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Subject: 5.24.22 Summer Provider Survey: COVID-19 Ages 0-4 Vaccination Planning



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Dear COVID-19 Vaccine Program (CoVP) providers,

This communication pertains to readiness for the next critical phase of our State's COVID-19 vaccine roll-out: vaccination for children 6 months through 4 years of age.

As we prepare for the rollout of our youngest age group, we advise providers take the time to begin their own plans to prepare to administer COVID-19 vaccines to their patients. Multiple studies have indicated that parents and guardians of children in this age group prefer to be vaccinated at their provider office. **That is why we are asking that all CoVP providers who see young pediatric patients carry COVID-19 vaccine in their offices, continue to make a strong provider recommendation, and have conversations with parents and patients to increase vaccine confidence.**

A lot has changed since early February when we distributed the first young pediatric survey. Please see the updated planning assumptions below. We are asking ALL CoVP enrolled providers to complete another short survey to help support planning efforts. Please complete this survey even if you are not planning to vaccinate this age group. **Once you have read this communication, please complete the survey at the link below.**

If you have multiple enrolled provider locations, then please complete a separate survey for each PIN. Federal Chain Pharmacies (i.e., CVS, Walgreens, Walmart etc.) will receive a separate survey.

We will provide more information as it becomes available so that CoVP providers may continue their planning for this next age rollout. If you have questions, please send them to dph.immunization@ct.gov.

Please make sure that someone in your organization completes this survey by end of business Friday, May 27, 2022: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5HJZGXX>

Current Planning Assumptions

The Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee (VRBPAC) has tentatively scheduled a [meeting on June 15th](#) to discuss potential emergency use authorization (EUA) of both Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech's COVID-19 vaccine for children 6 months through 5 years and 6 months through 4 years of age, respectively, based on what has been submitted. If the FDA grants an EUA, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices will meet within a few days to issue a recommendation. Providers must wait until the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has endorsed a recommendation before vaccine can be administered. The new vaccine product distribution is

expected to begin right after EUA. There will be a separate email and order form when pre-ordering becomes available.

The [CDC has published a pediatric COVID-19 operational planning guide](#), detailing key facts and assumptions regarding this youngest vaccine rollout. Providers are encouraged to review this document for the most up-to-date information. As of 5/23/22, these are the current planning assumptions:

- [Moderna has completed an EUA submission](#) and [Pfizer-N-Biotech is expected to complete its EUA submission to FDA this week for children ages 6 months through 4 years](#). VRBPAC is planning to discuss both Moderna and Pfizer’s EUA requests on June 15, 2022.
- Both Moderna and Pfizer will have a new product formulation for this youngest age group. Below is our understanding as of 5/17/22.

Vaccine	Moderna	Pfizer (maroon cap)
Age	6 months – 5 years ²	6 months – 4 years ¹
Preparation	No Diluent ²	Dilute Before Use ¹
Amount of Diluent Needed per Vial	No Diluent ²	2.2 mL ¹
Dose Volume/Dose	0.25mL/25mcg ²	0.2 mL/3mcg ¹
Doses per Vial	10 doses per vial ²	10 doses per vial (after dilution) ¹
Anticipated Primary Series (based on EUA submission)	Two (25mcg) doses ³	Three (3mcg) doses ⁴
Storage Conditions		
ULT Freezer (-90°C to -60°C)	DO NOT STORE ⁵	9 months ¹
Freezer (-25°C to -15°C)	Through expiration date ⁵	DO NOT STORE ¹
Refrigerator (2°C to 8°C)	TBD ⁵	10 weeks ¹
Room Temperature (8°C to 25°C)	TBD ⁵	12 hours prior to first puncture (including any thaw time) ¹
After First Puncture (2°C to 25°C)	TBD ⁵	Discard after 12 hours ¹

(Source: ¹[Pfizer Comparison Table](#); ²[CDC COVID-19 Vaccine Codes](#); ³[Moderna EUA Press Release](#); ⁴[Pfizer EUA Press Release](#); ⁵presumed to match current conditions listed here: <https://eua.modernatx.com/covid19vaccine-eua/providers/storage-handling>).

- The packaging configuration for both vaccine products is expected to be 10-dose vials in cartons of 10 vials each (100 doses total) with a minimum order quantity of 100 doses per product. CoVP enrolled providers will be able to receive COVID-19 vaccines in smaller quantities than the minimum dose order currently available from the central

distributor via redistribution. Ancillary supplies will be provided for both vaccine products, including 1-inch needles and syringes to support 100 doses of vaccine. Diluent will be provided with ancillary supplies to support 100 doses per kit for the Pfizer vaccine.

We will provide more information as it becomes available so that CoVP providers may continue their planning for this next age rollout. If you have questions, please send them to dph.immunizations@ct.gov.

Thank You
CT DPH Immunization Program