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Missouri COVID-19 Vaccinator Newsletter

November 3, 2021

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Children age 5-11 now eligible for COVID-19 vaccination in Missouri

DHSS has adopted the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) recommendation for children ages 5-11 to receive the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine. The CDC's recommendation, announced yesterday, was made based on an in-depth review of available safety, immunogenicity and efficacy data. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) expanded the emergency use authorization for the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for children on October 29. [Continue reading DHSS's announcement here.](#)

Along with other COVID-19 vaccine administration standing orders, the new order for administering the Pfizer vaccine for children age 5-11 has been added to [this website](#).

- [Standing orders](#)
- [CDC news release](#)
- [FDA news release](#)
- [Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers](#)
- [Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers](#)

Important Notes for Pediatric Vaccinators

COMIRNATY (COVID-19 Vaccine, mRNA) and the two EUA-authorized formulations of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine intended for individuals ages 12 years and older should not be used for individuals 5 through 11 years of age because of the potential for vaccine administration errors, including dosing errors. There is a different dose of inactive ingredients in pediatric vials. For instance, you cannot take 10 mcg dose from an adult vial, and give to a child (5-11). Only use orange-top pediatric vials for children 5-11.

COVID-19 vaccine dosages are always based on age and not weight. Dosage should be based on the child's age on the day of vaccination. If a child turns from 11 to 12 years of age in between their first and second dose and receives the pediatric Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine for their first dose, it is recommended by CDC to administer the second dose using dosing guidance for those 12 and up.

The COVID-19 vaccine for children may be administered at the same time as other vaccines. Separate injection sites by at least 1 inch.

CDC to Host COCA Call on Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccines

This call will take place on Nov. 4 from 1-2 p.m. Call-in info for “Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccines: CDC’s Recommendations for COVID-19 Vaccine Primary Series in Children 5–11 years old” [can be found here](#).

Missouri COVID-19 Vaccinator Update

Our team will host a Webex call Monday, Nov. 8 from 2-3 p.m. Updates will be provided for Missouri COVID-19 vaccinators regarding booster doses, vaccinating children age 5-11 and more. Submit your questions by emailing CovidVaccine@health.mo.gov. [Register at this link](#).

Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Training and Education (hosted by Pfizer)

[Attendee link – November 4 – 12 PM ET](#)

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[Attendee link – November 5 – 12 PM ET](#)

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Pfizer Vials and Expiration Dates

Storage: Follow EUA recommendations for storage of the Pfizer 5-11 years formulation:

- Ultra-low temperature freezer (-90°C to -60°C) for up to 6 months
- Refrigerator (2°C to 8°C) for up to 10 weeks
 - If not used within 10 weeks, the vaccine should be discarded
- Do NOT store in a standard freezer

Expiration:

- Pfizer does not have an expiration date look-up tool. The QR code on the label is a link to the EUA fact sheet.
- Peds (5-11) has a 6-month expiration if held frozen at ULT
 - MFG date + 6 months = expiration date
 - This includes the month of manufacture—e.g. 8/2021 includes August. It does not start in September.

Moderna 14-dose Vials

As a Moderna 14-dose vial can only be punctured a maximum of twenty (20) times, the following guidance has been developed to assist providers with reconciling Moderna 14-dose vial vaccine:

Method 1 (PREFERRED) Moderna 14-dose vials are to be given to fourteen (14) patients as a primary or booster dose. In this option, the vial is punctured no more than fourteen (14) times. Any remaining vaccine is not counted as waste and the vial must be discarded according to provider’s procedure. Wastage will only be reported if less than fourteen (14) doses were drawn from the vial.

Method 2 For providers who prefer to use the maximum number of doses available in Moderna 14-dose vials without puncturing the vial more than the allowable twenty (20) times, adjustments must be added in ShowMeVax for the number of doses administered greater than fourteen (14). The

additional doses must be documented prior to starting your reconciliation or it will not balance. It is highly recommended tic marks be added on the vial for each dose of vaccine given to assist with keeping track of the number of doses drawn from the vial. Any tic marks beyond fourteen (14) must be added to your inventory in ShowMeVax as an adjustment. For example: vial has sixteen (16) tic marks because sixteen (16) doses were drawn and administered; two (2) additional doses must be documented as an adjustment in ShowMeVax. Any vaccine remaining in the vial after twenty (20) punctures is not counted as waste and the vial must be discarded according to provider's procedure. To add the additional doses, please follow these steps to create the adjustment:

- Go to Inventory
- Vaccines
- On Hand
- Locate Lot Number and click Action
- Choose Adjustment
- Choose reason: Moderna 14-dose vial additional doses
- Enter number of doses and comment "additional doses"

Clinical Guidelines for Moderna Booster and Third Doses

Moderna booster dose (this is for the 6-month booster dose only)

- Administer a 50mcg/ 0.25ml dose of Moderna at least 6 months after the last dose.
- Please note that the Moderna vial can only support 20 doses total. Any further puncture of the vial could result in contaminated doses of vaccines.

Moderna third doses (for moderately to severely immunocompromised individuals)

- This dose is still at 0.5ml administered at least 28 days after the second dose.

COVID-19 Vaccine Ordering Reminder

COVID-19 vaccine orders are not being accepted through ShowMeVax. Enrolled providers who would like to submit a vaccine order have until Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. for delivery the following week. Vaccine orders **must be** submitted at health.mo.gov/COVIDVaccineOrders.

Orders placed before Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. will be processed on Friday/Saturday and set for delivery the following week between Tuesday – Thursday. As there is not a shortage of vaccine, all orders are being processed as requested. If there are issues or questions regarding your order, you will be contacted by the ordering team. Email confirmations are no longer being sent once an order has been placed.

If you have questions or need to make changes to an order, please send an email to covidvaccineorders@health.mo.gov.

Update Vaccine Inventory Records

Update your inventory in Vaccinefinder/Vaccines.gov and in ShowMeVax.

Submit Vaccine Wastage Reports

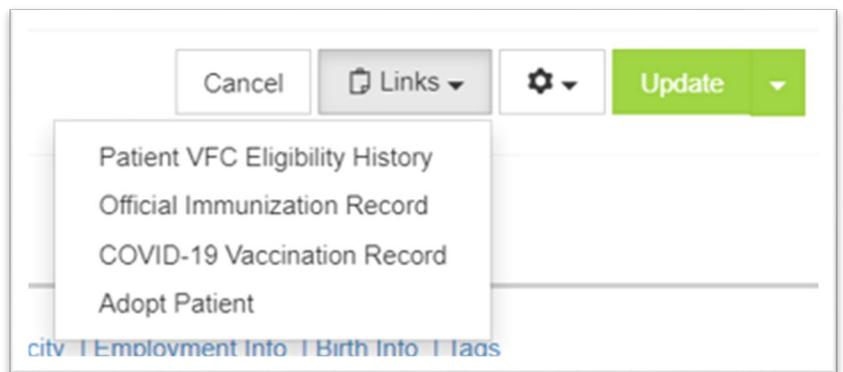
- Report waste to ShowMeVax. Waste is expected in any vaccination program. As time passes and administration of vaccine doses increase, the reported levels of waste will also increase. The reporting of wastage does not reflect negatively on a program.
- Once you have identified expired vaccine, please dispose of these vials through your methods of biologic waste.
- In-depth guidance can be found in the [Identification, Disposal, and Reporting of COVID-19 Vaccine Wastage operational summary](#).

Booster (2nd dose) Orders

Second dose orders are no longer ordered automatically on the facility’s behalf. Providers should use vaccine in a “first in, first out” basis and order vaccine as needed to ensure adequate supply of vaccine is on hand.

COVID-19 Vaccination Record

Providers can now print a COVID-19 Vaccination Record from ShowMeVax for individuals who are seeking a replacement card or a record of only their COVID-19 vaccines. After searching for the patient, click “Links” and select the COVID-19 Vaccination Record.



Have Your Local Vaccination Events Posted for Public on MOStopsCovid.com

Want to further promote your COVID-19 vaccine clinic? MOStopsCovid.com continues to be the go-to place the State and many partners are pointing individuals to when they decide to become vaccinated. We now have a simple form you can fill out to have your standing clinic, one-time clinic or multi-day clinic listed on MOStopsCovid.com by region.

To have your clinic included, [complete this form](#). To make *changes* to the clinic you have already submitted, [complete this form](#).



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Need more information?

We continuously update Missouri's [vaccinator resource hub](#) with information on the authorized vaccines, guidance, past newsletters, vaccinator FAQs and training opportunities. More commonly used resources are below.

- [Vaccinations data – Missouri](#)
- [Vaccinations data – CDC](#)
- [Messaging toolkit](#)

DHSS contacts by topic area:

- ShowMeVax enrollment support: c19vaxenroll@health.mo.gov
- ShowMeVax troubleshooting: vfc-smvsupport@health.mo.gov
- Reporting Dose Administration assistance: ImmunizationHL7Onboarding@health.mo.gov
- Adverse events/clinical assistance: [Lana Hudanick](#)
- Vaccine redistribution: covidvaccineredistribution@health.mo.gov
- Ordering and supply management support: covidvaccineorders@health.mo.gov
- Additional PPE and other equipment: [Jenn Stockman](#)
- Newsletters/website: [Lisa Cox](#)
- All other questions: CovidVaccine@health.mo.gov

