



COVID-19 Response Efforts: COVID-19 Vaccines Recommended for Infants and Young Children

The Ohio Department of Health recently announced that COVID-19 vaccines are now recommended for children 6 months through 4 years following action by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). This is a crucial step toward strengthening protection against COVID-19 in Ohio.

Children are at risk for serious illness, including hospitalization and death, from COVID-19. The CDC recommends that people age 6 months and older get vaccinated as the best protection against these serious outcomes. The FDA authorized emergency use of new lower-dose formulations of the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines specially made for young children, and the CDC recommended use of the products outlined below:

- **Moderna:** A new lower dose pediatric formulation is available for children age 6 months through 5 years (two-dose primary series, with a third primary series dose for immunocompromised children).
 - The FDA amended the emergency use authorization (EUA) for Moderna COVID-19 vaccine to include use of the vaccine in individuals 6 months through 17 years of age. The vaccine had previously been authorized for use in adults 18 years of age and older and has received full FDA approval for adults.
 - The CDC recommended use of the lower-dose vaccine in children age 6 months to 5 years and provided clinical recommendations.
 - ***The CDC's Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices (ACIP) is scheduled to meet June 22-23, 2022, to consider Moderna vaccine for children age 6-17 years.***
- **Pfizer:** A new lower dose pediatric formulation is available for children age 6 months through 4 years (three-dose primary series).
 - The FDA amended the EUA for the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine to include use of the vaccine in individuals 6 months through 4 years of age. The vaccine had previously been authorized for use in individuals 5 years of age and older.
 - The CDC recommended use of the vaccine in children age 6 months through 4 years and provided clinical recommendations.

Moderna and Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine products are age-specific with specific doses for different ages. Vaccines for older children should not be used to vaccinate these younger age groups as COVID-19 vaccines are **not** interchangeable.

Ohio vaccine providers who pre-ordered the new vaccines for children younger than age 5 should expect deliveries of the new vaccines beginning **Monday, June 20**.

Providers who would like to place orders for these two new products or any COVID-19 vaccine product can do so through the **ImpactSIIS Vaccine Ordering Management System (VOMS)**. VOMS is open for orders 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Providers are encouraged to order only one of the two vaccine options initially to avoid administration and/or storage errors, as each vaccine has different and unique criteria for storage and handling.

Due to national demand, placing an order through VOMS does not guarantee delivery of these new vaccine products for young children. Orders will be processed in the order received.

Vaccine ordering reminders:

- **The minimum order quantity will be 100 doses. Providers may choose either the Pfizer or the Moderna vaccines for young children.**
- Orders can be placed using the existing **COVID-19 – Pfizer and COVID-19 Moderna order sets**. The new formulation of each vaccine will be one of the product options available within the order set. Providers must enter the total quantity requested in the “Doses Requested” field in multiples of 100.
- A “soft-cap” maximum of 1,000 doses will be placed on each order at this time to help with the equitable distribution of the vaccine. Please order only what you plan to use in the near future. If you have a special request for a local vaccination effort that would require more than 1,000 doses, please call the ODH Provider Call Center at 1-844-9ODHVAX (1-844-963-4829) and we will work with you.

Please note that if you choose to unsubscribe from receiving emails, this unsubscribes you from all emails that are sent by the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy, including renewal reminders. If you believe you have unsubscribed in error, please email contact@pharmacy.ohio.gov for assistance. If you would like to change the email address, please log into your [eLicense Ohio](#) account to update the email address on file.