

# COVID-19 Vaccine Information Brief

May 6, 2022

Changes to the document from the previous version are highlighted in yellow.

**The next Vaccine Information Brief will be May 20, 2022**

## IMPORTANT/NEW COVID-19 Vaccine Information

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### Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines

CDC continually updates its guidance for COVID-19 vaccination. To view all updates, please visit [CDC's Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Approved or Authorized in the United States](#).

**Healthcare providers can sign up to receive email notification when the Interim Clinical Considerations are updated.** The link to sign up is located on the right side of the Interim Clinical Considerations page.

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### COVID-19 Quick Reference Guide

The quick reference guide provides basic information on the proper storage, preparation, and administration of the currently authorized COVID-19 vaccine products in the United States. For additional information and detailed clinical guidance go to the manufacturers' website and CDC's web pages listed on the guide.

Link to guide:

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/downloads/covid19-vaccine-quick-reference-guide-2pages.pdf>

## Communicating about Vaccines

A new educational module, “Communicating about Vaccines – COVID-19 & More” has been released. Development of this free module was led and supported by the Vaccine Education Center and the Office of Community Engagement at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), in partnership with the Pennsylvania Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics (PA-AAP), Pennsylvania Immunization Coalition (PAIC), and Philadelphia Department of Public Health (PDPH). This free web-based interactive session offers a two-hour training divided into three parts:

- **Part 1:** Details the dangers of COVID-19 disease, explains the U.S. system to authorize and approve vaccines, and highlights the safety & effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines.
- **Part 2:** Explores best practices in vaccine communication.
- **Part 3:** Reviews the module, offers additional resources, and explains how to receive continuing education credit or a certificate of attendance.

The module was developed for adult and pediatric providers, immunization champions, and community members. The module provides understanding of COVID-19 disease, how the vaccine approval process works, and how to communicate effectively about these topics, so that ultimately stakeholders — and their constituents — have a solid, or reinforced, urgency regarding what the receipt of vaccines can do to protect people from COVID-19. To learn more about the module or access versions “For credit” or “No credit,” visit [chop.edu/vaccine-online-learning](http://chop.edu/vaccine-online-learning).

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## Vaccination Cards and Additional Doses of COVID-19 Vaccine

If there is no space on a vaccine card to document additional or repeated doses of COVID-19 vaccine, please document new vaccinations on a NEW card and staple all patient vaccine cards together. This will ensure the patient has all of their vaccine records maintained in a single location.

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## COVID-19 Vaccine Administration Dashboard

Reporting of vaccination data to the [COVID-19 Vaccine Administration Dashboard](#) and DOMO will transition to monthly as of May 3, 2022. Additional data outside of these monthly timeframes will not be available.

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## Shelf Life Extension for *Select* Pfizer Products

The Food & Drug Administration has approved an amendment to the EUA for Pfizer Tris COVID-19 vaccine extending the shelf-life of the following Pfizer product formulations from 9 to 12 months:

- Pfizer Tris Pediatric vaccine (**Orange** Cap for ages 5 through 11, with diluent)
- Pfizer Adult Tris (**Gray** Cap for ages 12+, no diluent)

**Vials stored consistently in an ultra-low temperature freezer at -90oC to -60oC (-130oF to -76oF) may remain in use for up to 12 months beyond the date of manufacture printed on the vials and cartons.** Vials stored in refrigerated vials (2oC to 8oC) are **NOT** eligible for extension, regardless of the expiration date. Additional information on Pfizer storage and handling may be found at [Administration Overview for Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine | CDC](#).

Pfizer **Orange** and **Gray** Cap Tris Vaccine expiry dates based on 12 months from the date of the manufacture are shown below and at [Expiry Information for Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccines](#). No changes have been made to the vaccine itself to enable extension of expiry dating. This change is based on stability data submitted by the manufacturer to the FDA.

<b>Printed Manufacturing Date</b>	<b>12-Month Expiry Date</b>
06/2021	31-May-2022
07/2021	30-Jun-2022
08/2021	31-Jul-2022
09/2021	31-Aug-2022
10/2021	30-Sep-2022
11/2021	31-Oct-2022
12/2021	30-Nov-2022
01/2022	31-Dec-2022
02/2022	31-Jan-2023
03/2022	28-Feb-2023

Reminders:

- Do not use Pfizer Tris products beyond 12 months from manufacture date.
- Expiration dates for the Pfizer TRIS products are NOT printed on the vaccine cartons or vials.
- Do not store Pfizer vials at -25°C to -15°C (-13°F to 5°F). Once vials are thawed, they should not be refrozen.

For more information, please review the updated FDA Factsheets:

- [Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers Administering Vaccine \(Gray Cap/Adult\)](#)
- [Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers Administering Vaccine \(Orange Cap/PEDS\)](#)

COVID-19 vaccines authorized under an EUA do not have fixed expiration dates, and expiration dates may be extended as more stability data is collected. Always check [Expiry Information for Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccines](#) to obtain the most up-to-date expiration dates for the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines you have in inventory.

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## Statement Regarding Exhaustion of Funding for Uninsured Program and Coverage Assistance Fund

The HRSA COVID-19 Uninsured Program has stopped accepting claims due to a lack of sufficient funds.

**Confirmation of receipt of claim submission does not mean the claim will be paid.** Claims submitted by these deadlines will be paid subject to eligibility and availability of funds.

Unfortunately, IDPH does not have any information about efforts to continue to sustain this program. Provider questions can be directed to the HRSA COVID-19 Uninsured Program Provider Support Line: 866-569-3522, whose hours of operation are 8:00 am to 10:00 pm Central Time, Monday through Friday. For additional information, see [COVID-19 Uninsured Program Claims Submission Deadline FAQs](#).

IDPH has received questions regarding the provider's ability to refuse COVID-19 vaccine to uninsured patients. CDC strongly encourages providers to stay in the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program and CDC expects participating providers will continue to administer these life saving vaccines at no cost to patients to ensure equitable access for all individuals. The COVID-19 Vaccination Program Provider Requirements website does offer guidance:

### All organizations and providers participating in the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program:

- **must** administer COVID-19 Vaccine at no out-of-pocket cost to the recipient
- may **not** deny anyone vaccination based on the vaccine recipient's coverage status or network status
- may **not** charge an office visit or other fee if COVID-19 vaccination is the sole medical service provided
- may **not** require additional medical services to receive COVID-19 vaccination
- **may** seek appropriate reimbursement from a program or plan that covers COVID-19 Vaccine administration fees for the vaccine recipient, such as:
  - vaccine recipient's private insurance company
  - Medicare or Medicaid reimbursement
  - HRSA COVID-19 Uninsured Program for non-insured vaccine recipients
- **may not seek any reimbursement, including through balance billing, from the vaccine recipient**

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## Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Medical Updates on Current & Immunization Site Training

At this time, the Medical Affairs team is continuing to educate providers on Purple, Gray, and Orange caps as well as medical updates. To access dates and links for upcoming training sessions, please visit:

<https://www.pfizermedicalinformation.com/en-us/medical-updates>.

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## Vaccine Expiration Date Resources

Always be sure to check the manufacturer's website to obtain the most up-to-date expiration dates for COVID-19 vaccines. It is important for healthcare providers to update vaccine expiration dates in IRIS. Questions regarding IRIS vaccine inventory and adjusting expirations dates can be directed to the IRIS Helpdesk at 800-374-3958.

**For EUA COVID-19 vaccines that do not have a final expiration date, the CDC has set an expiration date of 12/31/2069 to serve as a *placeholder date*.** Such vaccines have a dynamic expiration date, which can change over time as additional stability data become available. This placeholder date, which is far in the future, is intended to serve as a prompt for the provider to check the latest expiry information on the manufacturer's website. **It is important for healthcare providers to update vaccine expiration dates in IRIS.**

**The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine:**

**It is important for all healthcare providers to double check all shelf life extensions for all Pfizer products.**

Pfizer does not have an expiration date look up tool for these vaccines. **The date on the label is NOT the expiration date, instead, each vial has the lot number and date of manufacture printed on the label.** Pfizer does provide guidance for expiration dates on their [website](#).

- Regardless of storage condition, **GRAY CAP** and **ORANGE CAP** vaccine vials should not be used after 9 months from the **date of manufacture** printed on the vial and cartons.
- The **PURPLE CAP** vaccine vials with an **expiry date** of September 2021 - February 2022 (printed on the label) may remain in use for 3 months beyond the printed date if vials are maintained in approved storage conditions (-90°C to -60°C, -130°F to -76°F).
- Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine for children 5 through 11 (**ORANGE CAP**) years of age may be stored at refrigerated temperatures between 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) for up to 10 weeks. **Vaccine initially distributed is nearing or has met the 10-week beyond-use date (BUD).**
  - **Reminders for providers:**
    - Vaccine may be stored in a refrigerator unit between 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) for up to 10 weeks.
    - Do NOT use vaccines stored in the refrigerator after 10 weeks. Discard appropriately.
    - Use a tracking system to ensure the vaccine is not used after the BUD. CDC has tracking labels to monitor storage times at [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine \(5 Through 11 Years of Age\) | CDC](#)

 <b>Expiry information for Ages 5 through 11</b> <b>DILUTE BEFORE USE Orange Cap presentation*</b> <b>and Ages 12 years and older DO NOT DILUTE Gray Cap presentation*</b>	
Printed Manufacturing Date	9-Month Expiry Date
06/2021	28-Feb-2022
07/2021	31-Mar-2022
08/2021	30-Apr-2022
09/2021	31-May-2022
10/2021	30-Jun-2022
11/2021	31-Jul-2022
12/2021	31-Aug-2022
01/2022	30-Sep-2022
02/2022	31-Oct-2022
03/2022	30-Nov-2022

 <b>Expiry information for Ages 12 years and older</b> <b>DILUTE BEFORE USE Purple Cap presentation†</b>	
Printed Expiry Date	Updated Expiry Date
September 2021	December 2021
October 2021	January 2022
November 2021	February 2022
December 2021	March 2022
January 2022	April 2022
February 2022	May 2022
March 2022	June 2022

**Janssen COVID-19 vaccine:** The expiration date is NOT printed on the vaccine vial or carton. To determine the expiration date:

- Scan the QR code located on the outer carton, or
- Call 1-800-565-4008, or
- Go to [www.vaxcheck.jnj/](http://www.vaxcheck.jnj/)

**Moderna COVID-19 vaccine:**

The expiration date is NOT printed on the vaccine vial or carton. To determine the expiration date:

- Scan the QR code located on the outer carton, or
- Go to [www.modernatx.com/covid19vaccine-eua/](http://www.modernatx.com/covid19vaccine-eua/)

CDC's [COVID-19 Vaccine Expiration Date Tracking Tool](#) can help providers keep track of the expiration date by lot number.

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### **V-safe After Vaccination Health Checker**

V-safe is a smartphone-based tool that uses text messaging and web surveys to provide personalized health check-ins after an individual receives a COVID-19 vaccination. V-safe web pages feature information on how to register and complete a v-safe health check-in (including step-by-instructions with images), troubleshooting, FAQs, and contact information for technical support. These web pages will be continuously updated with additional resources.

- V-safe information sheet and poster: posted on the vaccine webpage and available in 5 languages: English, Spanish, Korean, Vietnamese, and Simplified Chinese
- [V-safe after vaccination health checker website](#)
- [V-safe Print Resources](#)
- [V-safe Poster-11x17](#)
- [Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System \(VAERS\)](#)