COVID-19 Vaccine Decision Tree
For Adults Ages 18 Years or Older

This document includes COVID-19 vaccination guidance for healthy* adults ages 18 years or older.

**Primary Series** for Adults Ages 18 years + .......................................................................................................................................................... PAGE 2

**Bivalent Booster Dose** for Adults Ages 18 years + ............................................................................................................................................... PAGE 3

**AVAILABLE COVID-19 VACCINES:**

- **PFIZER-BIONTECH:**
  - 12+ years (primary series, additional dose)
  - 12+ years (bivalent booster dose)

- **MODERNA:**
  - 18+ years (primary series, additional dose)
  - 18+ years (bivalent booster dose)

- **NOVAVAX**
  - 12+ years (primary series)

- **JOHNSON & JOHNSON**
  - The CDC recommends the preferred use of mRNA (Pfizer or Moderna) COVID-19 vaccines whenever feasible. However, a patient may receive a Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine in certain situations.
  - 18+ years (primary dose, booster dose)

*This resource does NOT include information pertaining to individuals who are moderately or severely immunocompromised (weakened immune system) and are authorized for an additional primary series dose. For more information regarding COVID-19 primary series vaccination for those who are moderately or severely immunocompromised please reference the NDHHS COVID-19 Vaccine Decision Tree: Primary Series for those who are Immunocompromised or visit the CDC’s COVID-19 vaccine clinical considerations for those who are moderately to severely immunocompromised website.

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS NEW INFORMATION BECOMES AVAILABLE. PLEASE CHECK THE CDC’S INTERIM CLINICAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR COVID-19 VACCINES TO ENSURE YOU ARE VACCINATING PATIENTS USING THE MOST RECENTLY UPDATED GUIDANCE.
COVID-19 Vaccine Decision Tree

Primary Series for Adults Ages 18+

Is the patient currently infected with COVID-19?

NO

Initiate one of the following COVID-19 vaccine primary series.

PFIZER-BIONTECH

Administer 2 doses of Pfizer², given at days 0 and 21.
(May consider an 8-week³ spacing between doses.)

MODERNA

Administer 2 doses of Moderna², given at days 0 and 28.
(May consider an 8-week³ spacing between doses.)

NOVAVAX

Administer 2 doses of Novavax², given at days 0 and 21.
(May consider an 8-week³ spacing between doses.)

JOHNSON & JOHNSON

In certain situations, an individual may receive a Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine primary dose.
Administer 1 dose of Johnson & Johnson¹, ²

YES

Defer vaccination until released from isolation.

This guidance does NOT apply to individuals who are moderately or severely immunocompromised ³ (weakened immune system) and are authorized for an additional primary series dose⁴. For more information regarding COVID-19 primary series vaccination for those who are moderately or severely immunocompromised please reference the NDHHS COVID-19 Vaccine Decision Tree: Primary Series for those who are Immunocompromised or visit the CDC’s COVID-19 vaccine clinical considerations for those who are moderately to severely immunocompromised website.
Is the patient currently infected with COVID-19?

**NO**

Did the patient receive their last dose of COVID-19 vaccine at least 2 months ago?

**NO**

The patient is NOT eligible for a booster dose at this time.

**YES**

**YES**

Defer vaccination until released from isolation.

**NO**

The patient is eligible for a single booster dose of either the Pfizer or Moderna Bivalent COVID-19 Vaccine Booster.

REMINDER: All patients ages 12 years or older are eligible for a bivalent booster dose at least 2 months after their last dose of COVID-19 vaccine, regardless of the number of doses of vaccine they have already received.

For more information on bivalent booster dose recommendations, please visit the CDC’s [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/ftpdocs/ftpdocs/med👿/medidepress.htm) website.
1**IMPORTANT:** All individuals are recommended to receive a primary vaccination series, booster dose, and/or additional dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna) over the use of the Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) COVID-19 vaccine. As of May 5, 2022, the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine is no longer authorized by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) for use in all adults ages 18 years or older. However, select populations may still receive the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine. These individuals should talk to a trusted healthcare provider prior to receiving this vaccine. Patients requesting this vaccine must be informed on the potential risks associated with the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. This change in guidance comes after reviewing data finding an increased risk of Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia associated with those who have received the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine.

2**Primary series dose volumes are as follows:**
   - Pfizer (ages 12+) 0.3mL
   - Moderna (ages 18+) 0.5mL
   - Novavax (ages 12+) 0.5mL
   - In certain situations, some individuals may choose to receive a primary dose of Johnson & Johnson (ages 18+) 0.5mL

**Booster dose volumes are as follows:**
   - Pfizer (ages 12+) 0.3mL
   - Moderna (ages 18+) 0.5 mL
CDC updated the Interim Clinical Considerations for COVID-19 Vaccination Guidance with additional information to help vaccine providers determine if an individual patient’s optimal interval between their 1st dose and 2nd dose in a primary series should be extended by up to 8 weeks rather than the previously recommended 3-week (Pfizer-BioNTech or Novavax) or 4-week (Moderna) intervals. Some people ages 6 months through 64 years – and especially males ages 12 through 39 years – may benefit from getting their second mRNA COVID-19 vaccine dose 8 weeks after receiving their first dose. Please talk to your healthcare or vaccine provider about the timing of the second dose that is right for you. IMPORTANT: A shorter interval (3 weeks for Pfizer-BioNTech and Novavax; 4 weeks for Moderna) between the first and second doses remains the recommended interval for people who are...

- moderately or severely immunocompromised individuals ages 6 months and older,
- adults ages 65 years and older,
- and in situations in which there is increased concern about COVID-19 community levels, or
- when an individual is at higher risk for severe disease due to COVID-19.

Moderately or severely immunocompromised individuals are authorized to receive an additional dose of COVID-19 vaccine at least 28 days after the completion of their primary series. The CDC defines moderately or severely immunocompromised as individuals who have:

- Been receiving active cancer treatment for tumors or cancers of the blood
- Received an organ transplant and are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- Received a stem cell transplant within the last 2 years or are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- Moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (such as DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome)
- Advanced or untreated HIV infection
- Active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids or other drugs that may suppress your immune response

For more information regarding COVID-19 booster doses for those who are moderately or severely immunocompromised please reference the NDHHS COVID-19 Vaccine Decision Tree: Booster Dose for those who are Immunocompromised.

As of September 1, 2022, the CDC has recommended that everyone 12 years and older should receive a bivalent booster dose at least 2 months after their first booster dose including: For more information, please visit the CDC’s Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines webpage.