

IMMUNIZATION COVID-19 Update

June 30, 2022 | Issue 66



Question of the Week

What ingredients are in COVID-19 vaccines?

The ingredients in COVID-19 vaccines currently available for children and adults vary by manufacturer. Each manufacturer provides detailed information about its respective vaccine and vaccine safety.

- [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Overview and Safety](#)
- [Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Overview and Safety](#)
- [Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine Overview and Safety](#)
- [Ingredients Included in COVID-19 Vaccines](#)



Additionally, all vaccines approved in the U.S. are free from: gelatin, latex, preservatives, metals (ex. iron, nickel, cobalt, lithium, rare earth alloys), microelectronics, electrodes, carbon nanotubes, nanowire and any live virus.

[Learn more.](#)

CDC recommends Moderna COVID-19 vaccine for children and adolescents

On Friday, June 24, CDC Director Rochelle P. Walensky, M.D., M.P.H., endorsed the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' (ACIP) recommendation that Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine be authorized for children ages 6 through 17 years. This recommendation reinforces the use of Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine as an important tool in the pandemic and provides another vaccine option for children and adolescents.

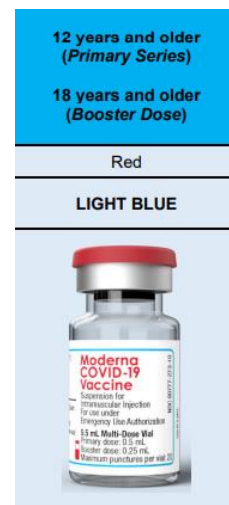
This follows an earlier CDC recommendation for the Moderna vaccine for use in children 6 months through 5 years and adults 18 years and older.

According to Walensky, the recommendation follows a thorough review of the scientific evidence demonstrating safety and efficacy and supports the use of the vaccine among those 6 through 17 years of age.

“It is critical that we protect our children and teens from the complications of severe COVID-19 disease,” she said in a statement. “We have expanded the options available to families by recommending a second safe and effective vaccine for children ages 6 through 17 years. Vaccinating this age group can provide greater confidence to families that their children and adolescents participating in childcare, school, and other activities will have less risk for serious COVID-19 illness.”

Moderna presentations and storage updates

A two-dose series Moderna vaccine for ages 6-17 is now recommended by the ACIP. Two different vaccine products (the current adult Moderna formulation and new Moderna Booster formulation) will cover this age group. With this recommendation, both Pfizer and Moderna are recommended for everyone age 6-months and up. [View the Moderna fact sheet](#) with the most recent presentations for detailed information about doses per vial, dose volume, vial cap color, vial label and carton information.



Presentations for pediatric vaccine (6 to 11-year-olds)

The CDC has informed providers that the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine vial **labeled “BOOSTER DOSES ONLY”** is also authorized to provide primary series doses (0.5 mL each) for individuals 6 through 11 years of age. The vaccine is administered as a primary series of two doses (0.5 mL each) 1 month apart. This presentation of the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine is supplied as multiple-dose vials **with dark blue caps and labels with a purple border**. This vaccine is delivered with pediatric ancillary kits, which can be used on adults as well.

Presentations for adolescent vaccine (12 years and older)

The current Moderna Vaccine Product (previously authorized for 18+) is now authorized/recommended for individuals 12 years and older. The vaccine is still administered as a primary series of two doses (0.5 mL each) 1 month apart, now to individuals 12 years of age and up. This product is the currently available, **Red Cap with light blue border** adult formulation.

Ordering details

Ordering will begin on July 5.

Storage & handling

All presentations of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine should be stored and handled in a consistent way. They can also be stored frozen until the expiration date at the following recommended temperature: -50°C to -15°C (-58°F to 5°F). During storage, minimize exposure to room light, and avoid exposure to direct sunlight and ultraviolet light. [View the Moderna storage fact sheet.](#)

To access the most recent Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Fact Sheets, please visit www.modernatx.com/covid19vaccine-eua.

For questions regarding the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, contact the Moderna Medical Information Contact Center at 1-866-MODERNA (1-866-663-3762) or visit [here](#).

CDC leadership shares recommendations with providers

This week, CDC Director Dr. Rochelle P. Walensky acknowledged and thanked Vaccination for Children providers for their roles during the COVID-19 pandemic and shared recommendations to make pediatric vaccines more equitably accessible.

From Dr. Walensky:

- **Use every clinic visit as an opportunity to vaccinate.** Well-child checks, Medicaid periodicity screenings, sports physicals, and other clinic visits all serve as opportunities for children to get COVID-19 vaccines and routine childhood vaccines that are due or were missed because of disruptions related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ensuring children are up-to-date with all recommended vaccines will be especially important as families prepare for children to return to school this fall.
- **COVID-19 vaccine waste may occur.** You should take every opportunity to offer the COVID-19 vaccine to all eligible children. For example, do not hesitate to open a new vial, even at the end of a clinic day, to avoid missing an opportunity to vaccinate a child. It is understood that more doses could be left unused even when providers follow [best practices](#) to use every dose possible.
- **Consider vaccinating children who are not current patients.** If your practice can offer COVID-19 vaccination to children who are not current patients and might not have a medical home, please consider [enabling your location to be publicly displayed on vaccines.gov](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz/downloads/enabling-your-location-to-be-publicly-displayed-on-vaccines.gov).
- **Promote v-safe, the after-vaccination health checker.** Through short, smartphone-based surveys, parents and caregivers can tell CDC how their children feel after COVID-19 vaccination. Hang [v-safe posters](#) in your practice, distribute [v-safe information sheets](#), and recommend registering for v-safe during vaccination visits.
- **Report COVID-19 vaccine supply levels at least weekly (by close of business on Fridays).** Daily reporting was decreased to weekly on May 1, 2022, to help alleviate the burden on COVID-19 vaccine providers.

CDC shares interim recommendations for immunization practices in children ages 6 months to 5 years in new study

ACIP issued interim recommendations for the use of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine for children aged 6 months to 5 years and for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for children aged 6 months to 4 years in the United States for prevention of COVID-19 earlier this month. ACIP determined the benefits of vaccination outweigh risks for this population and documents its finding in a new study that was published in the CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report.



[View the study and recommendations.](#)

The following resources are also available for review and reference:

- [At-a-glance COVID-19 vaccination schedule](#)
- [Interim COVID-19 immunization schedule](#)

FDA announces shelf-life extensions for certain COVID-19 treatments

This week, FDA authorized shelf-life extensions for certain refrigerated lots for specific lots of certain refrigerated monoclonal antibodies.

The FDA authorized a shelf-life extension from 18 months to 24 months for specific lots of the refrigerated AstraZeneca monoclonal antibody, Evusheld (tixagevimab co-packaged with cilgavimab). This extension applies to all unopened vials of Evusheld that have been held in accordance with storage conditions detailed in the authorized [Fact Sheet for Health Care Providers](#) and the EUA [Letter of Authorization](#) for Evusheld. Per EUA, unopened vials of Evusheld, (150 mg/1.5 mL of tixagevimab and 150 mg/1.5 mL of cilgavimab), must be stored under refrigerated temperature at 2°C to 8°C (36°F to 46°F) in the original carton to protect from light.

The FDA also authorized the shelf-life extension for specific lots of the refrigerated Regeneron monoclonal antibodies, casirivimab and imdevimab (combination known as REGEN-COV). Due to the high frequency of the Omicron variant and its subvariants, REGEN-COV is not currently authorized in any U.S. region. Therefore, REGEN-COV may not be administered for treatment or post-exposure prevention of COVID-19 under the EUA until further notice by the FDA. However, it is the recommendation of the U.S. Government that product be retained in the event that future SARS-CoV-2 variants, which may be susceptible to REGEN-COV, emerge and become prevalent in the U.S.

[Read more.](#)

Moderna training scheduled for pediatric & adolescent COVID-19 vaccines

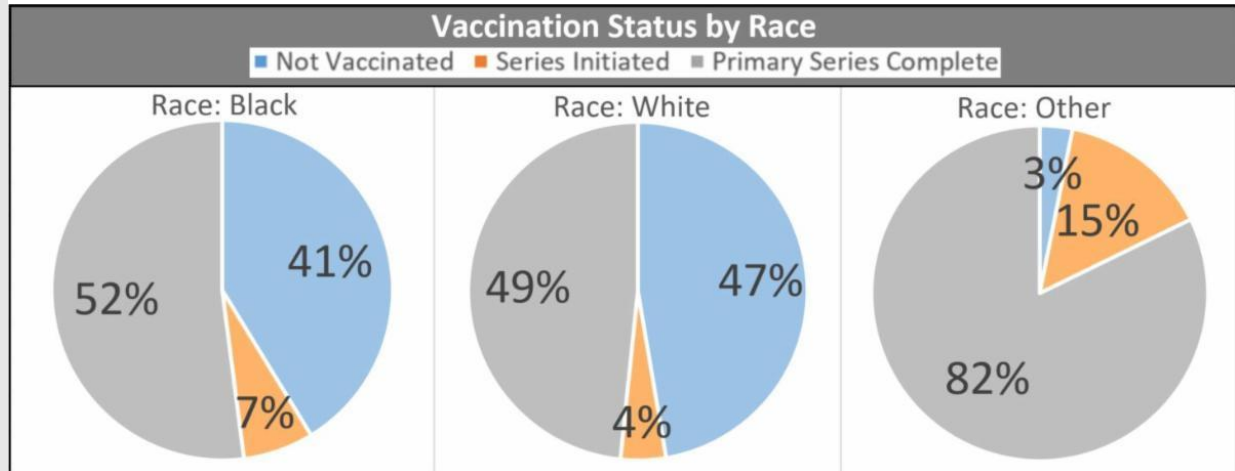
Moderna is hosting a series of trainings that will detail the pediatric and adolescent indications for the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine.

- Thursday, July 7, 11 a.m. CST. [Register here.](#)
- Tuesday, July 12 1 p.m. CST. [Register here.](#)
- Tuesday, July 19, 11 a.m. CST. [Register here.](#)



COVID-19 Demographics

As of June 29, 2022.



Pediatric COVID-19 vaccine resources

- A **Quick Conversations Guide** helps navigate answers to common questions parents and caregivers may have about the COVID-19 vaccines for children and teens. Providers can use this guide to address concerns and help parents feel more confident about vaccinating their children.
- [Vaccinating Children with Disabilities Against COVID-19](#) includes strategies to improve COVID-19 vaccine accessibility for children with disabilities and special healthcare needs.
- [Equity in Childhood COVID-19 Vaccination](#) webpage highlights the work currently being done and resources to improve vaccine access and equity.
- Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine for Children Ages 6-11 Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers: [Moderna HCP FS 6-11y 06172022 \(fda.gov\)](#)
- Moderna 'Dear HCP' Letter with Important Prescribing Information: [Moderna DHCP Letter 6 to 11 Dosing 06172022 \(fda.gov\)](#)
- Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine for Children Ages 6-11 Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers: [Moderna Recipients FS 6-11y 06172022 \(fda.gov\)](#)

COVID-19 Resources

- [Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine \(clinical materials\)](#)
- [Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine at A Glance](#)
- [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccines \(clinical materials\)](#)
- [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine at A Glance](#)

Good Reads

- [Seniors head back to retirement communities as COVID lingers– ‘I just didn’t want to be alone’](#)
- [A viral reprise: When COVID-19 strikes again and again](#)
- [Eli Lilly to supply additional doses of COVID antibody drug to U.S.](#)
- [U.S. FDA advisers recommend change to COVID vaccine composition for fall](#)

GET THE FACTS

COVID-19 SUPPORT HOTLINE

855-453-0774

MONDAY - FRIDAY
8:00 AM - 8:00 PM

SUNDAY
12:00 PM - 8:00 PM

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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