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**Sent:** Wednesday, August 31, 2022 4:58 PM

**Subject:** New Fall Bivalent Booster EUA and Updated Use of Monovalent Boosters



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

**August 31, 2022**

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

Dear Connecticut COVID-19 Vaccine Providers,

Today the [FDA has authorized both Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech bivalent boosters](#). These “updated” COVID-19 boosters will be ready to administer after the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) votes to recommend them (the ACIP meeting is [scheduled for September 1 and September 2, 2022](#)), and after CDC endorses an ACIP recommendation.

- Individuals 18 years of age and older are eligible for a single booster dose of the Moderna Bivalent COVID-19 Vaccine if it has been at least two months since they have completed primary vaccination or have received the most recent booster dose with any authorized or approved monovalent COVID-19 vaccine.
- Individuals 12 years of age and older are eligible for a single booster dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech Bivalent COVID-19 Vaccine if it has been at least two months since they have completed primary vaccination or have received the most recent booster dose with any authorized or approved monovalent COVID-19 vaccine.

#### Use of Current Monovalent\* mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines

(\* Monovalent mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines are the current Moderna and Pfizer products that contain the original strain only.)

**As of today, the monovalent mRNA COVID-19 vaccines are NO LONGER authorized for use as boosters in people ages 12 years and older.** This change is NOT due to any safety concerns, but rather in anticipation of the new bivalent mRNA vaccines that should first be available this or next week. Providers should do the following:

- Providers should not discard any monovalent mRNA COVID-19 vaccine that they currently have in inventory. They should continue to properly store and handle these vaccines until expiration or until further direction is provided.
- The monovalent mRNA COVID-19 vaccine is still safe and effective and should be administered for the primary series in individuals 6 months and older.

- Additionally, the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine remains authorized for administration of a single booster dose for individuals 5 through 11 years of age at least five months after completing a primary series of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine.
- Appointments for monovalent Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna boosters in people 12 years of age and older must be rescheduled for when locations have the bivalent COVID-19 vaccines available.

### Availability of New Bivalent mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines

Now that Moderna and Pfizer have an EUA, the distributors have begun fulfilling pre-orders. Providers that placed a pre-order of the new fall bivalent booster vaccine in waves 1 or 2 should begin receiving vaccine shortly. Wave 1 pre-orders may begin arriving as early as tomorrow or Friday this week, with the remaining pre-orders arriving next week. No orders will be delivered on Labor Day.

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

For the CT DPH Immunization Program, visit: [Contact Us](#)

For the COVID-19 webpage, visit: [COVID-19 Vaccine Program](#)

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