

CLINICAL **ADVISORY**

September | 2024

PharMerica

2024-25 COVID-19 Vaccine Update

BACKGROUND

On 6/27/24, the CDC adopted the [Advisory Committee Immunization Practices \(ACIP\) recommendations](#) for use of reformulated 2024–25 COVID-19 vaccines in individuals ages 6 months and older, regardless of previous vaccination status, as approved or authorized by the FDA.

On 8/22/24, the [FDA approved and authorized updated 2024-25 mRNA COVID-19 vaccines](#) to better protect against currently circulating variants.

- The updated mRNA COVID-19 vaccines include **Spikevax** (Moderna) and **Comirnaty** (Pfizer), both of which are approved for individuals ≥ 12 years of age, and the **Moderna** and **Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccines**, both of which are authorized for emergency use for individuals 6 months through 11 years of age.
- These updated **monovalent** vaccines are designed to target the **KP.2 lineage** which is a descendant of the Omicron version of the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

On 8/30/2024, the [FDA granted emergency use authorization for the updated 2024-2025 Novavax COVID-19 vaccine](#).

- Individuals ≥ 12 years of age, having never received a COVID-19 vaccine, may receive 2 doses at a 3-week interval.
- Those who have received one previous dose of Novavax COVID-19 vaccine may receive one additional dose of the updated formulation, at least 3 weeks after the previous dose.
- Individuals who have received previous Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccines, or who have received two or more doses of Novavax, are eligible to receive one additional dose of this 2024-25 updated formulation, at least 8 weeks after receiving the previous dose.
- This updated **monovalent** vaccine is designed to target the **JN.1 lineage** which is a descendant of the Omicron version of the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

With availability of 2024-25 COVID-19 formulations, 2023-24 formulations are no longer recommended for use.

CURRENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The CDC's [Use of COVID-19 Vaccines in the US – Interim Clinical Considerations](#) is the best reference for current vaccine guidance. Readers are encouraged to continually revisit this CDC page to check for updates (most recently issued 8/23/24).

Overview of Recommendations

- **CDC continues to recommend age-appropriate COVID-19 vaccination for all individuals aged ≥ 6 months.**
- **Adults should wait 8 weeks from their last COVID-19 vaccine before receiving an updated 2024-25 formulation.**

NOT immunocompromised & receiving initial vaccination

- Ages 6 months – 4 years: 2 doses of 2024–2025 Moderna or 3 doses of 2024–2025 Pfizer-BioNTech
- Ages ≥ 5 years: 1 dose of 2024–2025 Moderna or 1 dose of 2024–2025 Pfizer-BioNTech
 - Age ≥ 12 years: may alternatively consider 2 doses of the 2024-2025 Novavax formulation, 3 weeks apart.

NOT immunocompromised & already received previous doses of a COVID-19 vaccine

- Ages 6 months – 4 years: 1 to 2 doses of the 2024-2025 mRNA vaccine from the SAME manufacturer as the initial vaccination (depending on vaccine and number of prior doses)

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Overview of Recommendations, continued

- **Ages \geq 5 years: 1 dose of either the 2024-2025 Moderna or Pfizer vaccine formulations, 2 months after last dose.**
 - **Individuals ages \geq 12 years who have received one dose of Novavax may receive 1 dose of the updated 2024-2025 formulation at least 3 weeks after the previous dose. Those who previously received Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccines should wait 2 months between administrations.**
 - Note: Currently, non-immunocompromised individuals \geq 65 years of age are NOT recommended to receive any additional booster doses after receiving the 1 recommended dose of updated 2024-2025 vaccine.

IMMUNOCOMPROMISED & receiving initial vaccination

- Ages 6 months and older: 3 doses of 2024–2025 Moderna or 3 doses of 2024–2025 Pfizer-BioNTech

IMMUNOCOMPROMISED & already received previous doses of a COVID-19 vaccine

- Recommended mRNA vaccine and number of 2024–2025 doses are based on age and vaccination history
 - Note (Additional Doses): People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised ages 6 months and older may receive 1 or more age-appropriate doses of a 2024–2025 mRNA COVID-19 vaccine.

COMPARISON OF ADULT 2024-25 COVID-19 VACCINES

	Moderna Spikevax®	Pfizer Comirnaty®	Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine (Adjuvanted)
Package Type	Prefilled Syringe	Prefilled Syringe	Prefilled Syringe
Storage (Refrigerator)	Store refrigerated between 2°C to 8°C (36°F to 46°F) for up to 60 days prior to use.	Store refrigerated at 2°C to 8°C (36°F to 46°F) for up to 8 months from date of manufacture.	Store in a refrigerator between 2°C to 8°C (36°F to 46°F) for up to 9 months* .
Storage (Room Temperature)	Store at room temperature between 8°C to 25°C (46°F to 77°F) for up to 12 hours .	The total time out of refrigeration (at temperatures between 8°C and 25°C (46°F and 77°F)) must not exceed 12 hours .	For immediate use only. Discard after opening.

*Based on Manufacturer instructions for 2023-24 formulation. As of 9/4/24, further information is not available on storage durations for the 2024-25 formulation.

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DOCUMENTATION/BILLING INFORMATION

- For adults with Medicare, COVID-19 Vaccines are reimbursed under Medicare Part B, even during Part A stays.
 - See [AHCA Medicare Billing Guidance Respiratory Vaccines](#)

CPT/HCPCS Code	Labeler Name	Vaccine Name	National Payment Allowance	Effective Dates
91322	Moderna	SPIKEVAX (2024-25 Formula)	\$161.65	8/22/24 – TBD
91320	Pfizer-BioNTech	COMIRNATY (2024-25 Formula)	\$155.90	8/22/24 – TBD
91304	Novavax	NOVAVAX COVID-19 Vaccine (2024-25 Formula)	\$161.54	8/30/24 - TBD
90480	-	COVID-19 Vaccine Administration	\$40.00	9/11/23 – TBD

- Pharmacy no longer needs copies of informed consent, vaccine administration records, or waste information.
- Facilities should continue to document administration and consent per their policies and procedures, and may be responsible for reporting to state immunization registries, if applicable.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [CDC's Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines in the United States](#)
- [FDA Fact Sheets for Health Care Providers and Patients](#)
- [CDC's Immunization and Vaccine Product Summaries](#)