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IMMUNIZATION COVID-19 Update

September 15, 2022 | Issue 77



Question of the Week

When are you up to date on your COVID shots?

You are **up to date** with your COVID-19 vaccines if you have completed a COVID-19 vaccine primary series and received the most recent booster dose recommended for you by CDC.

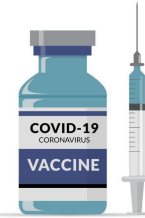
Vaccine recommendations are based on your age, the vaccine you first received, and time since your last dose. People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised have [different recommendations for COVID-19 vaccines](#).



FDA issues revised EUA relating to adverse reporting events for Novavax

This week, the FDA reissued the Aug. 19, 2022 letter of authorization for Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine, Adjuvanted. This action revises the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) requirements for vaccination providers and Novavax, Inc. to include myocarditis and pericarditis.

According to FDA, “Because some cases of myocarditis or pericarditis following vaccine administration may not meet the definition of serious adverse events, this change will help ensure these cases are reported by Novavax, Inc. and vaccination providers to VAERS.”



For more information, [view the letter of authorization and the Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers Administering Vaccine \(Vaccination Providers\)](#).

Moderna bivalent booster-provider ordering paused

Due to federal production and shipment delays involving the Moderna bivalent booster vaccine, the Louisiana Department of Health will pause all further ordering of this product indefinitely. Providers who have already placed an order for this product will still receive their shipments. However, due to the federal backlog, both direct shipments and those through M&D may take longer than usual to arrive.

Providers can still order the Pfizer bivalent booster vaccine. This product can be used as the bivalent booster regardless of an individual’s primary series brand. The Louisiana Immunization team will communicate when shipments resume occurring normally and when providers are able to order the Moderna product again.

If you have any additional questions or concerns, please reach out at la.immunization@la.gov

CDC Study: “COVID-19 mRNA vaccine safety among children aged 6 months–5 years”

During the CDC-commissioned clinical trials for the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna mRNA COVID-19 vaccines for children ages 6 months to 5 years, no serious vaccine-related adverse events were reported and most adverse events reported in these trials were mild to moderate in severity.



The trials were conducted prior to the FDA’s amended Emergency Use Authorization for both manufacturers’ mRNA COVID-19 vaccines for children.

During the preauthorization clinical trials, researchers administered the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine as three doses to 3,013 children between the ages of 6 months and 4 years. Researchers also administered the Moderna vaccine to 5,011 children aged 6 months – 5 years.

The study relied on information that was reported to [v-safe](#) as an adverse effect following either vaccination. V-safe is a voluntary, smartphone-based U.S. safety surveillance system established by CDC to monitor adverse events after COVID-19 vaccination. The Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) is a passive vaccine safety surveillance system managed by CDC and FDA.

After the June 17, 2022 EUA for children up to 5 years old, approximately 599,457 children were vaccinated between June 18, 2022 and Aug. 21, 2022. Within this time frame, approximately 23,266

children were enrolled in v-safe after mRNA COVID-19 vaccination. CDC found the following from the v-safe data:

- Irritability and crying were the most frequently reported reaction among children aged 6 months – 2 years.
- Among children 3 years and older, systemic reactions after vaccination were less frequently reported.
- Injection site pain was the most frequently reported reaction among these older children.
- VAERS received a total of 1,017 reports of adverse events after Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccination among children aged 6 months – 4 years and children aged 6 months – 5 years; 998 (98.1%) events were classified as nonserious and 19 (1.9%) as serious.
- No reports of myocarditis after vaccination were reported.

[Read the study.](#)

Good reads

- [United States confirmed as country with circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus](#)
- [WHO says COVID deaths at lowest level since March 2020](#)
- [The most common side effects of the new bivalent COVID booster](#)
- [Caddo Parish's COVID cases fall 8.8%; Louisiana cases plummet 15.5%](#)
- [Coronavirus in Louisiana: State reports 1,022 new cases, 16 new deaths on September 14](#)
- [Ouachita Parish's COVID cases fall 4.3%; Louisiana cases plummet 15.5%](#)

**WE CAN BRING IT TO YOU!
GET YOUR COVID SHOT AT HOME.**

If you are unable to leave your home for any reason and are interested in getting a vaccination, help is just a call away.

TO BE ADDED TO AN IN-HOME VACCINATION REGISTRY

CALL 1-855-453-0774 | **VISIT** ldh.la.gov/inhomeshots

If you would like to speak to someone in Spanish or Vietnamese, you can request interpretation services when calling the toll-free number.

For assistance for d/Deaf, DeafBlind, and hard of hearing individuals, Email: ldh@la.gov | Voice Phone: 504-256-1523 | Video Phone: 225-228-1203

FREE SHOTS

- Within a week of being added to the registry, you will get a call from a mobile vaccination unit to schedule your appointment for an in-home vaccination.
- Vaccinations are given by a trained healthcare professional who follows the same protocols used in a healthcare facility. You will be given information about side effects, follow-up and when you'll receive your second dose, if needed.
- Everyone ages 6 months and older may be vaccinated at the same time. When calling for an appointment, be sure to let the mobile vaccination unit know the number of household members and/or care providers to be vaccinated.

BRING BACK LOUISIANA

Submit a Question of the Week

Do you have a frequently asked question that you would like to submit or have answered in the QOW?

[SUBMIT HERE](#)

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