

# IMMUNIZATION COVID-19 UPDATE

ISSUE NO 17 | JUNE 2, 2021



VACCINE DOSES  
ADMINISTERED IN  
LOUISIANA

3,011,613

CLINICAL  
CONSIDERATIONS  
FOR  
MYOCARDITIS &  
PERICARDITIS

The CDC is investigating reports of Myocarditis and Pericarditis following mRNA vaccinations. (Page 2)

BUILDING  
CONFIDENCE IN  
COVID-19  
VACCINES

Vaccine confidence is important to end the COVID-19 pandemic. Having strong confidence in the vaccines means more people get vaccinated, which means fewer COVID-19 illnesses. (Page 2)

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

Can the COVID-19 vaccine be administered at the same time as other routine vaccines?

COVID-19 vaccines were previously recommended to be administered alone, with a minimum interval of 14 days before or after administration of any other vaccines. This was out of an abundance of caution and not due to any known safety or immunogenicity concerns. However, substantial data have now been collected regarding the safety of COVID-19 vaccines currently authorized by FDA for use under EUA.

**COVID-19 vaccines and other vaccines may now be administered without regard to timing.**

This includes simultaneous administration of COVID-19 vaccines and other vaccines on the same day, as well as coadministration within 14 days.

It is unknown whether the reactogenicity of COVID-19 vaccines is increased with coadministration, including with other vaccines known to be more reactogenic, such as adjuvanted vaccines or live vaccines. When deciding whether to coadminister another vaccine(s) with COVID-19 vaccines, providers should consider whether the patient is behind or at risk of becoming behind on recommended vaccines, their risk of vaccine-preventable disease (e.g., during an outbreak or occupational exposures), and the reactogenicity profile of the vaccines.

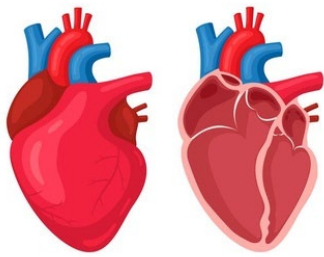
**If multiple vaccines are administered at a single visit, administer each injection in a different injection site.**

For more information on coadministration with other vaccines, visit [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).

# WEEKLY COVID-19 VACCINE UPDATE

Here is an overview of major updates that occurred over the week.

## Clinical Considerations: Myocarditis and Pericarditis after Receipt of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines Among Adolescents and Young Adults



Since April 2021, increased cases of myocarditis and pericarditis have been reported in the US after mRNA COVID-19 vaccination (Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna), particularly in adolescents and young adults. There has not

been a similar reporting pattern observed after the receipt of the Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine (Johnson & Johnson).

- **Myocarditis:** inflammation of the heart muscle
- **Pericarditis:** inflammation of the lining outside of the heart

In both cases, the body's immune system is causing inflammation in response to an infection or some other trigger. Symptoms can include chest pain, shortness of breath, or palpitations.

In most cases, patients who presented for medical care responded well to medications and rest and had prompt improvement of symptoms. Reported cases have occurred predominantly in male adolescents and young adults 16 years of age and older. Onset was typically within several days after mRNA COVID-19 vaccination, and cases have occurred more often after the second dose than the first dose. CDC and its partners are investigating these reports of myocarditis and pericarditis following mRNA COVID-19 vaccination.

CDC continues to recommend COVID-19 vaccination for everyone 12 years of age and older given the risk of COVID-19 illness and related, possible severe complications, such as long-term health problems, hospitalization, and even death.

For more information on myocarditis and pericarditis considerations, go to [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).

## Building Confidence in COVID-19 Vaccines

### What Is Vaccine Confidence?

Vaccine confidence is the trust that patients, their families, and providers have in:

- Recommended vaccines
- Providers who administer vaccines

- Processes and policies that lead to vaccine development, licensure, or authorization, manufacturing, and recommendations for use

Many factors influence vaccine decision-making, including cultural, social, and political factors; individual and group factors; and vaccine-specific factors. However, confidence in the vaccines, the vaccinator, and the system all support the decision to get vaccinated.

### Why Is It Important?

Most people in the US are planning to get vaccinated with COVID-19 vaccines. But some may want more information about COVID-19 vaccines, including the process for developing and authorizing these vaccines and information about their safety and effectiveness. People may have previous experiences that affect their trust and confidence in the health system.

By taking time to listen to their concerns and answer their questions, we can help people become confident in their decision to get vaccinated. Also, when you decide to get vaccinated and share the reasons why you did, you can have a powerful influence on your family and community. Strong confidence in the vaccines within communities leads to more people getting vaccinated, which leads to fewer COVID-19 illnesses, hospitalizations, and deaths.



### Six Ways to Help Build COVID-19 Vaccine Confidence

1. Encourage leaders in your family, community, or organizations to be vaccine champions.
2. Have discussions with your friends and family about vaccination to understand their perspective and encourage their decision to vaccinate.
3. Share key messages through multiple channels that people trust and that promote action.
4. Help educate people about COVID-19 vaccines, how they are developed and monitored for safety, and how individuals can talk to others about the vaccines.
5. Learn more about finding credible vaccine information. When you come across COVID-19 information, cross-check with [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) and learn how to respond to misinformation you encounter.
6. When the vaccine is offered to you, make visible your decision to get vaccinated and celebrate it!

For more information or resources on promoting vaccine confidence, visit [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).

## Novavax Announces Further Delays for Regulatory Filings of COVID-19 Vaccine

Novavax has announced it will not submit its COVID-19 vaccine to regulators in the US, UK, and Europe until the third quarter of 2021, following issues with the manufacturing of certain components of the jab.

Previously, Novavax's chief executive officer Stanley Erck said that the company was aiming for a US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) emergency approval of its vaccine – NVX-CoV2373 – as early as May 2021.

In a recent interview with CNN, however, Erck said that issues with “getting all the manufacturing data put together and getting all the very complex biologic assays that we have developed” has taken longer than expected.

He added: “I don't believe we're going to be able to make it by the end of June. Therefore we have pushed off the guidance until the third quarter. Obviously, it will be in everybody's benefit for us to get it done as early in the third quarter as possible, but we're not putting a date on it right now.”

Novavax is also expecting data from a US-based Phase 3 trial of its COVID-19 vaccine, involving 30,000 volunteers, in “a few weeks”, according to Erck.

Erck added that this trial data will reveal how effective Novavax's vaccine is against currently circulating variants in the US and Mexico.

In March 2021, Novavax announced that a UK trial of NVX-CoV2373 demonstrated an efficacy rate of 89.3%, and the vaccine was also found to be effective against the UK coronavirus variant.

Novavax calculated that its vaccine is 95.6% effective against the original COVID-19 strain and 85.6% effective against the UK variant.

**For more information on the Novavax COVID-19 vaccine, go to [pmlive.com](https://pmlive.com).**



## LOUISIANA COVID-19 VACCINE DEMOGRAPHICS

### SERIES COMPLETED BY RACE:

- **White:** 60.21%
- **Black:** 28.18%
- **American Indian:** 0.30%
- **Asian:** 2.78%
- **Native Hawaiian:** 0.21%
- **Unknown:** 1.2%
- **Other:** 7.12%

### SERIES COMPLETED BY AGE:

- **5-17:** 0.81%
- **18-29:** 9.51%
- **30-39:** 11.22%
- **40-49:** 12.72%
- **50-59:** 17.79%
- **60-69:** 23.2%
- **70+:** 24.74%

### SERIES COMPLETED BY GENDER:

- **Female:** 56.36%
- **Male:** 43.35%
- **Unknown:** 0.29%

All breakdowns shown here are for Louisiana residents only. Race data completeness is expected to improve as we continue our outreach with vaccine providers.

## Good Reads

**Why Louisiana COVID efforts have slowed, even as the US reaches a milestone** – This article talks about how, despite the US continuing to expand in vaccinations, Louisiana's vaccination has slowed down.

Read more at [nola.com](https://nola.com).

**Moderna's COVID vaccine safe and highly effective in adolescents, study shows** – This article talks about how Moderna is in Phase 3 of their trial in adolescents and the trial is proving to be safe and effective for children ages 12-17.

Read more at [axios.com](https://axios.com).

**Louisiana lawmakers advance anti-vaccination COVID bills limiting liability, discrimination** – This article talks about how Louisiana lawmakers are advancing two anti-vaccination COVID bills that would limit liability for businesses who don't require the shot, and ban discrimination.

Read more at [theadvertiser.com](https://theadvertiser.com).