

**From:** [CTDPHHealth\\_Alert\\_Network@ct.gov](mailto:CTDPHHealth_Alert_Network@ct.gov) <noreply@everbridge.net>

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**Subject:** Update Following Monday's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) Meeting



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

**September 1, 2021**

**Update Following Monday's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) Meeting**

Dear Connecticut COVID-19 Vaccine and Connecticut Vaccine Program Providers,

*This communication is being sent to all key contacts at provider organizations administering COVID-19 vaccine. Please feel free to share it with others in your organization who may benefit from the update. Note that all of our communications are archived on our [web site](#).*

Monday, CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended the now approved Pfizer-BioNTech's (COMIRNATY) COVID-19 Vaccine for people 16 and older. CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky accepted that recommendation and [released a statement](#).

The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine is still recommended under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) as a 2-dose series for adolescents 12 through 15 years old, and an additional (third) dose to people 12 years and older who are moderately to severely immunocompromised. This decision does not change how the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine should be administered. It also doesn't affect CDC's recommendations for using the Moderna and Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 vaccines for people 18 years and older.

ACIP also discussed the latest data on reports of myocarditis and pericarditis after mRNA COVID-19 vaccination and the approach to booster dose recommendations. A link to the slides from the meeting can be found [here](#).

ACIP plans to meet again in mid-September to review the latest data on safety and immunogenicity of booster doses, and evaluate effectiveness, breakthrough infections and epidemiology data. After FDA regulatory action on booster doses, ACIP will meet to make recommendations on the use of a booster dose after thoroughly reviewing the evidence. This could include the interval at which boosters may be needed, and which populations (e.g., long-term care facility residents, people aged 65 years and older, healthcare personnel) are eligible or should be prioritized to receive a booster dose. The time interval since vaccination with the primary series is important. For many vaccines, a minimum interval is beneficial for full boosting effect. ACIP emphasized they will continue to follow the science, and evidence will inform decision-making.

### **Vaccine ordering and booster doses**

We are hearing from some COVID-19 vaccine providers asking if they should start to order based on the future need for booster doses. Until we know more from the ACIP about which specific populations are recommended for booster doses and when, it is not yet possible to make informed estimates on need. Once booster doses are recommended, we are in a good position to fill orders to meet your weekly needs for COVID-19 vaccine without going back to an allocation scenario. For now, please continue to place your orders for what you will need for the following week and NOT based on booster dose forecasting.

Thank you for all of your ongoing work and support of our COVID-19 vaccine roll-out in Connecticut.

CT DPH Immunization Program

Main P: (860) 509-7929 | Fax: (860) 706-5429 | Email: [dph.immunizations@ct.gov](mailto:dph.immunizations@ct.gov)

Website: [CT Immunization Program](#) | [COVID-19 Vaccine Program](#)