

Steve Sisolak
Governor

Richard Whitley, MS
Director



DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.



Lisa Sherych
Administrator

Ihsan Azzam,
Ph.D., M.D.
Chief Medical Officer

Technical Bulletin

Date: January 7, 2022
Topic: COVID-19 Vaccine Updated Booster Dose Recommendations
Contact: Susan Vilardi, RN, Nevada State Immunization Program
To: All Health Care Providers and Facilities; Pharmacists; Local Health Authorities

Background:

This technical bulletin serves to summarize the recent updates to [booster dose recommendations](#) for the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines, including:

- A shortened booster dose interval from six (6) months to five (5) months for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine (for ages 12 years and older) and for the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine (for ages 18 years and older)
- An additional (third primary) dose recommendation of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for moderately or severely immunocompromised children ages 5-11 years
- A recommendation that children ages 12-17 years should receive a booster dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine at least five (5) months after completing their primary series

This week, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) amended the Vaccine Emergency Use Authorizations for the [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19](#) vaccine and the [Moderna COVID-19](#) vaccine.

The mRNA COVID-19 vaccine booster dose greatly improves an individual's antibody response against the omicron variant. Authorizing booster vaccination to take place at five (5) months rather than six (6) months may therefore provide better and faster protection against the highly transmissible omicron variant. Further, consistent with the prior recommendation for [immunocompromised adults](#), children ages 5-11 years who are moderately or severely immunocompromised should receive an **additional primary dose (i.e., a third dose) of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine** 28 days after receipt of their second dose.

Additionally, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) [met to discuss and evaluate data](#) regarding the FDA's authorization of Pfizer-BioNTech booster dose administration to individuals ages 12-15 years. **The ACIP voted to recommend that a single Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine booster dose be administered to all individuals ages 12-17 years at least 5 months after completing the primary Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine series.** The recommendation was then [endorsed](#) by the CDC.

Do I qualify for a COVID-19 vaccine booster and which one?

Which primary vaccine series did you complete?	Pfizer-BioNTech	Moderna	Janssen (J&J)
<p style="background-color: #0072bc; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; margin: 0 auto;">You can get a booster if:</p>	It's been at least 5 months since completing a primary series AND you are:	It's been at least 5 months since completing a primary series AND you are:	It's been at least 2 months since completing primary vaccination AND you are:
<p style="background-color: #0072bc; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; margin: 0 auto;">If eligible, you can get a booster of:</p>	Age 12+	Age 18+	Age 18+
	Pfizer-BioNTech* Moderna Janssen (J&J) <small>*Only Pfizer-BioNTech can be used as a booster in those age 12-17.</small>	Moderna Pfizer-BioNTech Janssen (J&J)	Janssen (J&J) Pfizer-BioNTech Moderna

For more information, visit www.fda.gov/covid19vaccines.



Individuals who have received a COVID-19 vaccine primary series and the appropriately timed booster dose are considered up to date with vaccination upon receipt of the booster dose.

It is important to note the primary goal of the COVID-19 vaccine response should continue to be COVID-19 vaccine administration to the unvaccinated.

Questions:

For updated guidance, please review the DPBH Technical Bulletin [website](#) and Nevada's health response [website](#) regularly. Email dpbh-covid19vax@health.nv.gov with questions.

Lisa Sherych, Administrator
 Division of Public and Behavioral Health

Ihsan Azzam, Ph.D., M.D.
 Chief Medical Officer