



COVID-19 vaccine for individuals 5-11 years of age (multiple dose vials with orange caps and labels). **Ensure you are utilizing the correct standing order and product for your patient.**

- Individuals who will turn from 11 years to 12 years of age **between** their 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> primary dose may receive, **for either dose:** (1) the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine formulation authorized for use in individuals 5- 11 years of age (10mcg/0.2 mL dose from the vial with an orange cap); **OR** (2) the Pfizer-BioNTech/COMIRNATY® vaccine authorized for use in individuals ≥ 12 years of age (30mcg/0.3 mL dose from a vial with a purple or gray cap).
5. Using [DHA Form 207](#), screen all individuals for contraindications and precautions to COVID-19 vaccine:

**Contraindications:**

- A history of a serious reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after vaccination or to any vaccine component to include polyethylene glycol (see the fact sheets for the [purple cap](#) and [gray cap](#) products for complete lists of excipients).

**Precautions:**

- Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever.
- History of severe allergic reaction (e.g. anaphylaxis) to any injectable medication.
- Myocarditis or pericarditis after a dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine: defer additional primary or booster doses.\*
- Syncope (fainting) can occur in association with administration of injectable vaccines. Have procedures in place to avoid a falling injury (e.g. observation after administration) and to restore cerebral perfusion following syncope.
- For questions or concerns, consider consulting the DHA Immunization Healthcare Support Center at (877) 438-8222, Option 1 or DSN 761-4245.

**Note:**

*\* A subsequent dose or alternative COVID-19 vaccine may be considered using shared clinical decision-making but is not covered under these standing orders: these patients must obtain a written order from a privileged provider.*

**Special Populations:**

- **Pregnancy:** Pregnant and postpartum individuals may receive any current FDA-licensed or FDA EUA-authorized COVID-19 vaccine, to include additional primary or booster doses. Data on the safety of COVID-19 vaccines in pregnancy is limited, but reassuring. Encourage individuals vaccinated during pregnancy to enroll in the Pfizer-BioNTech/COMIRNATY® COVID-19 Pregnancy Registry (<https://mothertobaby.org/ongoing-study/covid19-vaccines>) and the CDC v-safe surveillance system. Routine pregnancy testing before receipt of COVID-19 vaccine is not required, and pregnancy need not be delayed after vaccination.
- **Lactation:** COVID-19 vaccination is recommended for all lactating individuals. SARS- CoV-2 antibodies have been found in the breast milk of individuals who have received mRNA COVID-19 vaccines, suggesting a potential protective effect against infection in the infant; the degree of clinical benefit is not yet known.
- **Immunocompromised:** Individuals who are [moderately or severely immunocompromised](#) may be at increased risk for severe COVID-19. These individuals should discuss COVID- 19 vaccine receipt timing and medication management with their primary or specialty healthcare provider. These conditions can include (but are not limited to):

- Generalized malignancy
- Solid organ or stem cell transplant
- Congenital or acquired immunodeficiencies (e.g., DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome, HIV/AIDS, or lymphocyte or complement deficiencies)
- [iatrogenic immunosuppression](#) (e.g., treatment with immunosuppressive drugs, including long-term systemic corticosteroids, biologics, or radiation therapy)
- **COVID-19 Vaccine Clinical Trial Participants:** Unless they have received or plan to receive a booster dose through a clinical trial, participants ≥ 18 years of age (including moderately or severely immunocompromised people who received an additional primary dose) who completed a primary series of a WHO-EUL COVID-19 vaccine (not a placebo) can receive a single COVID-19 vaccine booster dose. These individuals should confer with their trial POCs before vaccination.

6. Provide all patients (or their parent/legal representative) with a copy of the [Pfizer-BioNTech/COMIRNATY® COVID-19 vaccine Information Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers](#) or the VIS, as applicable. Provide non-English speaking patients with a copy in their native language, if available and preferred.

7. Provide Pfizer-BioNTech/COMIRNATY® COVID-19 vaccine as follows:

**Table 1: Dosing intervals**

COVID-19 Vaccine Product	Age group	# of primary doses	# of booster doses	Interval: 1 <sup>st</sup> to 2 <sup>nd</sup> primary dose	Interval: 2 <sup>nd</sup> to 3 <sup>rd</sup> primary dose	Interval: primary series to 1 <sup>st</sup> booster dose	Interval: 1 <sup>st</sup> booster dose to 2 <sup>nd</sup> booster dose
<b>Pfizer BioNTech</b>	≥ 12 years						
• <b>Immunocompetent</b>		2	1 or 2 <sup>*†</sup>	3-8 weeks <sup>†</sup>	NA	≥ 5 months	≥ 4 months
• <b>Immunocompromised</b>		3	1 or 2 <sup>*†</sup>	3 weeks	≥ 4 weeks	≥ 3 months	≥ 4 months

\* A 2<sup>nd</sup> booster dose with an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine is recommended for **immunocompromised** individuals ≥ 12 years of age and **immunocompetent** individuals ≥ 50 years of age ≥ 4 months after receipt of a 1<sup>st</sup> booster dose of any FDA-licensed or FDA-authorized COVID-19 vaccine.

† An 8-week interval may be optimal for some individuals ≥ 12 years of age, especially for males 12-39 years of age. A shorter interval (3 weeks for Pfizer-BioNTech) between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> doses remains the recommended interval for: **immunocompromised** individuals; adults ≥ 65 years of age; and others who need rapid protection due to increased concern about community transmission or risk of severe disease.

‡ **Immunocompetent** individuals 18-49 years of age who received Janssen COVID-19 vaccine as both their primary dose and 1<sup>st</sup> booster dose may receive a 2<sup>nd</sup> booster dose with an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine ≥ 4 months after the Janssen booster dose.

- Using a sterile needle and 1mL syringe, administer 0.3mL of the appropriate vaccine intramuscularly in the deltoid muscle. Separate multiple injection sites by 1 inch or more and if possible, administer COVID-19 vaccines and vaccines that may be likely to cause a local reaction in different limbs.

8. Dosing intervals:

- An 8-week interval may be optimal for some people. While absolute risk remains small, the relative risk for myocarditis is higher for males 12-39 years of age; this risk might be reduced by extending the interval between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> primary dose.
- A 3-week interval between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> primary doses is recommended for: moderately to severely immunocompromised individuals; adults ≥ 65 years of age; individuals needing rapid protection due to increased concern for community transmission or risk of severe disease.
- DO NOT compress minimum intervals for clinic convenience. However, doses administered ≤ 4 days (the “grace period”) before the minimum interval (e.g., prior to imminent travel, immunosuppressive therapies, etc.) are considered valid.
- A 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> primary dose administered earlier than allowed by the grace period (17 days for primary dose #2 or 24 days for primary dose #3) is invalid and should be repeated. The repeat dose should be given ≥ 28 days after the invalid dose. Invalid doses do not count





