming COVID-19 vaccine materials and resources
- Extension of the AAP grant – stay tuned!

## Non-COVID-19 Topics to Cover

- VACP/VAVP Enrollment due February 1
- Flu vaccination rates in Vermont and vaccine availability
- 01/12/2022 ACIP meeting summary

## Contact Information

- Ordering, vaccine storage and handling, vaccine-specific information:  
[AHS.VDHImmunizationProgram@vermont.gov](mailto:AHS.VDHImmunizationProgram@vermont.gov)
- Immunization registry and reporting questions:  
[IMR@vermont.gov](mailto:IMR@vermont.gov)
- COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Team:  
[AHS.VDHCovidVaxDistribution@vermont.gov](mailto:AHS.VDHCovidVaxDistribution@vermont.gov)
- Program updates available on the Vaccine Information for Health Care Professionals Page:  
[www.healthvermont.gov/disease-control/immunization-providers#vvpupdate](http://www.healthvermont.gov/disease-control/immunization-providers#vvpupdate)

# Current COVID-19 Vaccine Guidance

# Goal of COVID-19 Vaccination

COVID-19 vaccines are not designed to prevent all disease, the goal is to prevent severe illness, significant spread, hospitalization and death.

In conversations with patients, it is important to acknowledge this.

[Effectiveness of a Third Dose of mRNA Vaccines Against COVID-19–Associated Emergency Department and Urgent Care Encounters and Hospitalizations Among Adults During Periods of Delta and Omicron Variant Predominance – VISION Network, 10 States, August 2021–January 2022 | MMWR \(cdc.gov\)](#)

[COVID-19 Incidence and Death Rates Among Unvaccinated and Fully Vaccinated Adults with and Without Booster Doses During Periods of Delta and Omicron Variant Emergence – 25 U.S. Jurisdictions, April 4–December 25, 2021 | MMWR \(cdc.gov\)](#)

# Normalizing COVID-19 vaccine

- We are working towards normalizing the COVID-19 vaccine.
  - This means if you offer other state supplied vaccines, you should be offering COVID-19 as well. The Immunization Program is here to help if you find this challenging.
  - COVID-19 vaccine should be a part of your conversations with patients, the same as you would offer Flu or other indicated vaccines.
  - If you are not offering the COVID-19 vaccine for whatever reason, you should be aware of other opportunities in your community and assist patients with access.

# Booster Doses

- Everyone 12+ should get a booster
  - only a single booster dose is currently authorized
  - Pfizer is only vaccine authorized for those 12 through 17 years
  - preference for mRNA vaccine over Janssen
- Additional dose is different from a booster dose.
  - An additional dose to the mRNA (Moderna and Pfizer) primary series is indicated when a person is considered [immunocompromised](#).
  - These individuals may also receive a booster for a **total of four COVID-19 doses**.
  - Additional dose should be given 28 days following the second dose. Booster may be given 5 months after that. There is no maximum interval for either.
  - Immunocompromised 5-11 year olds may get an additional dose. They are not eligible for a booster dose (yet).
  - Recipients of a Janssen primary series are not eligible for an additional dose, only a booster.

[www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/immuno.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/immuno.html)

# Do I Qualify for a COVID-19 Vaccine Booster and Which One?

Which primary vaccine series did you complete?	Pfizer-BioNTech	Moderna	Janssen (J&J)
<p><b>You can get a booster if:</b></p>	<p>It's been at least 5 months since completing a primary series AND you are:</p>	<p>It's been at least 5 months since completing a primary series AND you are:</p>	<p>It's been at least 2 months since completing primary vaccination AND you are:</p>
<p><b>If eligible, you can get a booster of:</b></p>	<p>Age 12+</p> <p>Pfizer-BioNTech* Moderna Janssen (J&amp;J)</p> <p>*Only Pfizer-BioNTech can be used as a booster in those age 12-17.</p>	<p>Age 18+</p> <p>Moderna Pfizer-BioNTech Janssen (J&amp;J)</p>	<p>Age 18+</p> <p>Janssen (J&amp;J) Pfizer-BioNTech Moderna</p>

# Fully Vaccinated vs. Up to Date

## The CDC says: Get Vaccinated and Stay Up to Date

- **Up to date:** A person is up to date with COVID-19 vaccines when they have followed all the current recommendations for boosters and additional doses. The recommendations will be different depending on age, health status, when a person was first vaccinated and which vaccine they received initially.
- **Fully vaccinated** means a person is 2 weeks out from completing their primary series of COVID-19 vaccines.

EARLY RELEASE

During the emergence of the Omicron variant, being up to date with **COVID-19 vaccines** provided protection against infection\*

Adults who were unvaccinated had **5x higher risk of infection** compared with adults who were fully vaccinated with a booster

CDC.gov

bit.ly/mm7104

\*25 U.S. jurisdictions, December 2021

MMWR



# Ordering Guidance

# When and How to Order COVID-19 Vaccine

Place orders *on Wednesday* each week *no later* than 3pm after reconciling in VIMS (please email: [AHS.VDHCovidVaxDistribution@vermont.gov](mailto:AHS.VDHCovidVaxDistribution@vermont.gov) if you cannot make this deadline).

VIMS will not allow both a Depot and Distributor order at the same time. Please follow the guidance below and **place no more than one COVID-19-only order per week.**

- If *all* minimum quantities for direct shipments are met, **place a Covid-only order from the Distributor.**
- If *any* minimum quantities are not met, **place a Covid-only order from the Depot.** Portions of your order will be adjusted to distributor shipments where appropriate.

# When and How to Order COVID-19 Vaccine

We need to maximize the use of direct distributor shipments and reduce depot vaccine deliveries when/where possible.

- **Order in quantities that allow for direct shipments when appropriate.**
- Have a small buffer of vaccine available to prepare for shipment/delivery delays.
- The distribution team may reach out to individual practices to reduce your vaccine order when statewide requests exceed the available allocation.
- **Always wait for confirmation of your order through the Thursday e-mail from [AHS.VDHCovidVaxDistribution@vermont.gov](mailto:AHS.VDHCovidVaxDistribution@vermont.gov) to confirm if any adjustments were made to your initial request.**
- The email will include the delivery date for order from the Depot.

# Expiration Date, Beyond Use Date, Beyond Use Time

The expiration dates for COVID-19 vaccines may be extended, which can cause confusion and unnecessary worry about vaccine viability. Generally, **the beyond-use date of the vaccine is more valuable in determining when a vaccine is no longer viable**, but expiration dates are required for documentation purposes.

## Expiration Date

- Associated with a specific lot number and might be extended as new data is obtained.
- Dates presented on the manufacture box/vial may not be accurate. Always confirm with the manufacture look-up tool, or VIMS where indicated.

## Beyond Use Date (BUD)

- When Pfizer or Moderna vaccine are removed from permanent storage (ultra cold for Pfizer and standard freezer for Moderna) the BUD starts. Janssen's permanent storage is in the refrigerator and has no BUD. Check before storing at your practice and clearly label.
- All vaccine coming from the Depot are at refrigerated temperature will be clearly labeled with the BUD and should be placed in the refrigerator. **Not all vaccine you receive will have the full BUD time remaining. Always check.**
- ***Tracking and adherence to a Beyond Use Date is the practice's responsibility and will not be reflected in VIMS.***

## Beyond Use Time

- All COVID-19 vaccines have Beyond Use Times associated with dilution/vial puncture, after which the vaccine must be disposed of.

# Pfizer Expiration Dates and Beyond Use Dates

## Pfizer:

### Adult Pfizer (Purple Cap): No longer available to order in VIMS.

- The date on the vial/box is the original expiration date, which has since been extended by 90 days. Check VIMS for accurate expiration.
- BUD is 1 month

### Adult Pfizer (Gray Cap): minimum direct shipment is 300 doses

- The **date on the vial/box is the manufacture date**. Current expiration is 9 months after this date. Check VIMS for accurate expiration.
- BUD is 10 weeks

### Pediatric Pfizer (Orange Cap): minimum direct shipment is 100 doses

- The **date on the vial/box is the manufacture date**. Expiration is 9 months after this date.
- The expiration date in VIMS for older inventory reflected the previous expiration of 6 months. Effective 1/25/22 all expiration dates in VIMS reflect the correct 9 month expiration.
- BUD is 10 weeks

# Moderna and Janssen Expiration Dates and Beyond Use Dates

**Moderna:** minimum direct shipment is 100 doses

- Check the [Moderna website](#) for current expiration
- Direct shipments arrive from the distributor frozen. If stored in the freezer, Moderna is good through its expiration date.
- Orders arrive from the depot at refrigerated temperatures and have a beyond-use date of 30 days.
- Never move the vaccine from refrigerated temperature back to freezer temperature.

**Janssen (J&J):** minimum direct shipment is 100 doses

- Check the [Janssen \(J&J\) website](#) for current expiration. Permanent storage for Janssen is in the refrigerator and there is no BUD.

# Importance of Beyond Use Date

The Immunization Program has received reports of vaccine administration past the vaccine BUD. **This may result in the need to revaccinate patients and reduces public confidence in vaccination.**

- When you transfer vaccine to another office, clearly document the BUD of that vaccine so that the receiving practice is aware.
- When you are receiving vaccine as a transfer, or as direct shipment, clearly label the correct BUD in your unit so it is apparent to all staff.
- Assign an individual and a back-up to take responsibility for reviewing the BUD of vaccines. Remove vaccine from unit promptly and document in VIMS.
- If you have vaccine with a BUD that is about to expire, please notify the Immunization Program for guidance on potential transfers to another location.

# COVID-19 Vaccine VAERS Reminder



All administration errors of COVID-19 vaccine, including administering outside of the BUD, must be documented in the VAERS system.

## From VAERS:

The reporting requirements for COVID-19 vaccines are the same for those authorized under emergency use or fully approved. Healthcare providers who administer COVID-19 vaccines are **required by law** to report the following to VAERS:

- Vaccine administration errors, whether or not associated with an adverse event (AE).
  - If the incorrect mRNA COVID-19 vaccine product was inadvertently administered for a second dose in a 2-dose series, VAERS reporting **is** required.
  - If a different product from the primary series is inadvertently administered for the additional or booster (third dose), VAERS reporting **is** required.
  - **VAERS reporting is not required for the following situations:**
    - If a mixed series is given intentionally (e.g., due to hypersensitivity to a vaccine ingredient)
    - Mixing and matching of booster doses (as of October 21, 2021, mixing and matching of booster doses is allowed)

To view reporting requirements and submit a report go to: <https://vaers.hhs.gov/reportevent.html>



# Documenting COVID-19 in the IMR

# Manual IMR Entries Must be Precise

- Only enter shots into your EHR based on a vaccination card or other medical records.
- Not doing so may cause duplications in the IMR and can prevent patients from accessing timely healthcare.
- If you manually enter historical records, you must enter it accurately.

## **Please Do Not:**

- Record an approximate date based on patient testimony or estimate shot dates
- Use the date of the patient office visit

## **Please Do:**

- Record all doses your location administers quickly and accurately.
- Record a historical dose if you have an accurate record of what occurred (vaccine card, registry information, or other documentation). Note: Vaccine Lot #'s are case sensitive.


# **VDH Partnership to Serve Your Patients**

# COVID-19 Vaccine for those under 5

- Clinical trials should be completed soon, and data submitted to FDA in Q1.
- This age group, which may be 6 mo – 4 years, could need three doses
- Will be a different presentation that either the 5 through 11 (orange cap) or 12+ (gray cap) formulations.
  - Will likely require diluent.
  - State allocation quantity unknown.
  - 10 weeks in the fridge, dispose 12 hrs after reconstitution (same as orange and gray caps)
- Immunization Program will hold a training once details are released
- Community clinics will be available to serve this population, **but many parents and guardians will rely on their medical home.**

# Current Vermont COVID-19 Vaccination Rates (01/24/2022)

## At least one dose



Age	%
5 - 11	58%
12 - 17	76%
18 - 29	69%
30 - 39	91%
40 - 49	89%
50 - 59	88%
60 - 64	95%
65 - 69	100%
70 - 74	100%
75+	100%

## Completed

Age	%
5 - 11	50%
12 - 17	69%
18 - 29	60%
30 - 39	82%
40 - 49	82%
50 - 59	83%
60 - 64	90%
65 - 69	97%
70 - 74	100%
75+	100%

## Booster/Additional

Age	%
12 - 17	38%
18 - 29	42%
30 - 39	52%
40 - 49	59%
50 - 59	64%
60 - 64	70%
65 - 69	76%
70 - 74	79%
75+	77%

[www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/covid-19-vaccine-dashboard](http://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/covid-19-vaccine-dashboard)

# If you are struggling to reach your patients, we can help!

- 5-11 is at 58% uptake
- We have outreached to practices with highest/lowest uptake for lessons learned and to offer support
- We can help through
  - Providing data
  - Resource development
  - Troubleshooting barriers and putting offices in touch with local resources
  - Connecting with other offices who have found creative solutions to common barriers
  - In some situations, partnerships with other vaccinating entities may make sense

# Resources and Materials

# Updated Minimizing Waste Policy

- Every vaccinated child is valuable.
- If a patient is in your office and willing to be vaccinated, do not lose that opportunity. Open a vial even if it means wasting an uncomfortable amount of vaccine.
- See our updated [Minimizing Waste Policy](#) for more information.



December 30, 2021

## Minimizing Vaccine Waste

### BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

Vaccine availability has surpassed the demand, and this updated document clarifies guidance on wasting vaccines versus missing a vaccine opportunity.

Do not turn any person away over the risk of vaccine waste. Efforts should be made on the part of the practice to administer all viable doses of the COVID-19 vaccine before their beyond use date/time (BUD).

[www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID19-Vaccine-Minimize-Waste-Policy.pdf](http://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID19-Vaccine-Minimize-Waste-Policy.pdf)



# Mailing from Immunization Program



Vermont Chapter

INCORPORATED IN VERMONT

American Academy of Pediatrics

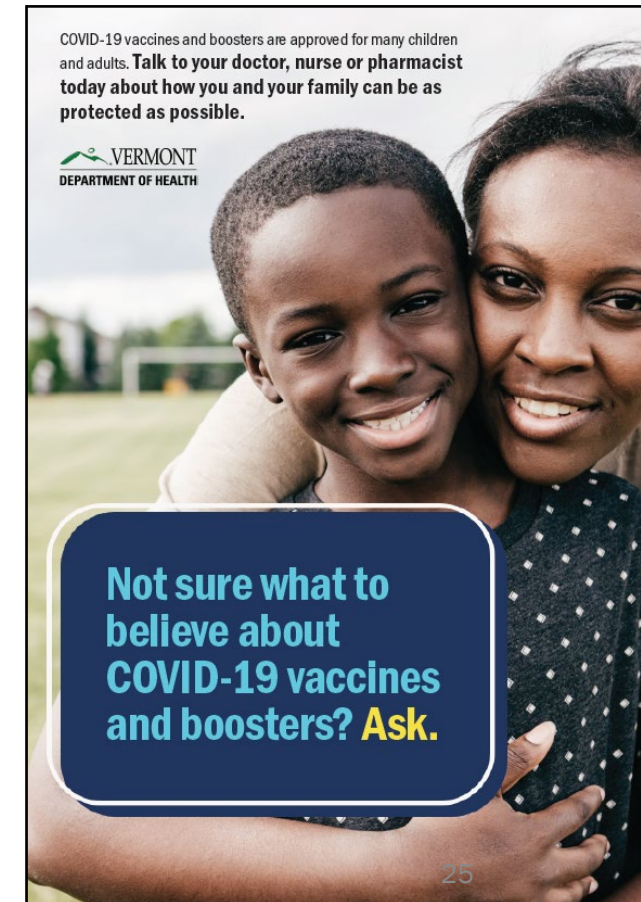
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



## What Families with Children Should Know About COVID-19 Vaccines

Every VAVP/VCVP enrolled office will receive a mailing in the coming weeks.

- One or two large posters for placement in your entrance or waiting room to every office. [COVID19-Ask Vaccine Poster 11x17 | VDH](#)
- A batch of handouts designed for parents and caregivers who may be hesitant for their child to receive the vaccine (VCVP enrolled only). [COVID19 Vaccine in Children - Parent Handout | VDH](#)



# AAP Grant Extension!

American Academy of Pediatrics  
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



- Extension of monetary cap per practice up to \$10,000 (from \$5,000)
- Will apply to COVID-19 or Flu clinics held through the end of 2022
- Please reach out to Stephanie Winters at [swinters@vtmd.org](mailto:swinters@vtmd.org) with any questions
- More information is coming and will be communicated broadly!

# VCVP/VAVP Enrollment

# VCVP/VAVP Enrollment is due February 1, 2022

All practices in the Vermont Child Vaccine Program and/or the Vermont Adult Vaccine Program (VCVP/VAVP) must complete re-enrollment by February 1, 2022.

On January 3, your **Primary Immunization Contact** should have received an email from the Vermont Immunization Program through Alchemer (noreply@alchemer.com) with a personalized link to the 2022-2024 VCVP/VAVP enrollment form. Only the primary contact received this survey.

If you did not receive this survey, or have any questions, please email: [AHS.VDHImmunizationProgram@vermont.gov](mailto:AHS.VDHImmunizationProgram@vermont.gov) or contact us at (802) 863-7638.

Regional Immunization Specialist will start reaching out to practices this week to offer assistance if needed.

# Flu Vaccination in Vermont

# Flu Vaccination in Vermont (as of 1/17/2022)

- We have plenty of flu vaccine left to order
- Please consider patient outreach and co-administration with COVID-19 vaccine

Statewide

34.5%

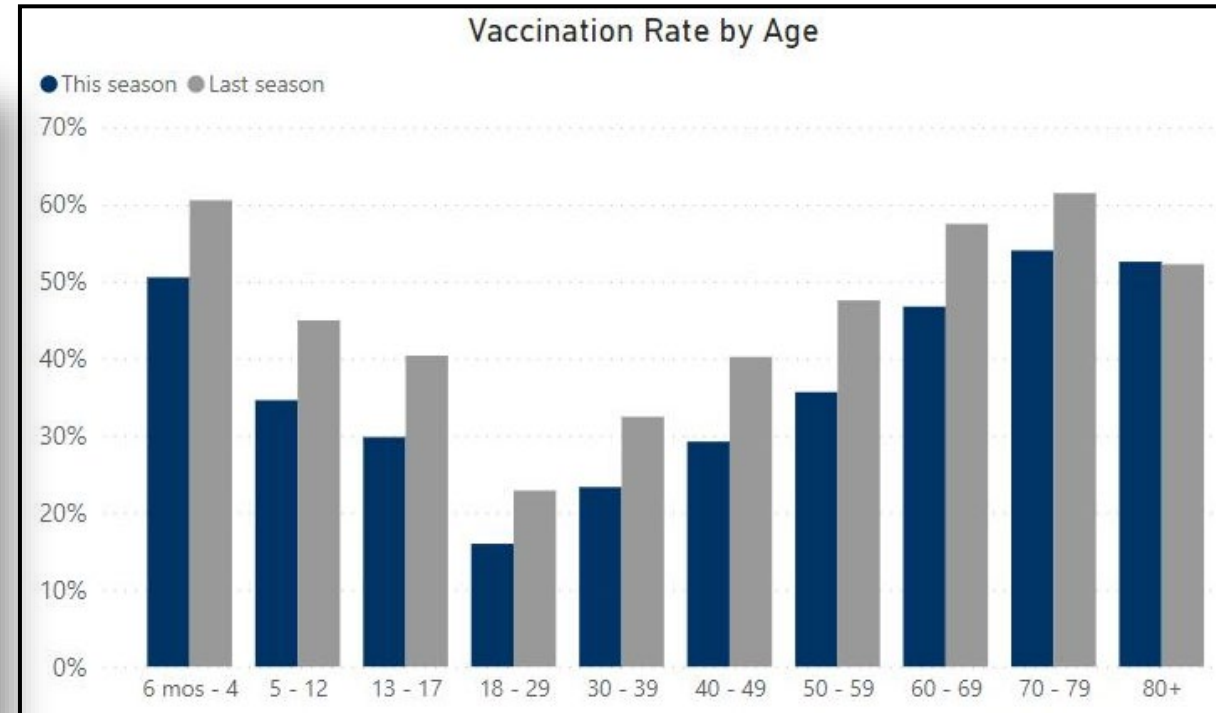
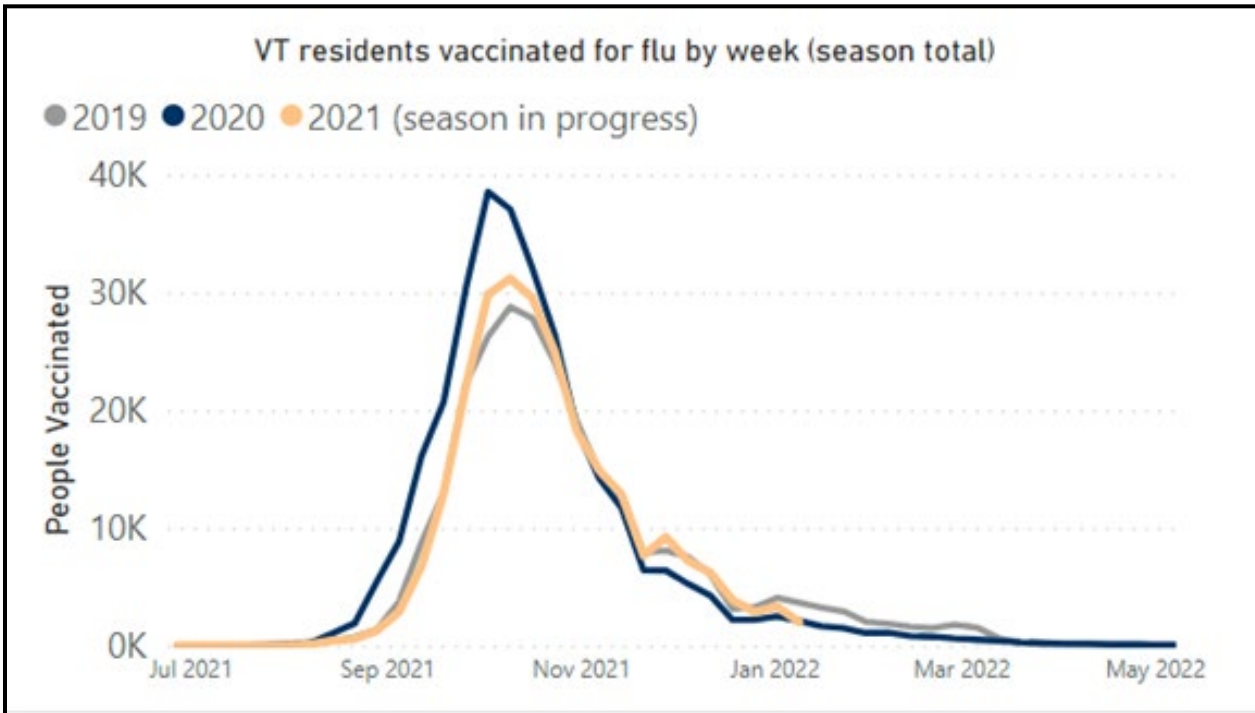
2021-2022 Flu Season

44.5%

2020-2021 Flu Season  
(same time last year)

48.5%

2020-2021 Flu Season  
(all season)



# 01/12/2022 ACIP Meeting Summary

# Agenda and Takeaways

- Influenza
- Pneumococcal
- Hepatitis B
- Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)
- Cholera (Vaxchora)
- Tick-borne encephalitic (TBE)

The next scheduled ACIP meeting will be held February 23–24, 2022. Information about past and future [ACIP meetings](#) may be found on the ACIP website.



# Questions?

# Pfizer Training

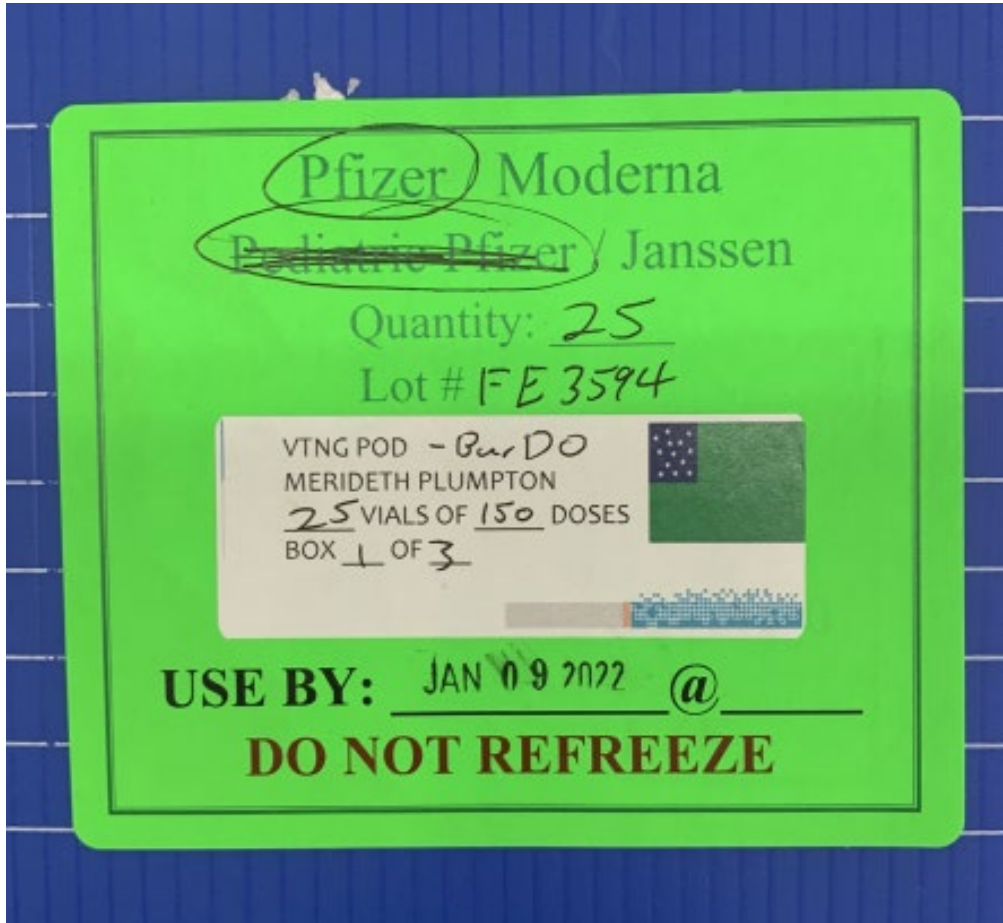
Pfizer Vaccines US Medical Affairs hosts **daily** Medical Updates & Immunization Site Training for All Healthcare Providers.

In addition to medical updates, sessions will focus on vaccine storage, handling, and administration of vaccines all three vaccine formulations: Adult Pfizer (purple cap, dilute), Adult Pfizer (gray cap, do not dilute), Pediatric Pfizer (orange cap, dilute)

These sessions will be updated to reflect new information and changes that evolve. Updates will be identified at the start of each session and explained during each presentation.

For a list of training sessions, including links and instructions for registration, visit the [Pfizer training website](https://www.pfizermedicalinformation.com/en-us/medical-updates) - <https://www.pfizermedicalinformation.com/en-us/medical-updates>

# Documentation with Depot Deliveries



Vaccine Transport Temperature Log: Pfizer Vaccine VERMONT

(refrigerator temperature. DO NOT REFREEZE.)

Record below:

Monitor at the following times	TIME	Circle one	TEMPERATURE	INITIALS	ALARM DISPLAYED
Time vaccine was placed inside the vaccine carrier	0845	AM / PM	°C		Y / N
At delivery location 1		AM / PM	°C		Y / N
At delivery location 2		AM / PM	°C		Y / N
At delivery location 3		AM / PM	°C		Y / N
At delivery location 4		AM / PM	°C		Y / N
Must use vaccine by this date and time 31 days (744 hours or 1 month) after vaccine was removed from ultracold storage and transferred to refrigerator temperature				Date	Time
				JAN 09 2022	0845

# Assessing patient need and clinic planning

- As your patients continue to get vaccinated at community clinics, utilize the IMR reporting tools to help inform outreach and vaccine need.
  - [Patients who have NOT received any COVID-19 doses](#) | VDH IMR:
  - [Patients who have missed/are late for a second COVID-19 dose](#) | VDH IMR:
  - [Patients who HAVE received a COVID-19 dose](#) | VDH IMR:

# Coadministration of Flu and COVID-19

You may administer COVID-19 and influenza vaccines (both live, attenuated and non-live influenza vaccines) without regard to timing (on the same day or within any time interval). There are no safety concerns for coadministration.

Refer to [the CDC's Interim Clinical Considerations](#) for more information

[Fight the flu and COVID-19 too: influenza vaccination in December and beyond and practical approaches to coadministration of vaccines in adults](#) | IAC Webinar, December 9 from 1:00 to 2:00 pm

## Objectives:

- Discuss CDC's new influenza surveillance tool, the Weekly National Influenza (Flu) Vaccination Dashboard and review this season's vaccination coverage to date
- Describe the science of the safety and effectiveness of co-administering vaccines, featuring basic immunology you should understand to answer recipients' questions confidently
- Detail practical techniques for administering multiple shots to an adult, including how to deliver two vaccines in one deltoid, which vaccines should be given in separate limbs if possible, and use of the anterolateral thigh as an injection site

# Vermont Immunization Registry: Vaccine Names and CPT/CVX Codes

A list that matches the vaccine names or codes in the Vermont Immunization Registry with the brand name/common names. Intended as a tool to guide accurate vaccine reporting for practices and organizations sending data from electronic medical records. For questions, contact Immunization Registry Manager at (802) 951-4094.

Vaccine Trade Name or Common Trade Name	Best IMR Selection	Manufacturer	CVX Code	CPT Code
<b>COVID-19 Vaccines</b>				
Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine®	COVID-19, mRNA LNP-S, PF, Moderna	Moderna	207	91301
Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine®	COVID-19, mRNA LNP-S, PF, Pfizer	Pfizer	208	91300
Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine®	COVID-19 vaccine, vector-nr, Janssen	Janssen	212	91303
<b>Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine for 5-11 yrs®</b>	<b>COVID-19, mRNA, Pfizer (5-11 years)</b>	<b>Pfizer</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>91307</b>

- Please make sure you are reporting the correct CVX code for the vaccine administered.
- As new EUA's are issued, up to date CVX codes can be found on the IMR website under user support:
  - [Vermont Immunization Registry Vaccine Names and Codes \(healthvermont.gov\)](https://healthvermont.gov)