



State of Louisiana

Louisiana Department of Health
Office of Public Health

DATE: October 25, 2021
TO: COVID-19 Vaccination Providers
FROM: Frank Welch, M.D.
Immunization Program Medical Director

Please route to:

- **Primary COVID-19 Vaccination Coordinators**
- **Other vaccination staff**

SUBJECT: Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Vial Puncture Limit

The Louisiana Immunization Program is emphasizing guidance provided in the Moderna COVID-19 Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers (<https://www.fda.gov/media/144637/download>). In the “Dose Preparation” section, on page 4, it states the following:

- *When extracting only booster doses or a combination of primary series and booster doses, the maximum number of doses that may be extracted from either vial presentation **should not exceed 20 doses**. Do not puncture the vial stopper more than 20 times.*

It is recommended that providers discard the vial and its contents after a maximum of 20 punctures. With the Moderna COVID-19 booster dose being a half dose (0.25 mL), some providers had initially understood that up to 28 patients could be vaccinated with a half dose from the 14 full dose vial. Per the guidance listed in the U.S Food and Drug Administration’s Emergency Use Authorization, a vial can only cover up to a maximum of 20 patients.

If you have any questions regarding the information in this memorandum, please contact the Immunization Program at la.immunization@la.gov