

September 5, 2024

Dear Colleague:

The 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccines have been authorized and approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). 2024–2025 Moderna and Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines are now available for ordering through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program, and 2024-2045 Novavax COVID-19 vaccine will be available for ordering through VFC soon. Due to congressional budget rescissions, 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccines will not be available for ordering through the NYC Vaccines for Adults (VFA) Program.

The 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccines are no longer authorized or approved. These vaccines should not be administered to patients, even if they are not expired.

The 2024-2025 formulations of COVID-19 vaccines have been updated to monovalent vaccines based on the Omicron JN.1-lineage of SARS-CoV-2. The 2024-2025 Moderna and Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines are based on the KP.2 subvariant and the 2024-2045 Novavax COVID-19 vaccine is based on the JN.1 variant.

CDC recommends that all people 6 months of age and older receive an updated 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccine. Vaccination is especially important for those at highest risk for severe disease, including people ages 65 years and older, people with <u>underlying medical conditions</u> including immune compromise, people living in long-term care facilities, and people who are pregnant. Vaccination during pregnancy protects the pregnant person and their infant.

Detailed clinical guidance and vaccination schedules from CDC are available <u>here</u>. COVID-19, influenza, and RSV vaccines can be co-administered to eligible individuals.

Vaccine storage and handling guidance for 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccine products is available here and summarized below:

Moderna

 Single-dose pre-filled syringes: Store in a freezer (-50°C and -15°C) until the expiration date and/or refrigerate (2°C and 8°C) for up to 60 days. Do not refreeze once thawed.
 Do not store in an ultra-cold freezer.

Pfizer

- Glass single-dose pre-filled syringes: Store in a refrigerator (2°C to 8°C) until expiration.
 Do not freeze.
- Multi-dose and single-dose vials: Store in an ultra-cold freezer (-90°C to -60°C) until expiration and/or refrigerate (2°C to 8°C) up to 10 weeks before the vial is punctured.
 Do not refreeze once thawed. Do not store in a regular freezer.

Novavax

 Single-dose pre-filled syringes: Store in a refrigerator (2°C to 8°C) until expiration. Do not freeze. The Health Department is now accepting VFC orders for COVID-19 vaccines. All VFC orders must be placed electronically, using the Vaccine Inventory Management (VIM) Module in the Citywide Immunization Registry (CIR) at nyc.gov/health/cir. After logging into the CIR, click on the 'VIM/COVID' icon, select the 'Vaccine Inventory Management' tab, and navigate to the 'Order VFA/VFC Vaccine' subtab.

The following presentations of the 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccines are available for ordering through VFC. The CVX codes are the same as last year.

CVX Code	Product	Ages	Presentation/Packaging	Minimum order
308	Pfizer 6m–4y	6 months–4 years	10 pack – 3 dose vial	30 doses
309	Pfizer COMIRNATY 12y+	≥12 years	10 pack – 1 dose syringe	10 doses
310	Pfizer 5–11yr	5–11 years	10 pack – 1 dose vial	10 doses
311	Moderna 6m–11yr	6 months–11 years	10 pack – 1 dose syringe	10 doses
312	Moderna Spikevax 12y+	≥12 years	10 pack – 1 dose syringe	10 doses
313	Novavax 12y+	≥12 years	10 pack – 1 dose syringe	10 doses

Providers should adjust their inventory and return unused doses of 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccines using the 'Vaccine Returns/Wastage' screen in the CIR VIM module as 'other vaccine return'.

If you need to order vaccine for non-VFC eligible children or for adults, you should contact the vaccine manufacturers or distributors directly.

If your facility will not be ordering 2024-2045 COVID-19 vaccines, please refer your patients to NYC
Vaccine Finder to find a vaccination site. Uninsured patients can search for no-cost vaccination sites using the "insurance" tab.

Email nycimmunize@health.nyc.gov with any questions. For VFC questions, you can also call 347-396-2404. For general COVID-19 vaccine questions, call 347-396-2400.

Thank you for helping to protect NYC residents from COVID-19.

Sincerely,

Bindy Crouch, MD, MPH Assistant Commissioner Bureau of Immunization