

IMMUNIZATION COVID-19 Update

August 18, 2022 | Issue 74



Question of the Week

How long do monkeypox symptoms last?

According to the CDC, monkeypox symptoms usually start within three weeks of exposure to the virus. If someone has flu-like symptoms, they will usually develop a rash between one and four days later.

Monkeypox can be spread from the time symptoms start until the rash has healed, all scabs have fallen off and a fresh layer of skin has formed. The illness typically lasts two to four weeks.



CDC recommends Novavax COVID-19 vaccine for adolescents

This week, CDC Director Rochelle P. Walensky, M.D., M.P.H., signed a decision memo that Novavax's COVID-19 vaccine be used as another primary series option for adolescents ages 12 through 17. This recommendation follows FDA's authorization of the vaccine for this age group under emergency use.

Novavax's COVID-19 vaccine, which is available now, is an important tool in the pandemic and provides a more familiar type of COVID-19 vaccine technology for adolescents. Having multiple types of vaccines offers more options and flexibility for the public, jurisdictions and providers. [Read more.](#)

Guidance for administering second dose of JYNNEOS vaccine

JYNNEOS vaccine is intended as a series of two doses administered 28 days (four weeks) apart.

LDH strongly recommends providers with JYNNEOS vaccine currently in their inventory administer doses intradermally to all eligible adults to maximize the number of doses that can be utilized per vial. There would be up to five doses available per vial for intradermal administration compared to one dose available subcutaneously.



- This method of administration was authorized for vaccinating people age ≥ 18 years under an Emergency Use Authorization with an injection volume of 0.1mL.
- JYNNEOS should not be administered intradermally to adults with a history of keloid scars, or to children below the age of 18.

For more information regarding planning and administering second doses, minimum and maximum intervals, and the vaccination schedule, view [Health Alert Network Message 22-28: LDH Guidance for Administering Second Dose of JYNNEOS Vaccine for Monkeypox](#).

Reporting adverse events

LDH reminds providers to report possible vaccine-related adverse events and vaccination administration errors to the FDA/CDC Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) at <https://vaers.hhs.gov/reportevent.html> or by calling 1-800-822-7967.

Any possible severe adverse events (those resulting in hospitalization, death, or persistent disability) should be immediately reported to the Office Public Health (OPH) Infectious Disease/Epidemiology Hotline at 1-800-256-2748.

If you have vaccine-related questions, please contact la.immunization@la.gov.

FDA releases report on combatting the COVID-19 pandemic

Last week, the FDA issued the report: "[FDA's Work to Combat the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)," which details the agency's work in combatting the COVID-19 pandemic and preparing for future emergencies. The report topics include:

- Vaccines
- Pharmaceuticals
- Devices, including tests and personal protective equipment
- Resilient supply chains
- Advanced manufacturing and innovation
- Inspections, investigations, imports and fraud
- Crosscutting research

Low dead-volume syringes critical to obtain five doses per vial of JYNNEOS

The following information is provided by OPH's Immunization Program for informational purposes only, and is intended to address best practices for optimizing syringe, needle and related preparation considerations for the JYNNEOS monkeypox vaccine.

Currently, Louisiana's allocation of JYNNEOS vaccine is calculated based on five doses per vial. With such limited quantities, it is critical for providers to draw up five doses per vial consistently. *Note: Individuals under 18 years of age or those 18+ with a history of keloid scars should still continue to receive JYNNEOS subcutaneously (One 0.5ml dose per vial).*



Proper syringes

Administration of the JYNNEOS vaccine should be performed using 1 mL syringes.

- HAIYOU 1 mL Needle Retractable Safety Syringe
- VANISHPOINT 1 mL syringe with retractable safety needle
- ULTICARE 1 mL
- Tuberculin Safety Syringe
- DPS Bare 1 mL Hypodermic Syringe
- TKMD 1 mL Disposable Syringe
- MONOJECT 1 mL Tuberculin syringe

Proper needles for this smaller dose

The selection of needles, and dose withdrawal practices, are critical to reliably draw five doses per vial each time. Based on the current guidance, it is recommended to:

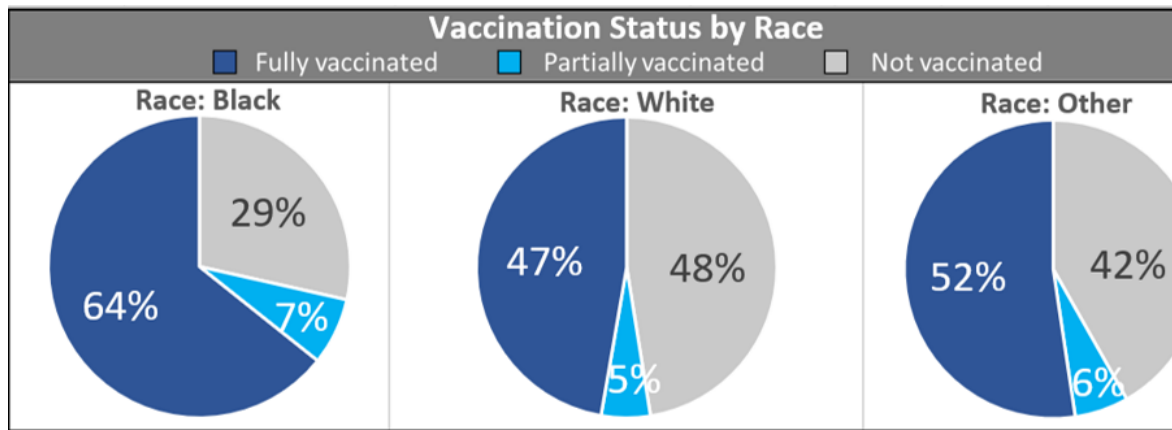
- **Utilize low dead-volume syringes. (All providers surveyed who utilize low dead-volume syringes have been able to consistently get five doses per vial. With such a small/precise dose, even a small amount of dead space in a syringe can prevent provider from drawing five doses).**
- Adjustments to remove air bubbles should be done with the needle still in the vial to avoid loss of vaccine.
- Use 1/2-inch needles, 27-gauge or narrower, to withdraw vaccine for administration.
- Use the same needle for withdrawal and administration to prevent loss of vaccine. If a second needle is required for administration, pull back on the syringe plunger until a

small amount of air enters the syringe prior to removing the first needle in order to avoid loss of dosing solution during the needle change. Place a new needle before releasing the plunger

- Draw up the vaccine just prior to administration.
- Do a visual inspection to verify the final dosing volume prior to administration
- Use a different syringe and needle for each of the five doses drawn from the single vial.

COVID Demographics

As of August 24, 2022



Good reads

- [Moderna seeks FDA authorization for updated Covid-19 booster](#)
- [FDA plans to authorize Covid omicron boosters around Labor Day](#)
- [How to know you're no longer contagious with covid, according to expert](#)
- [Data shows FEMA paid \\$46M for Louisiana COVID funeral expense](#)
- [Why Experts Want to Rename Monkeypox](#)

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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