



Second dose scheduling policy

All providers are expected to ensure that patients to whom they administer a first dose of a 2 COVID-19 dose series (currently Pfizer or Moderna vaccines) receive their second dose on schedule (at 21 or 28 days, respectively) – or as close to this schedule as possible.

In service of the policy, providers are expected to:

- **Schedule the second dose during the first dose appointment** (or, alternative, schedule both first and second dose appointment together at the same time).
- **Conduct proactive outreach for second doses** – including email, text, and phone calls to those who will become due who do not yet have an appointment scheduled and to those who are overdue.
- **Order the total number of the doses you will need** to support on-time vaccination of patients (second dose orders will NOT be placed automatically after April 27).

The rationale for this policy is several-fold:

- This is in line with CDC guidelines and the schedule that was tested during the clinical trials. The [CDC Clinical Considerations](#) state, “the second dose of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines should be administered as close to the recommended interval as possible.”
- The longer the interval, the more likely someone will be lost to follow-up.

Throughput implications:

It is recognized that the scheduling of second doses can be time consuming. Providers should take this into account when considering and calculating maximum throughput. A desire to increase throughput and speed of administration is not a sufficient justification for not scheduling second doses during the time of the first dose appointment.

Second dose scheduling in VAMS clinics:

VAMS now makes it possible for the clinic to directly schedule an individual in for their second dose appointment. Click here for the [VAMS Training Webpage to access trainings on second dose scheduling under ‘Quick Tips’ and ‘Desk Guides/Presentations’](#).

Using CT WiZ’s Reminder Recall reports:

All clinics can use CT WiZ to run a report of individuals who are overdue for second doses. The report excludes patients who received a second dose at a different clinic. Click [here](#) for directions on how to run this Reminder/Recall report in CT WiZ.