

# Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine

At-A-Glance



Guidance below summarizes basic storage, preparation, scheduling, administration, and dosage for ALL Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine products.



**Ages: 6 months through 5 years**  
**BIVALENT**  
 (pink capped vial with yellow-bordered label)








**Ages: 6 months and older**  
**BIVALENT**  
 (blue capped vial with gray-bordered label)

## Storage and Handling Basics

Find additional guidance on storing vaccine properly at:

- [Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit — Updated with COVID-19 Vaccine Storage and Handling Information](#)
- [Moderna COVID-19 Vaccines | FDA](#)
- [Moderna COVID-19 Vaccines | FDA](#)

Vial cap color	 <b>BIVALENT</b> Pink capped vials with yellow-bordered label	 <b>BIVALENT</b> Dark blue capped vial with gray-bordered label
Supplied in multidose vial	<b>2 doses per vial</b> <b>Do not confuse these with single-dose vials.</b> Discard vial after 2 doses have been removed.	<b>6 months and older:</b> 5 doses per vial
<b>Storage Temperature: Before Puncture</b>  <b>Do NOT store vaccine in an ultra cold freezer.</b>	<b>Between:</b> -50°C and -15°C (-58°F and 5°F) until the expiration date 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) for up to 30 days 8°C and 25°C (46° and 77°F) for a total of 24 hours. Discard vial and unused vaccine after 24 hours. <b>NOTE:</b> The beyond-use date (30 days) replaces the manufacturer’s expiration date but NEVER extends it. Always use the earliest date. Do NOT use vaccine if the expiration date or beyond-use date has passed.	
<b>Thawing Frozen Vaccine</b>  <b>Do NOT refreeze thawed vaccine.</b>	<b>Between:</b> 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) OR 15°C and 25°C (46°F and 77°F) Amount of time needed to thaw vaccine varies based on temperature and number of vials.	
<b>Storage Temperature: After 1st Puncture</b>  <b>Do NOT use after beyond-use date times.</b>	<b>Between:</b> 2°C and 25°C (36°F and 77°F) for up to: ▪ <b>8 hours</b> - bivalent vaccine for ages 6 months through 5 years (pink capped with yellow bordered label) ▪ <b>12 hours</b> - all other Moderna COVID-19 vaccine products Discard vial and any unused vaccine after these time frames.	

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### Preparation and Administration Basics




Find additional guidance on preparing and administering vaccine properly at:

- [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines | CDC](#)

- [Vaccine Administration Resource Library | CDC](#)
- [Moderna COVID-19 Vaccines | FDA](#)
- [Moderna \(modernacovid19global.com\)](#)



### Preparation

- If the vaccine is frozen, allow to thaw before preparing the injection. Thaw vaccine in the refrigerator or at room temperature. Unpunctured vials may be stored:
  - Between 8°C to 25°C (46°F to 77°F) for a total of 24 hours. Track this 24-hour beyond-use time.
  - Discard unpunctured vials thawed at temperatures above 8°C (46°F) after 24 hours.
- **Do NOT** refreeze thawed vaccine.
- Check the vial label to ensure the expiration date or beyond-use date/time has not passed.
- Use Moderna expiration date tool at <https://modernacovid19global.com/vial-lookup>
- Gently swirl the thawed vaccine vial. Do not shake the vial.

Vial cap color	 <b>BIVALENT</b> Pink capped vials with yellow-bordered label	 <b>BIVALENT</b> Dark blue capped vial with gray-bordered label
Ages	<b>6 months through 5 years</b>	<b>6 months and older</b>
Beyond-use date/time	After first puncture, use within 8 hours	After first puncture, use within 12 hours
 <b>Do NOT use a punctured vial beyond-use date times.</b>	If using a vial for the 1st time, record the date and time the vial was punctured. <b>NOTE:</b> The beyond-use time replaces the manufacturer's expiration date but NEVER extends it. Always use the earliest date. Do NOT use vaccine if the expiration date or beyond-use time has passed.	

### Administration

- COVID-19 vaccine may be administered at the clinical visit as other routinely recommended vaccines.
- **Do NOT** "pool" vaccine from more than 1 vial to obtain a dose. If a full dose cannot be withdrawn, discard the vial and any remaining vaccine.
- Gently swirl vaccine to mix. **Do NOT** shake.

Recipient's Age	Use	Administer	Route	Needle gauge and length	Site
<b>6 months through 5 years of age</b>	 <b>Bivalent Pink capped vial with Yellow-bordered label</b>	<b>Previously vaccinated with two doses of Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine</b> 10 µg/0.2 mL  <b>NOTE:</b> This vial contains 2 doses.	IM injection	22–25 gauge, 1"	<b>6 months–2 years of age:</b> Vastus lateralis muscle in the anterolateral thigh*
					<b>3–5 years of age:</b> Deltoid muscle in the upper arm†
<b>6 months and older</b>	 <b>Bivalent Dark blue capped vial with gray-bordered label</b>	<b>6 months–11 years:</b> 25 µg/0.25 mL	IM injection	22–25 gauge, 1–1½"	<b>6 months–2 years of age:</b> Vastus lateralis muscle in the anterolateral thigh*
		<b>12 years and older:</b> 50 µg/0.5 mL			<b>3 years and older:</b> Deltoid muscle in the upper arm†

\* The deltoid muscle in the upper arm may be used if the muscle mass is adequate.

† Vastus lateralis muscle in the anterolateral thigh may be used.

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## Scheduling Doses

- The number of bivalent doses varies by age, vaccine, previous COVID-19 vaccines received, and the presence of moderate or severe immune compromise. Review [CDC's Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Authorized in the United States](#) for detailed clinical guidance when scheduling doses, and the [Interim COVID-19 Immunization Schedule](#).
  - Children who turn from 5 to 6 years of age: Use vaccine from the dark blue-capped vial (0.25 mL/25 mcg) for all doses.
- Consider observing persons after vaccination to monitor for allergic reactions and syncope:
  - **30 minutes for persons with:**
    - » An allergy-related contraindication to a different type of COVID-19 vaccine
    - » A history of non-severe, immediate (onset within 4 hours) allergic reaction after a previous dose of COVID-19 vaccine
    - » A history of anaphylaxis after non-COVID-19 vaccines or injectable therapies
  - **15 minutes:** All other persons

## Document the vaccination

For each vaccine recipient, record

- Both in their medical record and on their vaccination card: vaccination date and vaccine administered (product name, manufacturer, lot number)
- In their medical record: vaccination site and route, vaccinator's name and title.
- On their vaccination card: name/location of clinic or health care professional, note bivalent dose if possible.

Report the vaccination to the appropriate [state/local immunization information system \(IIS\)](#)

## Contraindications and precautions

Screen for contraindications and precautions before administering EACH dose — even if the vaccine was previously administered. Use [CDC's Prevaccination Checklist for COVID-19 Vaccination](#) to determine whether the vaccine may be administered.

### Contraindications

History of:

- Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose or to a component of the COVID-19 vaccine

- Known diagnosed allergy to a component of the COVID-19 vaccine

### Precautions

History of:

- Anaphylaxis after any vaccine other than COVID-19 vaccine or after any injectable therapy, including intramuscular, intravenous, or subcutaneous vaccines or therapies, but excluding subcutaneous immunotherapy for allergies (i.e., “allergy shots”).
- Non-severe, immediate (onset less than 4 hours) allergic reaction after a dose of one type of COVID-19 vaccine have a precaution to the same type of COVID-19 vaccine
- An allergy-related contraindication to one type of COVID-19 vaccine is a precaution to the other types of COVID-19 vaccines
- Moderate to severe acute illness, with or without fever
- Multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C) or adults (MIS-A)
- Myocarditis or pericarditis after a dose of an mRNA or Novavax COVID-19 vaccine

## Report adverse reactions and administration errors

Healthcare professionals are required to report to the [Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System \(VAERS\)](#) including:

- Vaccine administration errors (whether associated with an adverse event [AE] or not)
- Serious AEs (irrespective of attribution to vaccination)
- Multisystem inflammatory syndrome (MIS) in adults and children
- Cases of myocarditis
- Cases of pericarditis
- Cases of COVID-19 that result in hospitalization or death
- Any additional AEs and revised safety requirements per the [Food and Drug Administration's](#) conditions for use of an authorized vaccine throughout the duration of the EUA event.
- Healthcare professionals are encouraged to report to [VAERS](#) clinically important adverse events even if unsure whether the vaccine caused the adverse event.