

## Standing Order for Administering Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine (COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine)

**Purpose:** To reduce morbidity and mortality from COVID-19 caused by SARS-CoV-2 by vaccinating all persons who meet the criteria established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Emergency Use Authorization, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

**Policy:** Under these standing orders, eligible nurses and other healthcare professionals working within their scope of practice may vaccinate patients who meet the criteria below.

### **Procedure:**

1. For active immunization for the prevention of COVID-19 caused by SARS-CoV-2 in individuals 18 years of age and older
2. Screen all patients for contraindications and precautions to the COVID-19 vaccine:

#### **Contraindications:**

- A history of a serious reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after vaccination or to a vaccine component (see product fact sheet for complete list of excipients)

#### **Precautions:**

- Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever
- Pregnancy: Available data on Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine administered to pregnant women are insufficient to inform vaccine-associated risks in pregnancy. Pregnant women desiring the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine should consider discussing the risks and benefits of such vaccination with their obstetrics provider. There is a pregnancy exposure registry that monitors pregnancy outcomes in women exposed to Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine during pregnancy. Women who are vaccinated with Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine during pregnancy are encouraged to enroll in the registry by calling 1-866-MODERNA (1-866-663-3762).
- Breastfeeding: Data are not available to assess the effects of Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine on the breastfed infant or on milk production/excretion. It is unknown whether Moderna COVID-19 vaccine is excreted in human milk. A risk to the newborns/infants cannot be excluded.
- Allergies: Persons with a history of severe allergic reaction (e.g. anaphylaxis) to an injectable medication should use caution when receiving the vaccine and follow a 30- minute observation period if vaccinated with the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine.
- COVID-19 Vaccine Clinical Trial Participants: anyone who reports they are in a clinical trial for a COVID-19 vaccine candidate needs to confer with their trial POCs before proceeding with vaccination with Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine.
- Syncope (fainting) can occur in association with administration of injectable vaccines. Procedures should be in place to avoid a falling injury (e.g. 15 minute observation after administration) and to restore cerebral perfusion following syncope
- For questions or concerns, consider consulting the DHA Immunization Healthcare Division at (877) 438-8222, Option 1 or DSN 761-4245

3. Provide all patients (or their parent/legal representative) with a copy of the Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) fact sheet for recipients and caregivers. Provide non-English speaking patients with a copy in their native language, if available and preferred.
4. Provide vaccine as follows:
  - The Moderna COVID-19 vaccine is a 2-dose series spaced at least 28 days apart
  - Administer 0.5mL of vaccine intramuscularly in the deltoid muscle.
  - The multi-dose vial may be stored frozen at -25°C to -15°C.
  - Frozen vials should be transferred to 2°C - 8°C for 2 hours and 30 minutes to thaw. After thawing, let vial stand at room temperature for 15 minutes before administering.
  - Alternatively, vials can thaw at room temperature between 15° to 25° C (59° to 77° F) for 1 hour.
  - After thawing, **do not refreeze**.
  - Once thawed, the vaccine can be stored for up to 30 days at 2°C - 8°C
  - Un-punctured vials may be stored between 8°C - 25°C (46° to 77° F) for up to 12 hours.
  - Swirl vial gently between each withdrawal. **Do not shake**. Do not dilute.
  - After first dose has been withdrawn, the vial should be held between 2° C to 25° C (36° to 77° F).
  - Record the date and time of the first use on the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine vial label. Discard vial after 6 hours.

Needle Length and Injection Site of IM Injections for Adults		
Use a 22 – 25 gauge needle. Choose needle gauge and length appropriate to administration route and the patient's age and body mass.		
Age Group	Needle Length	Injection Site
Men and Women (<130 lbs)	1 inch <sup>†</sup>	Deltoid Muscle of Arm
Men and Women (130-152 lbs)	1 inch	
Men (152-260 lbs)	1-1.5 inches	
Women (152-200 lbs)		
Men (> 260 lbs)	1.5 inches	
Women (>200 lbs)		

Adapted from General Best Practice Guidelines for Immunization: Vaccine Administration <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/general-recs/administration.html>

<sup>†</sup> Some experts recommend a 5/8 inch needle for men and women who weigh <130 lbs, skin must be stretched tightly (do not bunch subcutaneous tissue)

5. Provide all patients with the one-page enrollment sheet for V-safe at the time of vaccination and strongly encourage the patient to enroll in this program. V-Safe is a smart-phone based tool that uses text messaging and web surveys to provide personalized health check-ins after a patient receives a COVID-19 vaccination. It also reminds the patient of the second dose timing.
6. Observe a minimum interval of 28 days between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> dose. DO NOT compress the minimum interval between doses. Do not restart the primary series

for any reason; resume the series with administration of the next dose. COVID-19 vaccines are NOT interchangeable. Complete the series with the same product.

7. Document all immunizations administered in the patient's electronic health record and the appropriate immunization tracking system. Include date, immunization given, dose, anatomical location of administration, lot number, manufacturer, and the identification of the person administering the vaccine. If vaccine was not given, record the reason for non-receipt. The CVX code for Moderna COVID-19 vaccine is 207.
8. Provide a vaccination card to the recipient or their caregiver with the date when the recipient needs to return for the second dose of Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine as required by the FDA EUA Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers.
9. Be prepared to manage a medical emergency related to the administration of vaccines by having a written emergency medical protocol available, as well as equipment and medications.
10. Adverse events occurring after administration of any vaccine should be reported to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS). Reports can be submitted to VAERS online, by fax, or by mail. Additional information about VAERS is available by telephone (800-822-7967) or online at <https://vaers.hhs.gov>
11. This policy and procedure shall remain in effect for all patients of the \_\_\_\_\_ until rescinded and/or upon a change in the Medical Director, whichever is earlier.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Medical Director's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date