

COVID-19 Vaccine

Interim COVID-19 Immunization Schedule for Ages 5 Years and Older



COVID-19 vaccines are recommended for persons 5 years of age and older within the scope of the Emergency Use Authorization or Biologics License Application for the vaccine. The table below provides guidance for COVID-19 vaccination schedules based on age and medical condition. Considerations when scheduling vaccine doses include:

- Administer the appropriate vaccine product based on the recipient's age and the vaccine product's age indications.
- COVID-19 vaccines may be administered on the same day as other vaccines.
- Doses administered up to 4 days before the minimum interval (4-day grace period) are considered valid. Doses administered at any time after the recommended interval are valid.

Detailed information can be found in CDC's Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Approved or Authorized in the United States (link provided).

Table 1. Immunization schedule for persons 5 years of age and older

Type	Recipient Age	Product	Persons Who ARE NOT Moderately or Severely Immunocompromised		Persons Who ARE Moderately or Severely Immunocompromised	
			Primary Series*	Booster Dose ^{†‡}	Primary Series*	Booster Dose ^{†‡}
mRNA vaccine	5–11 years	Pfizer-BioNTech Ages: 5–11 years Orange cap	2 doses. Separate: Dose 1 and 2 by at least 3 weeks.	Booster dose 1: At least 5 months after Dose 2 Booster dose 2: N/A	3 doses. Separate: Dose 1 and 2 by at least 3 weeks. Dose 2 and 3 by at least 4 weeks.	Booster dose 1: At least 3 months after Dose 2 Booster dose 2: N/A
	12–17 years	Pfizer-BioNTech Ages: 12 years and older Gray cap or Purple cap	2 doses. Separate: Dose 1 and 2 by at least 3 - 8 weeks. [§]	Booster dose 1: At least 5 months after Dose 2 Booster dose 2: N/A	3 doses. Separate: Dose 1 and 2 by at least 3 weeks. Dose 2 and 3 by at least 4 weeks.	Booster dose 1: At least 3 months after the previous dose Booster dose 2: At least 4 months after booster dose 1
	18 years and older	Pfizer-BioNTech Ages: 12 years and older Gray cap or Purple cap	2 doses. Separate: Dose 1 and 2 by at least 3 - 8 weeks. [§]	Booster dose 1: At least 5 months after Dose 2 Booster dose 2: At least 4 months after booster dose 1 for persons ages 50 years and older	3 doses. Separate: Dose 1 and 2 by at least 3 weeks. Dose 2 and 3 by at least 4 weeks.	Booster dose 1: At least 3 months after the previous dose Booster dose 2: At least 4 months after booster dose 1
		Moderna	2 doses. Separate: Dose 1 and 2 by at least 4 - 8 weeks. [§]	Booster dose 1: At least 5 months after Dose 2 Booster dose 2: At least 4 months after booster dose 1 for persons ages 50 years and older	3 doses. Separate: Dose 1 and 2 by at least 4 weeks. Dose 2 and 3 by at least 4 weeks.	Booster dose 1: At least 3 months after the previous dose Booster dose 2: At least 4 months after booster dose 1
Viral vector vaccine	18 years and older	Janssen[¶]	1 dose	Booster dose 1: At least 2 months after the primary series dose Booster dose 2 ^{**} : At least 4 months after previous dose for persons 50 years of age and older. (mRNA vaccine only)	2 doses. Separate: Dose 1 and 2 ^{††} by at least 28 days	Booster dose 1: At least 2 months after the previous dose Booster dose 2: At least 4 months after the previous dose (mRNA vaccine only)

* Complete the primary series using the same product. Every effort should be made to determine which vaccine product was received as the first dose. If the vaccine product previously administered cannot be determined or is no longer available, any age-appropriate mRNA COVID-19 vaccine product may be administered at least 28 days after the first dose.

† A different age-appropriate COVID-19 vaccine product than the primary series may be administered for the booster dose. An mRNA COVID-19 vaccine is preferred.

‡ Persons with a recent SARS-CoV-2 infection may consider delaying a primary series or booster dose by 3 months from symptom onset or positive test (if infection was asymptomatic).

§ An 8-week interval may be optimal for some people, including males 12-39 years of age because of the small risk of myocarditis associated with mRNA COVID-19 vaccines. Vaccine effectiveness may also be increased with an interval longer than 3 or 4 weeks (depending on the product).

¶ mRNA COVID-19 vaccines are preferred over the Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine for all vaccine-eligible people. However, the Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine may be offered in some situations.

** People ages 18-49 years: Those who received Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine as both their primary series dose and booster dose may receive a second booster dose using an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine at least 4 months after the Janssen booster dose.

†† Administer Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine only.

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Table 2. COVID-19 Vaccine Products Summary

Product	Age Indications	Diluent	Dosage (amount injected)	
Type: mRNA vaccine				
Pfizer-BioNTech Orange cap and bordered label	5 - 11 years	1.3 mL 0.9% sodium chloride (normal saline, preservative-free)	Primary doses 1, 2 and 3*	0.2 mL
			Booster dose	0.2 mL
Pfizer-BioNTech Gray cap and bordered label	12 years and older	NONE	Primary doses 1, 2 and 3*	0.3 mL
			Booster dose	0.3 mL
Pfizer-BioNTech Purple cap	12 years and older	1.8 mL 0.9% sodium chloride (normal saline, preservative-free)	Primary doses 1, 2 and 3*	0.3 mL
			Booster dose	0.3 mL
Moderna Red cap	18 years and older	NONE	Primary doses 1, 2 and 3*	0.5 mL
			Booster dose	0.25 mL
Product	Age Indications	Diluent	Dosage (amount injected)	
Type: Viral Vector Vaccine				
Janssen† Blue Cap	18 years and older	NONE	Dose 1	0.5 mL
			Dose 2*	Dose 2 Administer mRNA vaccine only ‡
			Booster dose†	0.5 mL

* For most people COVID-19 vaccination is a 2-dose primary series. A 3rd primary series dose is recommended for moderately or severely immunocompromised persons only.

† mRNA vaccines are preferred.

‡ Additional dose for moderate or severely immunocompromised persons only: Administer Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine ONLY. Administer the correct product based on the recipient's age. If administering Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine, administer 0.5 mL.

CDC Resources

CDC COVID-19 Vaccine clinical training and materials at: www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/index.html

CDC Interim clinical considerations for the Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Approved or Authorized in the United States at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/covid-19-vaccines-us.html#primary-series