COVID-19 Vaccine Guidance From the CDC

AS OF: 12/20/2021

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Primary Series

	Pfizer/BioNTech	Moderna	J and J
Name	Comirnaty (BNT162b2)	mRNA-1273	Ad26.COV2.S
Vaccine Type	mRNA	mRNA	Adenovirus Vector
Adults/Older Children Age Range	**2 doses** (30ug/0.3 ml) 21 days apart **12 years and older**	**2 doses** (100 ug/0.5 ml) 30 days apart **18 years and older**	**1 dose** (0.5ml) **18 years and older**
Immuno-compromised Adults	**3rd dose** (30ug/0.3 ml) Use of an additional dose* for persons aged ≥12 years at or after 28 days from an initial 2-dose primary vaccine series for moderately to severely immunocompromised people.	**3rd dose** (100 ug/0.5 ml) Use of an additional dose* for persons aged ≥18 years at or after 28 days from an initial 2-dose primary vaccine series for moderately to severely immunocompromised people.	No specific FDA recommendations for immunocompromised individuals - see recommendations on booster dosing
Children Age Range	**2 doses** (10mcg/0.2 mL) 21 days apart **5-11 years** **Reference:** FDA EUA Fact sheet	No FDA recommendations yet	No FDA recommendations yet

See next pages for additional considerations, and details on Boosters.

* **Additional dose** (referred to 3rd dose or 3rd primary series dose for mRNA vaccines) is defined as a subsequent vaccine dose to people who likely did not mount a protective immune response after primary vaccination in order to optimize vaccine-induced protection.

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Considerations

Pfizer/BioNTech	Moderna	J and J
Myocarditis/Pericarditis: Postmarketing data demonstrate increased risks of myocarditis and pericarditis, particularly within 7 days following the second dose. The observed risk is higher among males under 40 years of age than among females and older males. The observed risk is highest in males 12 through 17 years of age.	**Myocarditis/Pericarditis:** Postmarketing data demonstrate increased risks of myocarditis and pericarditis, particularly within 7 days following the second dose. The observed risk is higher among males under 40 years of age than among females and older males. The observed risk is highest in males 18 through 24 years of age.	**Thrombosis with thrombocytopenia:** The reporting rate of thrombosis with thrombocytopenia following administration of the Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine has been highest in females ages 18 through 49 years; some cases have been fatal. **Guillain-Barré Syndrome:** Reports of adverse events following use of the Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine under emergency use authorization suggest an increased risk of Guillain-Barré syndrome during the 42 days following vaccination. **Clinical preference for COVID-19 Vaccine:** ACIP unanimously recommends and CDC endorses the clinical preference for individuals to receive a Pfizer or Moderna mRNA COVID-19 vaccine over the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine. This recommendation followed a review of latest evidence on vaccine effectiveness and safety, and consideration of the current U.S. vaccine supply. The Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine may be offered in certain scenarios. **Reference:** CDC media release CDC COCA – Updated Guidance for Clinicians on COVID-19 Vaccines
Reference: https://www.fda.gov/media/151707/download	**Reference:** https://www.fda.gov/media/144637/download	**Reference:** https://www.fda.gov/media/146304/download

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Boosters

	Pfizer/BioNTech	Moderna	J and J
Timing			
Homologous Booster** (booster dose is the SAME as primary series)	Pfizer/BioNTech Booster (0.3 ml) at least **6 months** after Pfizer/BioNTech primary series completion.	Moderna Booster (**0.25 ml**) at least **6 months** after Moderna primary series completion.	J and J Booster (0.5ml) at least **2 months** after J and J primary series completion.
Heterologous Booster** (booster dose is DIFFERENT from primary series)	Pfizer/BioNTech Booster after a different primary series (0.3 ml) • At least **6 months after a Moderna** primary series completion. • At least **2 months after a J and J** primary series completion.	Moderna Booster after a different primary series (**0.25 ml**) • At least **6 months after a Pfizer/BioNTech** primary series completion. • At least **2 months after a J and J** primary series completion.	J and J Booster (0.5ml) • At least **6 months after a Pfizer/BioNTec** primary series completion. • At least **6 months after a Moderna** primary series completion.
Eligibility	Anyone 16 years of age and older **should** receive a booster.	Anyone 18 years of age and older **should** receive a booster.	Anyone 18 years of age and older **should** receive a booster.

** **Booster dose** is a subsequent dose of vaccine administered when the initial sufficient immune response to a primary vaccine series is likely to have waned over time.

Boosters Q&A

Are people still being vaccinated with the primary series of COVID-19 vaccines? **Yes.** It remains a top priority to get every eligible individual fully vaccinated against COVID-19 (2 doses of the Pfizer/BioNTech or 1 dose of the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccines)

Does it mean the COVID-19 vaccines are ineffective if a booster is recommended? **No.** COVID-19 vaccines in the U.S. work well to prevent serious illness, hospitalizations, and death due to COVID-19 infection. Public health experts are beginning to note some reduced protection against mild to moderate disease, especially in high-risk groups.

Are people still considered fully vaccinated if they do not get a booster shot? **Yes.** Any person is considered fully vaccinated 2 weeks after their second dose of the Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna or 1 dose of the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccines.

Do people need to provide documentation in order to be eligible for a booster dose? **No.** A person is allowed to self-report their eligibility. People should take their vaccination card with them to confirm completion of a COVID-19 vaccine primary series. If there is no vaccine card, a provider may look up a person's vaccination record electronically.

Do people need to receive the same brand of vaccine for their booster? **No.** People can receive a different vaccine brand from their primary series for their booster dose.

Should pregnant people receive a booster dose? **Yes.** Individuals aged 18–64 years at high risk of severe COVID-19 are eligible for a COVID booster. Therefore, ACOG recommends that pregnant people, including pregnant health care workers, receive a booster dose.

If people receive an additional dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna), are they eligible for a booster?
Moderately and severely immunocompromised people aged ≥18 years who completed an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine primary series and received an additional mRNA vaccine dose may receive a single COVID-19 booster dose (Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, or Janssen) at least 6 months after completing their third mRNA vaccine dose. In such situations, people who are moderately and severely immunocompromised may receive a total of four COVID-19 doses. A person who has received one primary dose of Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine, should not receive more than 2 doses total.

Reference: https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/covid-19-vaccines-us.html#considerations-covid19-vax-immunocopromised