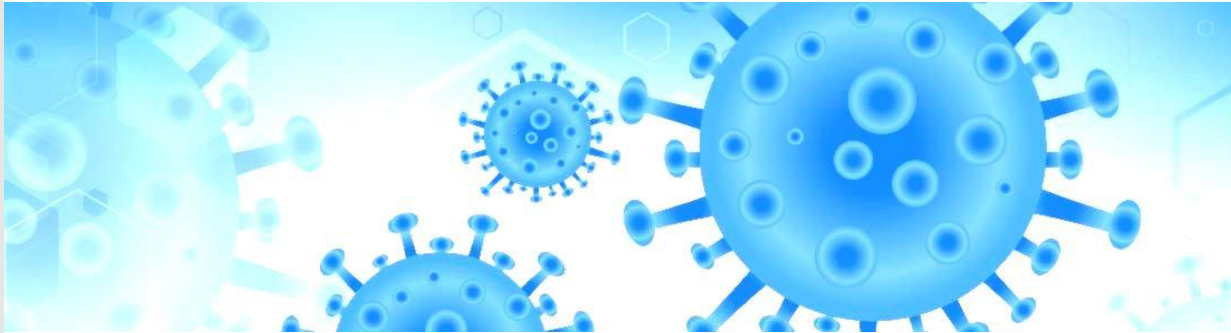


IMMUNIZATION COVID-19 Update

July 7, 2022 | Issue 67



Question of the Week

As summer travel increases, what are the recommendations for people who were vaccinated outside of the U.S.?

The CDC recommends that individuals [stay up to date](#) with COVID-19 vaccines, including people who received a COVID-19 vaccine outside of the United States. Individuals are considered up-to-date when they have received the COVID-19 vaccination primary series and recommended boosters, when eligible.

The recommendations pertaining to individuals who were vaccinated outside of the U.S. depend on whether:

- The vaccine(s) received are accepted in the United States
- The primary series was completed
- A booster dose was received

Additionally, accepted COVID-19 vaccines are those that are approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as well as those that are listed for emergency use by the World Health Organization (WHO). View the list of [accepted COVID-19 vaccines](#).



FDA recommends including Omicron BA.4/5 component for future COVID-19 vaccine booster doses

Last week, FDA Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee voted in support of including a SARS-CoV-2 omicron component in COVID-19 vaccine boosters beginning in fall 2022. As such, FDA has advised COVID-19 vaccine manufacturers to develop modified vaccines that include an omicron BA.4/5 spike protein component to the current vaccine composition. The modification would in turn create a two-component (bivalent) booster vaccine.



Peter Marks, M.D., Ph.D., director of the FDA's Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, said: "As we expect this coming year to be a transitional period when this modified booster vaccine may be introduced, we have not advised manufacturers to change the vaccine for primary vaccination, since a primary series with the FDA-authorized and approved COVID-19 vaccines provides a base of protection against serious outcomes of COVID-19 caused by circulating strains of SARS-CoV-2."

[Read Marks' full statement.](#)

FDA authorizes pharmacists to prescribe Paxlovid with certain limitations

On July 6, FDA revised the Emergency Use Authorization for Paxlovid (nirmatrelvir and ritonavir), to authorize state-licensed pharmacists to prescribe Paxlovid to eligible patients. The EUA provides certain limitations to ensure appropriate patient assessment and prescribing of Paxlovid and is intended to improve access for some patients who are at a higher risk for severe COVID-19.

Per the revised authorization, state-licensed pharmacists should refer patients for clinical evaluation with a physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant licensed or authorized under state law to prescribe drugs, if any of the following apply:

- Sufficient information is not available to assess renal and hepatic function.
- Sufficient information is not available to assess for a potential drug interaction.
- Modification of other medications is needed due to a potential drug interaction.
- Paxlovid is not an appropriate therapeutic option based on the current [Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers](#) or due to potential drug interactions for which recommended monitoring would not be feasible.

[Learn more about the revised EUA for Paxlovid.](#)

Related Information

- [Paxlovid EUA Letter of Authorization](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions on the Emergency Use Authorization for Paxlovid](#)
- [FDA Updates on Paxlovid for Health Care Providers](#)
- [Emergency Use Authorization: Drugs and Non-Vaccine Biological Products](#)
- [Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [Coronavirus Treatment Acceleration Program \(CTAP\)](#)
- [Test to Treat Locator](#)[External Link Disclaimer](#)
- [COVID-19 Therapeutics Locator](#)

Now available: Moderna COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 6 – 17

Effective July 5, providers can order the two-dose Moderna vaccine series for children ages 6-17. The current adult Moderna formulation as well as the new Moderna booster formulation are available to youth in this age group. CDC and LDH recommend the vaccination as well as both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccine for everyone ages 6-months and up.

6-11-Year-Olds:

The newly available, Moderna Vaccine Product, is now authorized/recommended for children ages 6 to 11 years old and as a booster dose for adults ages 18 and older. Providers can now order as little as one, 5 dose vial of this vaccine.

The vaccine is administered as a primary series of two doses (0.5 mL each) 1 month apart to individuals 6 years through 11 years of age.

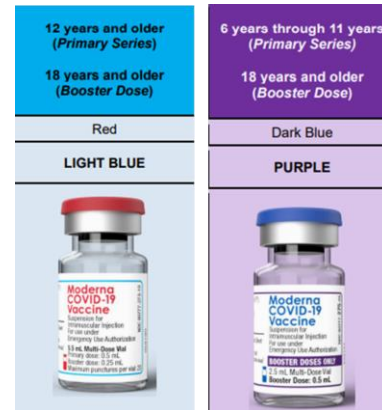
This product comes in a 5 dose vial, meaning the vial can be punctured 5 times, and has a **dark blue cap with a purple border**.

12-17-Year-Olds:

The current Moderna Vaccine Product (previously authorized for 18+) is now authorized/recommended for individuals 12+.

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.



Virtual town hall meeting on children's vaccine

Louisiana Community Engagement Alliance (LA-CEAL), in partnership with Louisiana Primary Care Association, will host a virtual town hall meeting on Thursday, July 14 from 5pm to 6pm.

The purpose of the interactive session, **COVID-19 Conversations: Children and the Vaccine**, is to provide answers to questions about children and the vaccine. This symposium will feature infectious disease pediatricians, Dr. John Schieffelin (Tulane University) and Dr. John Vanchiere (LSU-Shreveport).

[Register for the event.](#)

[Download the event flyer.](#)


LA-CEAL: Louisiana Community Engagement Alliance Against COVID-19 Disparities Presents:

COVID-19 CONVERSATIONS: CHILDREN AND THE COVID VACCINE


Answering all of your COVID-19 questions about children and the vaccine

Thursday, July 14th, 2022
5 pm - 6 pm


This interactive session will feature experts who can answer questions and provide the most up-to-date information and data about COVID vaccination for children.



John Vanchiere, M.D., Ph.D.
LSU-Shreveport
Panelist, Pediatrician







John Schieffelin, M.D., M.S.P.H.
Tulane University
Panelist, Pediatrician



Tonette Krousel-Wood, M.D., M.S.P.H.
Tulane University
Moderator, LA-CEAL Project Co-Lead

Please click to register!

Future provider meetings

Ongoing communication with providers is a top priority for the Immunization Team. Future COVID-19 vaccine update meetings will be scheduled at a later date, and the Program will be sending you a

new/fresh Zoom invite for these future meetings. In the interim, please remove/delete the previous series of monthly provider meetings from your calendar, as this particular reoccurring monthly call series invite (first Wednesday of the month, noon start) has been discontinued. For questions, please send an email to LA.Immunization@la.gov.

Discontinuation of DT vaccine

Sanofi Pasteur has notified CDC that the company will discontinue the production and distribution of Diphtheria and Tetanus Toxoids Adsorbed® (DT). The last lot was manufactured in October 2020 with an expiration date of April 2023. Sanofi expects to exhaust available supply by the end of 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

- [Cancer Drug Greatly Reduces Deaths in Hospitalized Covid Patients](#)
- [Doctors provide update on COVID across Louisiana](#)
- [Long COVID persists, but doctors are working on treatments](#)
- [UCSF's Wachter: 'BA.5 is destined to be our dominant virus'](#)

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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