

IMMUNIZATION COVID-19 Update

September 22, 2022 | Issue 78



Question of the Week

What resources are available for staying current on vaccine best practices?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) 2022 Pink Book Web-on-Demand Series offers weekly one-hour, on-demand videos. This online series provides an overview of vaccination principles, general best practices, immunization strategies and specific information about vaccine-preventable diseases and the vaccines that prevent them. Each video includes updated information from recent Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) meetings and votes.



A new video will be released every Tuesday through November 1, 2022. There is no registration process to view the content. Please visit the [Pink Book Series](#) webpage for the 2022 release schedule and additional information.

Joint COVID-19 briefings to address vaccine hesitancy and misinformation

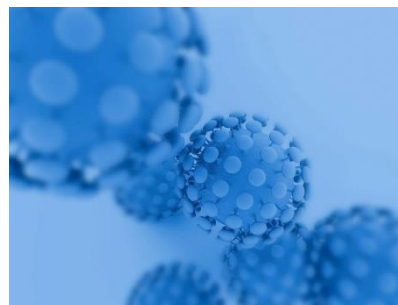
CDC and California Department of Public Health (CDPH) are offering joint COVID-19 briefings through December 2022 to enhance insight into the causes of vaccine

hesitancy and to share strategies that reduce the harmful impacts of misinformation about the COVID-19 vaccines.

These briefings are intended to provide public health organizations with a baseline understanding of some of the **English and Spanish** online narratives that may undermine confidence in COVID-19 vaccines, as well as tactics to counter them. Learn more [HERE](#) or send email questions to vaccinestrategists@cdc.gov.

Study finds decreased in-hospital mortality rates among COVID-19 patients during Omicron and Delta periods

The risk of COVID-19-related mortality increases with age, disability and underlying medical conditions, according to a new CDC study. The study found in-hospital mortality among patients hospitalized primarily for COVID-19 decreased from 15.1% during the Delta period to 4.9% later during the Omicron period (April–June 2022), despite high-risk patient groups representing a larger proportion of hospitalizations.



During the later Omicron period, the majority of in-hospital deaths occurred among adults aged ≥ 65 years (81.9%) and persons with three or more underlying medical conditions (73.4%). For more information, read the full study—[Mortality Risk Among Patients Hospitalized Primarily for COVID-19 During the Omicron and Delta Variant Pandemic Periods](#).

Get your updated COVID-19 Vaccination Planning Guide

An updated version of the **CDC Fall COVID-19 Vaccination Operational Planning Guide** is now available on the CDC website: [COVID-19 Vaccination Program Operational Guidance](#). The updated guide includes details about bivalent COVID-19 vaccines as well as boosters for children aged 5–11 years.

Here's a direct link to the guide: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/downloads/CDC-Fall-Vaccination-Operational-Planning-Guide.pdf>

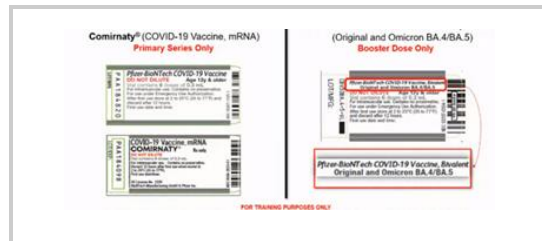
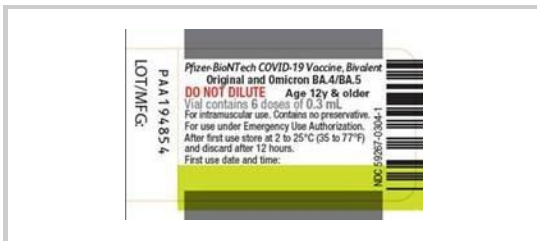
Reminder: Bivalent COVID-19 vaccine booster doses

The COVID-19 bivalent boosters are now available for order and administration following CDC and Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) approval. Please be sure to confirm the correct vial color, vial label and dosage amount before administering vaccine.

Providers can view all current COVID-19 vaccine products and their administration information using our [LDH COVID-19 Product Guide](#). Additional resources to support providers in administering COVID-19 vaccines can be found on the [LDH Provider website](#) or on the [CDC's website](#).

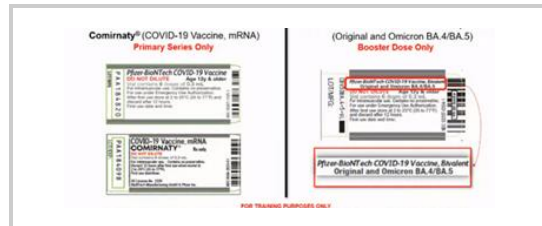
Pfizer-BioNTech

- **Packaging:** 6-dose vials in cartons of 10 vials each (60 doses total)
- **Minimum direct order quantity:** 300 doses and an M&D minimum order quantity of 6 doses
- **Dosage amount:** 0.3 mL
- **Cap color:** The vaccine vial will have a **gray cap** and a **gray border** which is identical to the adult primary series Pfizer-BioNTech Comirnaty vaccine



Moderna

- **Packaging:** 5-dose vials in cartons of 10 vials each (50 doses total)
- **Minimum direct order quantity:** 100 doses and an M&D minimum order quantity of 5 doses
- **Dosage amount:** 0.5 mL (Note: This is a different booster dose volume than the previous monovalent Moderna boosters, which were 0.25 mL.)
- **Cap color:** The vaccine vial will have a **dark blue cap** and **gray border**



Storage and Handling

Once punctured, each vial must be used within 12 hours. Similar to existing Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech (gray cap) products, vials must be discarded ≤ 12 hours after the first puncture. Ancillary supplies will be provided, including a variety of 1-inch and 1.5-inch needles and syringes.

The new bivalent vaccines have the same storage and handling parameters as the original vaccine products.

For more information, view the [LDH COVID-19 Product Guide](#) or contact the Immunization Program at la.immunization@la.gov.

Medicaid reimbursement webinar this Friday

Medicaid is hosting provider webinars focusing on how to complete enrollment by the September 30, 2022 deadline. Medicaid will deny claims for providers that do not complete enrollment.

The next webinar is scheduled for:
September 23, 2022 | 9 – 10 a.m.
Webinar Zoom Link:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85758585379>

[Learn more.](#)

A graphic with a dark blue background. At the top left is the Louisiana Department of Health Medicaid logo, which includes a white cross icon and the text "LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH Medicaid". To the right of the logo is a hand holding a smartphone. The phone screen displays the text: "All providers that file claims with Medicaid are invited." Below the phone, the text reads: "Medicaid to host webinars on Provider Enrollment DEADLINE for claims reimbursement." At the bottom, it says "Learn more: ldh.la.gov/news/6772".

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Medicaid

Medicaid to host webinars on Provider Enrollment DEADLINE for claims reimbursement.

Learn more:
ldh.la.gov/news/6772

Monkeypox vaccination events in New Orleans

LDH, in partnership with the New Orleans Health Department (NOHD), will offer monkeypox vaccines, including second doses, through October 2022.

Anyone who received the first of the two-dose series at monkeypox vaccine events in August can get their second dose. CDC recommends that individuals receive the second dose of the monkeypox vaccine within 24–35 days of the first dose. First doses of the monkeypox vaccines are also available to eligible groups.

COVID and flu shots also available

To make it even more convenient, the flu vaccine, the COVID monovalent vaccine and the new Pfizer bivalent booster, which is authorized for people ages 12 and up, will be available at these vaccination opportunities.

Partners are hosting events at the following times and locations:

- Three Palms, Tuesday, September 27, from 4 to 8 p.m., 3813 Tulane Ave. (This event is ideal for anyone who got their first dose at Three Palms on August 30, or who is due for their second dose this week.)
- Orpheum Theater, Saturday, October 1, from 1 to 6 p.m., 129 Roosevelt Way. (This event is ideal for anyone who got their first dose at the Southern Decadence Health Hub, or who is due for their second dose this week.)

Anyone who is due for a second dose can attend any of the above events, or find a second dose at a nearby provider location by visiting LDH's monkeypox webpage at ldh.la.gov/monkeypox or by calling 211.

Flu resources for providers

CDC has updated flu-related resources with new recommendations on vaccinating for the 2022–2023 flu season. Below is a list of updated clinical materials and training modules related to these recommendations:



Training Modules:

- [You Call the Shots: Vaccines Web-based Training Course | Influenza](#)
- [Administering More Than One Vaccine on the Same Day: Clinical Considerations](#)
- [Storing and Handling Vaccines: Expiration Date, Beyond-Use Date, and Beyond-Use Time](#)

Storage and Handling:

- [2022–2023 Influenza Season Vaccine Label Examples](#)

Administration:

- [Vaccine Administration Resource Library](#) includes intramuscular (IM) injection and live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV) demonstration videos, and printable materials on IM injection sites for all ages
- [Vaccine Administration: Needle Gauge and Length](#)

Talking with Patients:

- [HCP Fight Flu Toolkit](#) includes both print materials and videos.

CDC announces monkeypox vaccine equity pilot program

Last week, the CDC announced their Monkeypox Vaccine Equity Pilot Program. This is intended to reach populations that may face barriers to monkeypox vaccination,

which may include differences in language, location of vaccination sites, vaccine hesitancy, mistrust of government, lack of access to online scheduling technology, accessibility/disability issues, immigration status and stigma.

The pilot program encourages state, territorial, or local health departments, tribal organizations, or local non-governmental organization to submit projects that address vaccination disparities among one or more priority population groups most affected by monkeypox.

For the program, 10,000 vials of vaccine (enough for up to 50,000 intradermal doses) have been set aside.

Successful proposals will demonstrate new, innovative, non-traditional ways to reach populations who are most affected by monkeypox as defined by the applicant and supported by local context and data. [Learn more](#).

Public Health Communications Collaborative issues updated COVID-19 booster dose toolkit

The Public Health Communications Collaborative (PHCC) has updated the COVID-19 booster dose messaging and toolkit to support local outreach efforts. As new variants of the virus emerge, updated boosters provide optimal protection against COVID-19 and address waning vaccine effectiveness over time.

To help answer questions in your community, you can use PHCC's updated [Answers to Tough Questions](#) and [booster dose toolkit](#), which include new messaging guidance, graphics, and sample social posts in both English and Spanish.

Good reads

- [2 adults given undiluted COVID vaccine, 1 hospitalized: MOH](#)
- [Six-year-old reunites with medical team that helped save her after COVID-19 induced asthma](#)
- [Covid-19 pandemic is over in the US - Joe Biden](#)
- [How is COVID-19 linked to increased fatal crashes in Louisiana?](#)
- [Interest in COVID-19 vaccines for kids remains low](#)

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 ldc@la.gov | Voice Phone 800-256-1523 | 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](#)

La.Immuization@la.gov