

Dear COVID-19 Vaccination Provider:

This email contains important updates on the availability of both pediatric and adult/adolescent Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for ordering in NYSIIS AND an alert for ordering deadlines in anticipation of Thanksgiving week shipping schedules. (Providers in NYC should follow NYCDOHMH instructions for ordering in CIR).

1. Pediatric (age 5-11) Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines

On Tuesday, November 9th, ordering for Pfizer pediatric (ages 5-11) COVID-19 vaccine will be available in 100-dose ordering quantity and increments. Reminder: This formulation can ONLY be administered to individuals age 5-11 years.

NYSDOH COVID-19 Vaccine Program strongly encourages providers to place direct orders for COVID-19 vaccine rather than rely on redistributions. Vaccine is safest when shipped to the location it will be stored and administered. Please consider the following when placing your Pfizer pediatric orders:

- **Storage conditions:** Pediatric Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine storage conditions allow it to be kept up to 10 weeks at refrigerated temperatures of 2° to 8° C and up to 6 months (from manufacture date) at ultra-cold temperature.
- **Universal doses:** The interval between dose 1 and dose 2 is 21 days, therefore a minimum order at refrigerated storage conditions could be used to administer both first and second doses.
- **Responsible wastage:** This means providers should “take every opportunity to vaccinate every eligible person.” As more vaccination opportunities are created, the likelihood of leaving unused doses in a vial may increase. While enrolled providers must continue to follow best practices to use every dose possible, it should not be at the expense of missing an opportunity to vaccinate every eligible person when they are ready to get vaccinated. Responsible wastage is acceptable!
- **Multi-dose vials:** Order according to the number of vials you will use, not the number of patients you will see. A 100-dose order is 10 multi-dose vials. Once a vial is punctured the doses must be used within **12 hours** (Pfizer pediatric formulation) and any remaining doses discarded and reported as wastage. As stated above, it is likely a provider will not use every single dose of vaccine they order. Whether you vaccinate 2 patients or 9 patients in a day, you will use one vial.

When considering all these points, a 100-dose order may mean giving first and second doses to patients on 10 days out of the 10-week refrigerated storage period.

2. Pfizer Adult/Adolescent (age 12+) COVID-19 vaccines

Ordering for Pfizer adult/adolescent (age 12+) COVID-19 vaccine resumed in NYSIIS after the planned pause to allow for Pediatric roll out. Reminder: This formulation can ONLY be administered to individuals age 12+.

Limited Amounts of Pfizer 450-dose Packages Are Again Available

- Pfizer 450-dose packages (NDC 59267-1000-03) are available for a limited time and will appear in the Pediatric Intention section of the order screen with Trade Name “PfizerCovid-19Comirnaty” and a NYSIIS packaging description of “Pfizer Age 12+ 450 doses; 3 trays of 25 vials each”. Pediatric Intention applies to the ancillary kit that is shipped with these orders (1” needles). This NDC may only be administered to individuals age 12 and older. If you also are enrolled in VFC, the Pfizer 12+ adult/adolescent 450-dose package will appear on the order screen with your VFC vaccines, which is sorted alphabetically by Trade Name.
- These doses are labeled for January expiration (1/31/2022).
- All of these orders come shipped with only 1” needles.

Pfizer adult/adolescent (12+) COVID-19 vaccine will continue to be available in 1170-dose packages as well.

Providers are encouraged to consider the following when deciding which Pfizer adult/adolescent packages to order:

- If you have ultra-cold storage or the capacity to administer approximately 1000+ doses in six weeks (two weeks standard freezer storage plus one month refrigerated) you are encouraged to order the large 195 vial/1,170 dose package (NDC 59267-1000-02; NYSIIS packaging description “Pfizer Age 12+ ONLY: 1170 doses; 195 vials”).
- If you have the capacity to administer approximately 450 doses in six weeks or have ultra-cold storage and can use 450 doses prior to January expiration, you are encouraged to order the 450-dose package. Please do NOT order more than one 450-dose package. If you can use more than one package of 450 you should order the 1170-dose tray.
- If you cannot use at least 450 doses of Pfizer 12+ COVID-19 vaccine, add a note to the NYSIIS order (text box in gray area of Create Order screen) indicating the number of doses needed and someone from the COVID-19 Vaccine Order Team will call to get details for a possible redistribution of a smaller quantity.

3. Holiday Timelines for ordering all COVID-19 vaccines

We have been notified that **NO VACCINE ORDERS WILL BE DELIVERED Wed-Sun 11/24-28**. Deliveries resume Monday, Nov. 29. All providers should plan to submit their order in NYSIIS for any vaccine (Pfizer Ped or Adult/Adolescent, Moderna, J&J) needed prior to Tue 11/30 **no later than 4 p.m. Wednesday, November 17th**.

Thank you for your participation in the COVID-19 Vaccination Program!