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Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2022 4:39 PM

Subject: Pre-Order (wave 2) the New Bivalent Booster Now, August 25, 2022



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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August 25, 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,

Please see last week's bivalent booster communication [here](#), for previously communicated information about the new vaccines.

Updates:

- Both [Pfizer](#) and [Moderna](#) have submitted applications for a new Emergency Use Authorizations (EUA) for their new bivalent booster vaccine. Both vaccines are expected to begin shipping once an EUA is authorized, **this could happen before Labor Day**.
- After an EUA is issued, CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) will convene to discuss potential recommendations. [ACIP meetings have been scheduled for September 1st and 2nd](#). Administration of any new bivalent COVID-19 boosters can begin only after CDC's official recommendations.
- Pre-orders have been placed for all providers that placed a wave 1 pre-order (due 8.23.22 at noon), unless you were contacted by DPH staff stating otherwise. These pre-orders will ship once an EUA is issued and are anticipated to arrive either before or after Labor Day.
- Previews of the bivalent booster packages and vaccine labels are available on DailyMed:
 - [MODERNA COVID-19 VACCINE, BIVALENT](#)
 - [PFIZER-BIONTECH COVID-19 VACCINE, BIVALENT](#)
- Pfizer Medical began virtual training for providers on the potential authorization of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 bivalent vaccine as a booster dose in individuals 12 years of age and older. These sessions are for training purposes only. The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 bivalent vaccine has NOT been authorized for use in the United States. To access dates and links for upcoming training sessions, [visit the Pfizer website](#).
- **Providers should begin outreach and messaging to their eligible patient populations, especially to their 65 and older and immunocompromised patients.**

- The public will be directed to [Vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) to find providers offering bivalent COVID-19 vaccine. **After receiving your initial vaccine orders, providers are asked to report their inventory to Vaccines.gov as soon as possible.**

Wave 2 Bivalent Booster Pre-orders

Providers may now place wave 2 pre-orders, for delivery during week 1 of distribution using this [form](#). Please submit your wave 2 pre-order by noon Monday, August 29th.

These pre-orders will be shipped once the Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) is issued and are anticipated to arrive during the first week of September. Please order only what you think you can administer in one week, more vaccine will be available during week 2 of distribution.

Please note that we anticipate weekly ordering will be established through the ordering portal after the EUA is issued.

Reminders:

- The bivalent COVID-19 vaccine will be administered as a single booster dose to those who previously completed a primary series of COVID-19 vaccine. It is anticipated that bivalent COVID-19 vaccine booster doses may initially be authorized for people ages 12 years and older (Pfizer-BioNTech) and for people ages 18 years and older (Moderna), followed by younger pediatric age groups. **It is also anticipated that the bivalent COVID-19 vaccines will only be authorized as a single dose in people who have completed a primary vaccination series.** The type and number of COVID-19 boosters that people have previously received is not expected to matter for the purposes of eligibility for bivalent COVID-19 boosters.
- Providers are strongly encouraged to adopt strategies to minimize unnecessary vaccine wastage, however, they should not miss any opportunities to vaccinate every eligible person who requests a vaccination, even if it means puncturing a multidose vial to administer vaccine without having enough people available to receive each dose in the vial.
- In order to continue offering primary series vaccines in addition to bivalent boosters, providers will need to keep multiple COVID-19 vaccine products in their inventory throughout the fall. CDC recommends providers offer simultaneous administration of all age-appropriate doses of vaccines for children, adolescents, and adults for whom no contraindications exist at the time of the healthcare visit.

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](#)

If you would like to unsubscribe from these communications, please send an email to Dph.immunizations@ct.gov with the subject line "Unsubscribe from COVID-19 Program communications".