Federal Retail Pharmacy Program Updates

3 million doses!

AmerisourceBergen COVID-19 vaccine program hits another major milestone.

As of this week, more than 3 million doses have been allocated through the Federal Pharmacy Partnership to your independent pharmacies! *Good Neighbor Pharmacy* and Elevate Provider Network are so proud and happy to see you continue to demonstrate your powerful reach and unique value. Every COVID-19 vaccination you administer touches so many lives. As you head into boosters and pediatric COVID-19 vaccinations, along with flu shots, patients throughout the country will continue to witness the strength, compassion, and service that you have always provided to your communities. #Fearless Pharmacy #NeverProuder

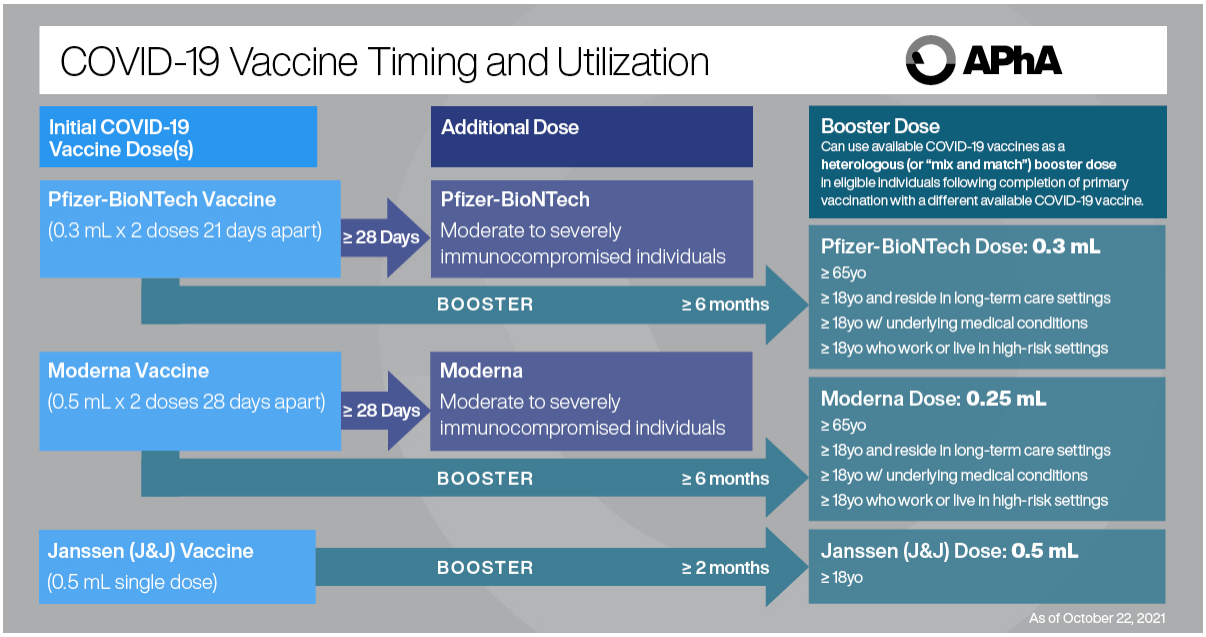
COVID-19 booster shots

Summary of what you need to know now

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) expanded eligibility for COVID-19 Booster Shots and **issued** the following recommendations regarding these vaccines under the FDA's Emergency Use Authorization (EUA):

- **Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Dose:** For individuals who received a primary series of the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, the following groups are eligible for a booster dose 6 months or more after completion of the initial series:
    - 65 years and older
    - Age 18+ years who live in **long-term care settings**
    - Age 18+ years who have **underlying medical conditions**
    - Age 18+ years who work or live in **high-risk settings**
- **Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Dose:** For individuals 18+ years who received a single dose of the Janssen (J&J) COVID-19 vaccine, a booster dose is now recommended 2 months or more after their initial dose.
- **Heterolologous (or "Mix and Match") Booster Doses:** Eligible individuals may choose which vaccine they receive as a booster dose. Some individuals may prefer the vaccine type that they originally received, and others may prefer to get a different booster. CDC's recommendations now allow for this type of mix and match dosing for booster shots.

Reference APhA's new **infographic** below for a summary of vaccine timing and utilization.



Pfizer Vaccines US Medical Affairs will be hosting **Immunization Site Training Sessions for All Providers on the Storage, Handling, & Administration for Current & Potential New Formulations** of our COVID-19 vaccine (with our partner BioNTech). These sessions will be **updated** to reflect new information and changes that evolve. Such updates will be identified at the start of each session and further explained during each presentation. Please click on the links below to join the sessions at the designated times.

Date & Time	Password
Attendee link – October 29 – 12 PM ET	cnRBrmGr324
Attendee link – November 1 – 5 PM ET	g9ZmgHaip32
Attendee link – November 2 – 5 PM ET	sJDZQERp325
Attendee link – November 3 – 12 PM ET	82qdN3PppPp
Attendee link – November 4 – 12 PM ET	Y4ZkXdh2bz7
Attendee link – November 5 – 12 PM ET	rJSpNPts332

Moderna COVID-19 vaccine reminders and updates

Syringe Availability for Moderna Booster Administration

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recently recommended a booster dose of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine for **eligible persons** following the primary series. **The vaccine dosage for the booster dose (0.25 mL) is different than the dosage for the primary series (0.5 mL)** . Currently, the ancillary kits for Moderna 14 contain a combination of 1mL and 3mL syringes. While the 3mL syringes are adequate for extracting a primary series dose (0.5 mL), they do not support extraction of the booster dose (0.25 mL). The 1 mL syringes allow for better visualization and extraction of the smaller 0.25 mL booster dose.

Understandably, this has raised some challenges in accessing 1 mL syringes in the marketplace. To assure providers have an adequate supply of 1 mL syringes to support extraction of booster doses (0.25 mL) from a Moderna 14 vial, we will begin shipping an additional Moderna 10 ancillary kit with all orders placed on or after October 30. As you recall, Moderna 10 ancillary kits contain only 1 mL syringes. **When possible, please use 3 mL syringes for extraction of primary series doses to ensure you have an adequate supply of 1 mL syringes to support extraction of booster doses from a Moderna vial.** Do not puncture the vial stopper more than 20 times.

Training – Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Dose

Join Moderna for a webinar for vaccination providers to learn more about the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine booster dose, which has been authorized for emergency use in the United States. There will be no continuing education offered for this webinar. Please register at the link below for one of our available sessions.

Webinar: Important updates on the mRNA-1273 50 µg Booster Dose
Thursday, October 28th at 12pm ET – **Register here for Oct 28**
Thursday, November 4th at 3pm ET – **Register here for Nov 4**
Thursday, November 11th at 12pm ET – **Register here for Nov 11**

Moderna Letter to Providers

On October 20, 2021, the FDA authorized a booster dose of Moderna COVID-19 under the existing Emergency Use Authorization. In response, Moderna mailed a letter and fact sheet to alert vaccination providers that the volume of the booster dose is 0.25mL, half the dose provided in the primary series administrated. We highly encourage you to read the document in its entirety. A copy of the attached letter and fact sheet that were sent to providers can also be found at **Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine DHCP Letter-Fact Sheet 10.20.21**.

Please reach out to your Regional Coordinator with any questions you have regarding the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Booster letter and fact sheet.

Moderna Wastage Reporting

Wastage should be reported only as whole doses. Each dose administered, whether it is a half dose or a full dose, counts against the total possible wastage of 10 doses (for

Moderna 10) or 14 doses (for Moderna 14). Once 10 or 14 administrations occur in any combination of dose sizes from a single vial, no wastage should be reported. For a Moderna-14 vial, wastage should only be reported up to 14 doses; do not report wastage over 14 doses even though you can administer up to 20 booster doses from one vial. For a Moderna-10 vial, wastage should only be reported up to 10 doses; do not report wastage over 10 doses even though you can administer up to 20 booster doses from one vial.

For example: During a full day in a clinic, 1 primary dose is administered, and 5 booster half-doses are administered from a Moderna 14 vial.

COUNT the total number of doses administered, regardless of volume or series and subtract this from the total number of identified doses in the vial. For a Moderna 14 dose vial, a total of 6 people are vaccinated (1 primary and 5 booster shots); 14 - 6 = 8 doses wasted.

Vial size – number of vaccines administered = waste

Moderna Booster Wastage Tables

The following tables are provided to assist you with determining the amount of waste that may be reported in vials of Moderna 14 or Moderna 10 when administering a combination of primary (0.5 mL) and booster (0.25 mL) doses. The number of full doses administered (primary series) is listed on the horizontal axis. The number of booster doses is listed on the vertical axis. Identify the appropriate line for each type of doses administered from a single vial. The intersection of those lines represents the number of doses wasted. If your intersection lands within the green field, no wastage occurred, and no reporting is necessary. When administering vaccines, do not forget to track which type of dose (primary or booster) was extracted from each vial.

Moderna Shelf-Life Extension Update

Moderna continues to update data regarding extension of expired doses. A total of 78 lots have been approved for extension.

As of Oct 26, 46 batches of Moderna vaccine **have been processed for expiry extension and provide an additional 2 months of expiry**. We expect this number to continue to rise in the days ahead. Moderna's **look up tool** remains the official indicator of product expiry and we highly encourage you to continue to monitor your lot numbers.

REMEMBER: The Moderna vials must be maintained in the frozen state for the extension to be applicable (the extension does not apply to thawed vials).

Other CDC updates

- CDC reiterates that Moderna 14-dose vials should not be punctured more than 20 times. Vials that provide at least 14 doses are considered ZERO waste.
- Only unopened vials should be considered as leftover inventory when reporting to VaccineFinder.

- Pfizer ordering will be paused on Thursday for about one week.
- Many Moderna lots have been extended but also a number of them have NOT been extended and are now expired. Pharmacies should use Moderna's look up tool to ensure proper expiration dates.

COVID booster claims processing information from Caremark, ORx, and NCPDP

From Caremark:

NOTE: For individuals receiving a Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) COVID-19 vaccine as the primary vaccination, the claim for a booster shot may reject with a Reject 70 and the message "TOO SOON FOR ADDITIONAL DOSES". CVS Caremark's adjudication system update is targeted to be completed by October 30, 2021 (additional time may be necessary to implement Medicaid Managed Care Organization Plans) and when fully implemented, Providers can re-submit claims that reject with 70 for "TOO SOON FOR ADDITIONAL DOSES".

In alignment with NCPDP's updated Emergency Preparedness Guidance, CVS Caremark® will be supporting NCPDP's interim solution for a booster shot utilizing Submission Clarification Code (SCC) (NCPDP field # 42Ø-DK) value of "Ø7" in combination with SCC value of "1Ø". SCC Ø7 and SCC 1Ø should be submitted together on a COVID 19 vaccine administration claim where that claim meets the EUA and CDC guidance for a booster shot.

When submitting claims for a booster shot of COVID-19 Vaccine according to EUA and CDC guidance, the Provider must document that the Eligible Person meets the guidance to receive a booster shot. The only documentation needed for those 65 years of age and older is the documentation of the date of birth. For those that are less than age 65, documentation of underlying medical condition(s) may be in the form of an attestation from the Eligible Person (which should be noted by the pharmacist when the attestation is received verbally) or may also include documentation of the Eligible Person's qualifying medical condition, therapy or increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of occupational or institutional setting in an accessible paper or electronic record. All documentation to support the administration of a booster shot must be retrievable for audit purposes. COVID-19 Vaccine Administration updates will be posted to the CVS Caremark Pharmacy Portal as they are available.

From OptumRx:

Effective October 21, 2021.

OptumRx has updated their systems to allow pharmacies to submit claims for booster doses after the initial series. Pharmacies are requested to submit accurate Submission Clarification Code (SCC) codes to correctly identify booster doses per the NCPDP guidelines and to receive the correct administrative fee payment. Please see below chart that outlines claim submission requirements for first, second, additional and booster doses as applicable.

	NCPDP Field Number	First Dose	Second Dose (If Applicable)	Additional Dose (If Applicable)	Booster Dose
Professional Service Code (DUR-PPS)	440-E5	MA	MA	MA	MA
Day Supply	405-D5	1-Day	1-Day	1-Day	1-Day
Submission Clarification Code (SCC)	420-DK	2	6	7	10
Ingredient Cost Submitted	409-D9	$0.00 ($0.01 if system requires)	$0.00 ($0.01 if system requires)	$0.00 ($0.01 if system requires)	$0.00 ($0.01 if system requires)
Dispensing Fee Submitted	412-DC	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Basis of Cost Determination	423-DN	15 (Free Product)	15 (Free Product)	15 (Free Product)	15 (Free Product)
Incentive Amount Submitted	438-E3	$40.00	$40.00	$40.00	$40.00
Product / Service ID / NDC	407-D7	EUA approved NDC	EUA Approved NDC	EUA Approved NDC	EUA Approved NDC
Fill Number	403-D3	00	01	02	01/02

From NCPDP:

The NCPDP Emergency Preparedness Task Group continues to monitor the progress of COVID-19 booster doses. This week, the CDC updated their guidance on COVID-19 vaccinations to allow for boosters from Moderna and Janssen (Johnson & Johnson), as well as the mixing and matching of manufacturers for booster doses. The CDC previously approved Pfizer booster doses in late September.

NCPDP recommends the use of Submission Clarification Code (SCC) 10 for the administration of a booster dose. If payers cannot immediately support SCC 10, NCPDP recommends an interim solution where both SCC 7 and 10 would be used. This would

allow SCC 7 to trigger existing logic and SCC 10 could be used to support any additional override logic to identify a booster. Payers should notify their pharmacy networks as to these temporary claims processing requirements and when their systems will be able to support just SCC 10 for boosters.

Updated Interim Clinical Considerations and training resources for vaccinating children

ACIP meets next week to vote on pediatric administration, and while we wait for official clinical guidance, please review the information below.

COVID-specific materials:

- [UPDATED] Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Approved or Authorized in the United States
- COVID-19 Vaccination Clinical and Professional Resources | CDC
- We have also been hearing questions regarding vaccinating pregnant women. As a reminder, COVID-19 vaccination is recommended for all people aged 12 years and older, including people who are pregnant, lactating, trying to get pregnant now, or might become pregnant in the future. Please make sure to message this to your providers. Information you can direct provider and consumers to are below.

- https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/covid-19-vaccines-us.html#pregnant
- COVID-19 Vaccines While Pregnant or Breastfeeding (cdc.gov)

Below are some helpful links with training resources for how to vaccinate children. More information is in the works, but we wanted to share what we have so far:

- Videos and infographics here: Vaccine Administration Resource Library | CDC

- Includes information Vaccine administration e-learn with CE for pharmacists, infographics for identifying injection sites, short video demonstration injection and holding children.

- The Vaccine Administration chapter of Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases at Pinkbook: Vaccine Administration | CDC includes strategies to decrease anxiety and procedural pain.
- COVID-19 vaccine webinar series includes a recorded, short webinar Administering More than 1 Vaccine on the Same Day: Clinical Considerations and a webinar on Clinical Considerations: Vaccinating Adolescents at COVID-19 Vaccine Webinar Series | CDC There will be a similar one for younger children posted soon.

CDC Required reporting: Weekly report on LTC vaccinations

The CDC is requiring that partner pharmacies report weekly if they are administering COVID-19 vaccines at LTC clinics. The CDC will be sharing this information with the administration, so this is another great opportunity to showcase to the White House the important role our independent pharmacies can play in improving the health of your communities. We appreciate all you are doing to help your patients and community and we thank you for taking the time to provide this information. Please provide the required report here each week.

VaccineFinder reporting emails to program participants not in compliance

Reporting reminder emails are sent weekly to pharmacies that are still not in compliance with the VaccineFinder reporting requirements. Please check your email and if you have received a VaccineFinder reporting reminder email, it is important to begin reporting. Pharmacies that do not consistently report daily to VaccineFinder, as per CDC requirements, will be placed on hold and will be unable to order additional vaccine until reporting is validated. Please take the time to make sure your VaccineFinder listing is accurate. Email vaccinefinder@castlighthealth.com for assistance or call 855-886-4317.

Quarterly Attestations coming October 29

One of the CDC federal partnership program requirements is a quarterly attestation process for pharmacies. On Friday, October 29, all pharmacies currently receiving (or who have ever received) vaccine allocation will be asked to complete a quarterly attestation to verify compliance with the requirements of the vaccine program and to return the completed attestation to AmerisourceBergen within 14 days (November 14).

COVID-19 booster shots Google advertising update

Since the Pfizer, Moderna, and J&J booster shots are now approved, *Good Neighbor Pharmacy* wants to make sure patients searching on Google for a booster shot are able to find your pharmacy. If you are part of the Federal Pharmacy Partnership, booster keywords will now be activated for Google paid advertising. If you have any questions, please contact your advertising manager.

COVID-19 booster shot marketing materials

Educational and promotional marketing materials for COVID-19 booster shots are available in the COVID-19 Vaccine library on Brand Central Station and SOCi .

Questions? Continue to work with your Business Coach or Sales Executive if you have questions. Questions can also be sent to **COVIDVaccines@amerisourcebergen.com**.