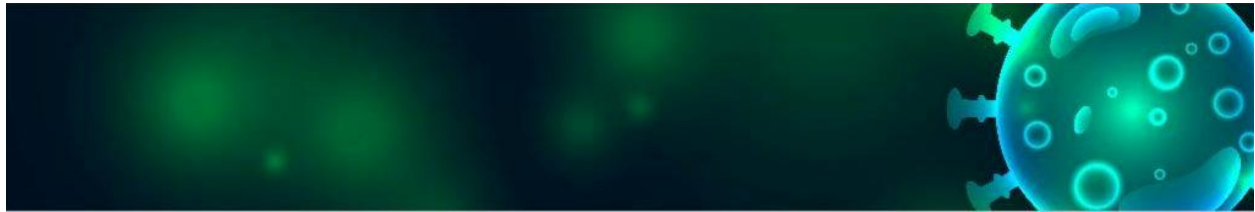


IMMUNIZATION COVID-19 Update

April 14, 2022 | Issue 55



Question of the Week

When should you get a second booster shot?

Adults 50 and older, who received three previous mRNA doses, can get a second booster dose if it's been at least four months since their first one. Everyone who received two doses of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine can also receive an additional mRNA dose four months after their last booster.

We don't know how long the immune protection from the vaccine and first booster lasts. There is a lot of evidence that the first booster is very important. However, if the protection starts to wane, another booster may be needed. Also, some people may need more frequent vaccines, especially those who are moderately or severely immunocompromised.

The best advice is to check with your physician to see if a second booster dose makes sense for you and, if so, determine the best timing for that next shot.



FDA authorized shelf life extension for refrigerated Janssen COVID-19 vaccine



Last week, the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) authorized shelf life extension of the refrigerated Janssen COVID-19 vaccine following a review of data that was submitted by Janssen.

The shelf life extension allows the vaccine to be stored for 11 months at 2-8 degrees Celsius. The previously established shelf life was 9 months. The shelf life extension applies to vaccines that have been released to the U.S. market and that have been stored according to the manufacturer's storage conditions. [Read more.](#)

FDA list of authorized over-the-counter at-home COVID-19 antigen tests

Providers seeking the most up-to-date information on at-home COVID-19 antigen tests can view the FDA's list of [Individual EUAs for Antigen Diagnostic Tests for SARS-CoV-2](#). This resource provides 24-hour access to a list of the antigen diagnostic tests that have been authorized by the FDA with certain conditions that are required of the manufacturers and authorized laboratories. The information is provided in a user-friendly table that indicates the following for each individually authorized test: EUA issue date, entity, most recent EUA, attributes of the antigen test, authorized settings, and authorize documents.



Study examines cardiac complications after SARS-CoV-2 infection and mRNA COVID-19 vaccination



A recent study examined cardiac complications after COVID infection and mRNA COVID-19 vaccination in individuals older than five years old. The study population included approximately 15,215,178 individuals, and used data collected between January 1, 2021 and January 31, 2022 from 40 health care systems participating in the PCORnet—the National Patient-Centered Clinical Research Network (7).

During the study, investigators “calculated incidences of cardiac outcomes” (myocarditis; myocarditis or pericarditis; and myocarditis, pericarditis, or Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome [MIS]) among the study population. The data was stratified by sex and age. Among the findings, males ages 12-17 years old were found to have the highest incidence of cardiac outcomes. The same demographic group reported risk of cardiac outcomes 1.8 to 5.6 times as high after SARS-CoV-2 infection than after the second vaccine dose.

Overall, the “risk for cardiac complications was significantly higher after SARS-CoV-2 infection than after mRNA COVID-19 vaccination for both males and females in all age groups.” [Read the study.](#)

LDH Office of Public Health regional medical director recognized by Louisiana National Guard for service during COVID-19 pandemic

Congratulations to Dr. Lacey Cavanaugh, regional medical director for the Louisiana Department of Health’s (LDH) Southwest Office of Public Health (OPH Region 5). Dr. Cavanaugh was recognized by the Louisiana National Guard (LANG) with its Distinguished Civilian Service Award for her work during the COVID-19 pandemic.

LANG’s contributions included operating testing sites, administering vaccines, transporting personal protective equipment and distributing over-the-counter COVID tests. In Region 5 alone, LANG has coordinated more than 700 vaccination events and more than 1,200 testing events.



“Dr. Cavanaugh and the LDH staff were instrumental in providing guidance and mentorship to the Louisiana National Guard over the last two years,” said Cpt. Thomas Mushenski, who has served with Dr. Cavanaugh since the beginning of the pandemic. “She is a remarkable leader who rendered exceptionally meritorious service in furthering the security and welfare of the state of Louisiana.”

As medical director, Dr. Cavanaugh oversees OPH operations throughout Region 5, which comprises Calcasieu, Beauregard, Allen, Cameron and Jefferson Davis parishes. [Read more.](#)

Pediatric vaccine resources

The CDC and national partners offer invaluable information for providers seeking more information on pediatric vaccines.

- The National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) highlights several approaches states may consider adopting along with encouraging parents to get their children vaccinated against COVID-19 and other vaccine-preventable diseases. [Read more.](#)
- The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention's website offers online resources such as downloadable posters, social media graphics, videos, and a customizable vaccination letter for communication with parents and caregivers. View the CDC's [Resources to Promote the COVID-19 Vaccine for Children & Teens.](#)
- For adolescents and teens ages 12 to 17 years, staying up-to-date with COVID-19 vaccines means getting 2 doses of the Pfizer primary series COVID-19 vaccine, plus a Pfizer booster at least 5 months after the second dose. View the CDC's [COVID-19 vaccination guidance.](#)

Save the Date: Monthly provider call on May 4

Are you coming to the next Monthly COVID-19 Vaccination Update for Providers?

LOCATION

Via ZOOM

DATE AND TIME

05/04/22 12:00pm - 05/04/22 1:00pm

I'll be there!

Maybe

I can't make it

COVID-19 vaccine resources

- Janssen COVID-19 vaccine (Johnson & Johnson)
- Moderna COVID-19 vaccine
- Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine (gray cap) age 12 and over

- Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine (purple cap) age 12 and over
- Resources to promote the COVID-19 vaccine for children & teens
- Building confidence in COVID-19 vaccines

Good Reads

- Coronavirus levels are rising in New Orleans wastewater. Experts say it's 'definitely concerning'
- Federal appeals court in Louisiana reverses Texas decision on federal COVID-19 vaccine
- Philadelphia reinstates mask mandate
- States of Covid performance: Study compares outcomes on economy, education and health
- What a negative result means on at-home Covid Tests
- Poor Louisiana parishes have higher COVID-19 death rates than wealthier counties nationwide



GET THE FACTS

COVID-19 SUPPORT HOTLINE:

855-453-0774

Monday - Saturday 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Sunday 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Learn more at covidvaccine.la.gov

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](#)