COVID 19 Vaccine Implementation Task Force **Clinic Reference**	
Title:	**COVID-19 Vaccine Pfizer COMIRNATY™ Quick Reference for Immunizers**
Area:	**Reference for Immunizers**
Effective Date:	November 25, 2021 (Pediatric formulation), October 7, 2022 (Bivalent formulation), October 21, 2022 (Infant formulation), December 1, 2022 (12+ monovalent formulation) December 9 (Pediatric bivalent)
Revised Date:	January 3, 2023
Approver:	FINAL

Pfizer COMIRNATY™ vaccine indicated for active immunization against coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Disclaimer: this Quick Reference is not intended to replace other product specific vaccine references. The document is intended a quick reference for frequently referred to information. Please refer to the product monograph and other Pfizer COMIRNATY™ specific resources for all current and complete information.

Additional Resources:

Product Monograph: https://www.gov.mb.ca/asset_library/en/covidvaccine/pfizer-biontech-pm.pdf

Bivalent Product Monograph: https://www.gov.mb.ca/asset_library/en/covidvaccine/pfizer-cominarty-bivalent-ba4-5-pm.pdf

Eligibility Criteria:

For the most up to date information on primary series and booster dose eligibility criteria refer Province of Manitoba | Eligibility Criteria (gov.mb.ca).

Canadian Immunization Guide:

For guidance on special populations, refer to the Canadian Immunization Guide.

Fact Sheets:

For information on vaccine risk and intended benefits, refer to the Provincial COVID-19 Factsheets

Summary of document tables:

Table 1: Additional dose recommendations: immunocompromised
Table 2: Additional dose recommendations: non-Health Canada approved
Table 3: Manitoba Health recommended mRNA immunization schedule, based on age.
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<tr><th>Product Information</th><th>Approved immunization intervals</th><th>Presentation</th><th>Clinic Setting Considerations</th><th>Administration</th></tr>
<tr><td colspan="5">Infant formulation: 6 months to less than 5 years of age</td></tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary series:
Individuals 6 months to less than 5 years of age:
3 dose regimen of 0.2mL (3 mcg)

Note: An extended primary series is recommended for those who are moderately to severely immunocompromised. See table 1 for preferential recommendation.

Children living in First Nation communities:
Moderna 25mcg is the preferred vaccine due to being a 2-dose series instead of a 3-dose series. However, Pfizer 3mcg can also be used for this age group.

Booster dose: Not approved for this age group</td>
<td>Primary series intervals
Recommended Interval: 8 weeks between all doses

Authorized Interval:
21 days

Minimum Interval:
Between dose 1 and dose 2: 19 days
Between dose 2 and dose 3: 52 days</td>
<td>Cap: Maroon

Vial volume: 0.4 ml (multidose vial)
Requires dilution

After dilution, one vial contains 10 doses of 0.2 ml.
Dose: 3 mcg (0.2ml)

Inspect vials: After dilution, the vaccine will be a white to off-white suspension. Inspect vials to confirm there are no particulates and no discolouration is observed.</td>
<td>Thaw time*:
2◦ to 8◦C (Refrigerator): up to 2 hours/carton.
15◦ to 25◦ C (Room temperature): 30 min

Let stand at room temperature 30 min prior to dilution.

Discard time:
Undiluted:
12 hours at room temperature.

Diluted:
refrigerate or store at room temperature for maximum 12 hours

Once drawn up, administer immediately and no later than 12 hours after dilution.

Thawed vials can be handled in room light conditions.</td>
<td>Administered: Intramuscular

Requires dilution (0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP 2.2 mL required for dilution)

Pediatric Intramuscular needle length selection
Ages 6 months to under 5 years

<table>
<tr><th>AGE</th><th>SITE</th><th>NEEDLE LENGTH</th></tr>
<tr><td>Infants (6 to 12 months)</td><td>Anterolateral thigh</td><td>1”</td></tr>
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Low dead-volume syringes and/or needles should be used to extract 10 doses from a single vial.</td>
</tr>
<tr><td></td><td>See Table 1
(Recommended mRNA schedule)</td><td></td><td>*Do not refreeze once thawed</td><td>Do not use infant formulation to prepare doses for individuals 5 years of age and older.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="5">Potential allergens: Polyethylene glycol (PEG), Tromethamine (trometamol or Tris)
Product is latex and preservative free</td></tr>
</table>

Note: NACI recommends children 6 months to less than 5years should start and finish the primary series with the same product. If mixed products are used, the Pfizer interval schedule should be used (3 doses for immunocompetent, 4 doses for immunocompromised).

Product Information	Approved immunization intervals	Presentation	Clinic Setting Considerations	Administration
Pediatric monovalent: 5 years to less than 12 years of age				
Primary series: Individuals 5 years to less than 12 years of age: 2 dose regimen of 0.2mL (10 mcg) *Note: 3rd dose may be recommended for some individuals. See table 2* **Boosters:** Individuals 5 to less than 12 years of age: One dose: 0.2ml (10mcg) The pediatric Pfizer bivalent formulation is recommended for the booster dose in this age group and should be used as the default booster option unless the monovalent is specifically requested. Entire cohort eligible, but recommended for those at high risk of severe outcomes from COVID-19 infection.	**Primary series intervals** **Recommended Interval:** 8 weeks **Authorized Interval:** 21 days **Minimum Interval:** 19 days **Booster dose intervals:** **Recommended Interval**: 6 months **Minimum Interval**: 3 months	**Cap**: Orange **Vial volume:** 1.3 ml (multidose vial) ***Requires dilution*** After dilution, one vial contains 10 doses of 0.2 ml. **Dose**: 10 mcg (0.2ml) **Inspect vials:** After dilution, the vaccine will be a white to off-white suspension. Inspect vials to confirm there are no particulates and no discolouration is observed.	**Thaw time:** 2◦ to 8◦C (Refrigerator): up to 4 hours/carton. 15◦ to 25◦ C (Room temperature): 30 min Let stand at room temperature 30 min prior to dilution. **Discard time:** Undiluted: 12 hours at room temperature. Diluted/punctures: refrigerate or store at room temperature for maximum 12 hrs. Thawed vials can be handled in room light conditions.	**Administered**: Intramuscular **Requires dilution** (0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP **1.3 mL** required for dilution) **Site:** deltoid **Needle length:** 5/8" to 1 ½" Clinical judgement should be used when selecting needle length for IM injections. Consider clients weight, age, gender and muscle mass. Low dead-volume syringes and/or needles should be used to extract 10 doses from a single vial.
	For those at increased risk of severe illness See Table 1 (Recommended mRNA schedule)		Do not refreeze once thawed	Do not use pediatric formulation to prepare doses for individuals 12 years of age and older.
Potential allergens: Polyethylene glycol (PEG), Tromethamine (trometamol or Tris) Product is latex and preservative free				

NOTE: If more than the expected number of doses are drawn from a vaccine vial (greater than 6 or greater than 10 doses depending on formulation, vaccine may be administered, provided the full dose can be drawn from one vial (do not pool vaccine from multiple vials), all infection control practices have been maintained, and inventory is updated accordingly.

Product Information	Approved immunization intervals	Presentation	Clinic Setting Considerations	Administration
Pediatric Bivalent (BA.4/BA.5): 5 years to less than 12 years of age				
Not for use as primary series **Booster dose:** Individuals 5 to less than 12 years of age: One dose 0.2ml (10mcg) • 5 mcg original SARS-CoV-2 + 5 mcg Omicron BA.4/BA.5] Entire cohort eligible, but recommended for those at high risk of severe outcomes from COVID-19 infection.	**Recommended Interval**: 6 months **Minimum Interval**: 3 months	**Cap**: Orange **Label:** states "Original and Omicron BA.4/5." **Vial volume:** 1.3 ml (multidose vial) ***Requires dilution*** After dilution, one vial contains 10 doses of 0.2 ml. **Dose**: 10 mcg (0.2ml) **Inspect vials:** The thawed suspension may contain white to off-white opaque amorphous particles. After mixing (swirling), the vaccine should appear as a white to off-white suspension with no visible particles.	**Thaw time:** 2◦ to 8◦C (Refrigerator): up to 4 hours/carton. 15◦ to 25◦ C (Room temperature): 30 min Allow the thawed vial to come to room temperature prior to dilution. **Discard time:** Undiluted: 12 hours at room temperature. Diluted/punctures: refrigerate or store at room temperature for maximum 12 hrs. Thawed vials can be handled in room light conditions.	**Administered**: Intramuscular **Requires dilution** (0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP **1.3 mL** required for dilution) **Site:** deltoid **Needle length:** 5/8" to 1 ½" Clinical judgement should be used when selecting needle length for IM injections. Consider client's weight, age, gender and muscle mass. Low dead-volume syringes and/or needles should be used to extract 10 doses from a single vial. Administer immediately and no later than 12 hours after dilution.
	For those at increased risk of severe illness See Table 1 (Recommended mRNA schedule)		Do not refreeze once thawed	Do not use pediatric formulation to prepare doses for individuals 12 years of age and older.
Potential allergens: Polyethylene glycol (PEG), Tromethamine (trometamol or Tris) Product is latex and preservative free				

On December 1, 2022 the 30mcg purple cap monovalent product was replaced with the 30mcg monovalent grey cap product.

Product Information	Approved immunization intervals	Presentation	Clinic Setting Considerations	Administration
Monovalent: 12 years of age and older				
Primary Series: Individuals 12 years of age and older: 2 dose regimen of 0.3ml (30 mcg) *Note: 3rd dose may be recommended for some individuals. See table 2* **Booster doses:** Individuals years of age and older: Dose: 0.3ml (30 mcg)	**Primary series Intervals** **Recommended Interval**: 8 weeks **Authorized Interval**: 21 days **Minimum Interval**: 19 days **Booster dose intervals:** **Recommended Interval**: 6 months **Minimum Interval**: 3 months	**Cap**: Grey **Vial volume:** 2.25 ml (6 doses of 0.3ml in a multidose vial) ***Does NOT require dilution*** **Dose**: 30 mcg (0.3ml) **Inspect vials:** The thawed suspension may contain white to off-white opaque amorphous particles. After mixing (swirling), the vaccine should appear as a white to off-white suspension with no visible particles.	**Thaw time:** 2◦ to 8◦C (Refrigerator): up to 6 hours/carton. 15◦ to 25◦ C (Room temperature): 30 min Vials may be stored at room temperature 12 hours prior to use. **Discard time:** 12 hours at room temperature after first puncture. Thawed vials can be handled in room light conditions. **Transport vaccine between sites in the vial. Avoid transporting in pre-filled syringes whenever possible.**	**Administered**: Intramuscular ***Does NOT require dilution*** **Site:** deltoid **Needle length:** 5/8” to 1 ½” Clinical judgement should be used when selecting needle length for IM injections. Consider clients weight, age, gender and muscle mass. Low dead-volume syringes and/or needles should be used to extract 6 doses from a single vial.
	For those at increased risk of severe illness See Table 1 (Recommended mRNA schedule)		Do not refreeze once thawed	
Potential allergens: Potential allergens: Polyethylene glycol (PEG), Tromethamine (trometamol or Tris) Product is latex and preservative free				

Product Information	Approved immunization intervals	Presentation	Clinic Setting Considerations	Administration
Bivalent (BA.4/BA.5): 12 years of age and older				
Not for use as primary series **Booster dose:** Individuals 12 years of age and older: One dose 0.3ml (30mcg)	**Recommended Interval**: 6 months **Minimum Interval**: 3 months	**Cap**: Grey **Label**: states "Original and Omicron BA.4/5." **Vial volume:** 2.25 ml (6 doses in a multidose vial) ***Does NOT require dilution*** **Dose**: 30 mcg (0.3ml) **Inspect vials:** Prior to mixing, the thawed vaccine may contain white to off-white opaque amorphous particles. After mixing, the vaccine should appear as a white to off-white suspension with no visible particles.	**Thaw time:** 2◦ to 8◦C (Refrigerator): up to 6 hours/carton. 15◦ to 25◦ C (Room temperature): 30 min **Discard time:** 12 hours at room temperature after first puncture. **Transport vaccine between sites in the vial. Avoid transporting in pre-filled syringes whenever possible.**	**Administered**: Intramuscular ***Does NOT require dilution*** **Site:** deltoid **Needle length:** 5/8" to 1 ½" Clinical judgement should be used when selecting needle length for IM injections. Consider clients weight, age, gender and muscle mass. Low dead-volume syringes and/or needles should be used to extract 6 doses from a single vial.
	For those at increased risk of severe illness See Table 1 (Recommended mRNA schedule)		Do not refreeze once thawed	
Potential allergens: Polyethylene glycol (PEG), Tromethamine (trometamol or Tris). Product is latex and preservative free				

See **Table 5: Bivalent Considerations** for detailed information about bivalent recommendations and administration.

Recommendations on COVID-19 Immunization Doses for the Primary Series:

- The Moderna infant (25 mcg) vaccine should be prioritized to complete the primary series for those who started with Moderna or to initiate a primary series for those who are moderately to severely immunocompromised or who reside in a First Nation community.
- Concurrent administration of COVID-19 and non-COVID-19 vaccines (including live and non-live vaccines) is authorized for all age cohorts. A 14-day interval is not necessary between administration of COVID-19 and non-COVID-19 vaccines.
- Children who will turn from 4 to 5 years of age between doses in the vaccination series should receive their age-appropriate dose at the time of the vaccination and the interval between doses is determined by the child's age at the start of the vaccination series.
- Children that are 5 years of age should initiate the pediatric Pfizer COMIRNATY™ primary series.
- For children 5 years to less than 12 years, pediatric Pfizer (10mcg) is preferred to pediatric Moderna (50 mcg) to start/continue the primary series.
- People age 12 to less than 30 years are recommended to receive Pfizer (30, mcg) for their primary series to minimize the rare potential risk of myocarditis/pericarditis
- A person who received a first dose of an mRNA vaccine (Moderna or Pfizer) should be offered the same mRNA vaccine for their second dose.
    - If the same mRNA vaccine is not available or unknown, another mRNA vaccine can be considered interchangeable and should be offered.
    - If a different mRNA vaccine is given as a second dose with appropriate spacing, both doses are considered valid and the series complete.
- While the **recommended** interval for the primary series, of 8 weeks is preferred, if a person presents for an immunization and would otherwise not return within that recommended interval, the immunizer may proceed with administering the subsequent dose if the **authorized minimum** interval has passed, provided the first dose product received was an mRNA vaccine (Moderna or Pfizer).
    - The **minimum** interval of 19 days is not recommended; however, would be considered a valid dose in PHIMS.
- Individuals who are moderately to severely immunocompromised are recommended to receive a third dose in the primary series (see Table 1). This requires a prescription if given outside of a physician or pharmacists office and must be given at least 28 days after the second dose.

Recommendations on COVID-19 Immunization Booster doses:

- The bivalent formulations (for people age 5 years and older) should be the default product offered as a booster dose. The monovalent products can still be administered to individuals who request it.
- The recommended interval for booster doses is 6 months between the most recent dose (primary series, previous booster dose) and a recommended booster. However, for people 5 years and older, booster dose may be administered using a 3-month interval after discussing the risk and benefits of a shortened interval with the client.
- It is recommended for individuals to wait 6 months since their last COVID-19 infection. At minimum, they need to be fully recovered and completed their isolation period before receiving a booster dose.
- Most individuals who already received an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine as part of a fall COVID-19 vaccine booster program are not eligible for an additional fall booster dose. This includes individuals who were vaccinated using a monovalent or bivalent mRNA COVID-19 vaccine. However, health care providers may offer a bivalent vaccine to individuals age 5 and older who are at high risk of severe infection, who have previously received a monovalent booster. This requires a prescription if given outside a physician or pharmacists office and must be given a minimum 3 months after the last dose. Refer to **Table 5: Bivalent Considerations** for detailed information about bivalent recommendations and administration.

NOTE: The date the first vaccine was administered is considered "day 0" when counting minimum intervals. Interruption of a vaccine series resulting in a greater than recommended interval between doses does not require restarting the series.

Allergies: People who report an allergy to contrast material (CT dye), including gadolinium, can be immunized with vaccines containing Tromethamine (trometamol or Tris). They should be observed for 30 minutes post immunization. People who have a known allergy to Tromethamine (trometamol or Tris), should not be immunized with COVID-19 vaccines containing Tromethamine (trometamol or Tris).

Refer to Manitoba COVID-19 Vaccine: Clinical Practice Guidelines for Immunizers and Health Care Providers – Appendix C for precautionary information on national guidance related to allergic responses to vaccines.

TABLE 1: Additional dose recommendations for those moderately to severely immunocompromised (Pfizer)

Cohort	Product	Dose	Recommended interval
6 months to less than 5 years	***Moderna (25mcg) *preferred*** **Blue cap**	***3 dose series***	At least 28 days between all doses in a 3 or 4 dose series. Considered part of the primary series.
	Pfizer (3mcg) **Maroon cap**	4 dose series	
5 to less than 12 years	Pfizer (10mcg) **Orange cap**	3 dose series	At least 28 days after their second dose. Considered part of the primary series.
12 years and older	Pfizer (30mcg) **Grey cap**	3 dose series	At least 28 days after their second dose. Considered part of the primary series.

*A 3-dose series of Moderna/Spikevax ™ (25mcg) vaccine should be preferentially offered to this age group for the extended series due to the shorter 3 dose regimen, instead of 4 doses of Pfizer/Comirnaty ™ (3mcg).

NOTE: For eligible individuals unwilling or unable to receive an mRNA vaccine, Novavax/Nuvaxovid can be used for the additional dose.

TABLE 2: Additional dose recommendations for individuals with 1 or 2 non-Health Canada approved vaccines (Pfizer)

Cohort	Product	Dose	Recommended interval
6 months to less than 5 years	***Moderna (25mcg) preferred***	**Blue cap** ***Administer one additional dose***	At least 28 days after their last dose to complete their primary series.
	Pfizer (3mcg) **Maroon cap**	Administer 2 additional doses	
5 to less than 12 years	Pfizer (10mcg) **Orange cap**	Administer one additional dose	At least 28 days after their last dose to complete their primary series.
12 years and older	Pfizer (30mcg) **Grey cap**	Administer one additional dose	At least 28 days after their last dose to complete their primary series.

Manitoba Health accepted primary series combinations:

- Two mRNA vaccines (Pfizer or Moderna)
- Two AstraZeneca vaccines
- AstraZeneca and one dose of an mRNA vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna)
- One dose of Janssen
- Three non-Health Canada Approved vaccines
- One or two non-Health Canada Approved Vaccines and one dose of an mRNA Vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna)
- For moderately to severely immunocompromised
    - Three doses (any combination of AstraZeneca, Pfizer and/or Moderna)
- Children 6m to less than 5 years with 3 doses of a non-Health Canada approved vaccine.

Table 3 Manitoba Health recommended mRNA immunization schedule, based on age.

	Approved COVID-19 mRNA vaccine for primary series	**Time between doses of primary series*/# of doses***	**Immunosuppressed: Time between doses of primary series*/# of doses***	**Time between most recent dose and any eligible booster dose**	**Approved COVID-19 mRNA vaccines for booster doses**
Infants and children aged 6 months to less than 5 years	Moderna (25mcg) **+** Or **Pfizer (3mcg)**	8 weeks *2 doses (Moderna)* *3 doses (Pfizer)*	4 to 8 weeks between each dose ***3 doses (Moderna)+*** *4 doses (Pfizer)*	Not eligible	Not eligible
Children aged 5 years *	**Pfizer (10mcg)** or Moderna (25mcg)	8 weeks *2 doses*	4 to 8 weeks between each dose *3 doses*	6 months	***Pfizer Bivalent*** vaccine ** or Pfizer (10mcg)
Children aged 6 to less than 12 years *	**Pfizer(10mcg)** or Moderna (50mcg)	8 weeks *2 doses*	4 to 8 weeks between each dose *3 doses*	6 months	***Pfizer Bivalent*** vaccine ** or Pfizer (10mcg)
Youth aged 12 to less than 18 years *	**Pfizer (30mcg)** or Moderna(100mcg)	8 weeks *2 doses*	4 to 8 weeks between each dose *3 doses*	6 months	***Pfizer Bivalent*** vaccine ** or Pfizer (30mcg) or Moderna (50/100mcg)
Adults aged 18 to less than 30 years *	**Pfizer (30mcg)** or Moderna (50mcg/100mcg)	8 weeks *2 doses*	4 to 8 weeks between each dose *3 doses*	6 months	***Pfizer or Moderna Bivalent*** vaccine ** or Pfizer (30mcg) or Moderna (50mcg/100mcg)
Adults aged 30 years and older	Pfizer (30mcg) or Moderna (50mcg/100mcg)	8 weeks *2 doses*	4 to 8 weeks between each dose *3 doses*	6 months	***Pfizer or Moderna Bivalent*** vaccine ** or Pfizer (30mcg) or Moderna (50mcg/100mcg)

+ Moderna is prioritized for infants and children 6 months to less than 5 years who initiated a primary series with Moderna, are immunocompromised or living in First Nation communities.

*** Pfizer** is the recommended mRNA vaccine for the primary series for individuals 5 to less than 30 years.

****A bivalent Omicron-containing mRNA COVID-19 vaccine*** is the preferred booster product (there is no evidence that one bivalent vaccine is more effective than the other).

NOTE: Moderna (**100mcg)** is offered as a primary series to individuals age 12 and older and as a booster dose to individuals at increased risk of severe illness. Moderna (**50mcg)** is offered as a booster dose to individuals age 12 and older who are not at risk of severe illness.

Table 4 Storage and handling of Manitoba COVID-19 approved vaccines (Pfizer)

COVID-19 Vaccine Product	Ultra Low Freezer Storage Time (-90ºC to -60ºC)‡	Freezer Storage Time (-25ºC to -15ºC)	Refrigerated Storage Time Before Dilution or Puncture (+2ºC to +8ºC)^	Room Temperature Time Before Dilution or Puncture (+8ºC to +25°C)	After Dilution or Puncture Time (+2ºC to +25ºC)
PFIZER					
Pfizer Infant (Comirnaty™) Maroon Cap	18months from the date of manufacture	Do not store at this temperature	10 weeks within the 18-month shelf life. Document 10-week expiry on carton.	12 hours prior to dilution	Must be used within 12 hours after dilution
Pfizer Pediatric (Comirnaty™) Orange Cap	18 months from the date of manufacture	Do not store at this temperature	10 weeks within the 18-month shelf life. Document 10-week expiry on carton.	12 hours prior to dilution	Must be used within 12 hours after dilution
Pfizer (Comirnaty™) Grey Cap	18months from the date of manufacture	Do not store at this temperature	10 weeks within the 18-month shelf life. Document 10-week expiry on carton.	12 hours prior to puncture. DO NOT DILUTE	Must be used within 12 hours after puncture. DO NOT DILUTE
Pfizer Pediatric (Comirnaty™) *Bivalent* Orange Cap	12 months from the date of manufacture	Do not store at this temperature	10 weeks within the 12-month shelf life. Document 10-week expiry on carton.	12 hours prior to dilution	Must be used within 12 hours after dilution
Pfizer (Comirnaty™) *Bivalent* Grey Cap	12 months from the date of manufacture	Do not store at this temperature	10 weeks within the 12-month shelf life. Document 10-week expiry on carton.	12 hours prior to puncture. DO NOT DILUTE	Must be used within 12 hours after puncture. DO NOT DILUTE

Note: Most vaccines are distributed to providers at +2ºC to 8ºC (refrigerated temperature). **Thawed or partially thawed vaccines cannot be refrozen.**

- During storage, minimize exposure to room light, and avoid exposure to direct sunlight and ultraviolet light.
- Product should be marked with applicable expiry dates based on time in refrigerator and time after puncture to avoid administration errors. Please refer to the product monographs for all storage and handling guidelines
- Vaccine that is expired or cannot be used if it has reached past the identified timelines are to be removed from storage, deducted from any inventory (if applicable) and returned to MDA for proper disposal following Manitoba's Return Policy and Process (https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/div/docs/vbrpp.pdf)

Table 5 Bivalent Considerations

COVID-19 Bivalent (Omicron) booster vaccine considerations:

There are multiple COVID-19 mRNA bivalent Omicron-containing products available in Manitoba. Assisting the client to make an informed decision about which product is best for them can be a complex task. Please use the information provided below to help guide the informed consent process.

Key considerations:

- The bivalent vaccines contain two different mRNA components, based on the original strain and the omicron strain of SARS-CoV-2 virus.
- The bivalent vaccines help boost the immune system, creating more antibodies to fight COVID-19. Research shows they give strong protection from severe illness or hospitalization and lower the risk of symptoms and long-term complications caused by COVID-19 infection.
- Bivalent products have been authorized for use as a booster dose and are not to be used for a primary series.
- The side effects of the bivalent are similar to the monovalent mRNA vaccines and usually mild.

Eligibility considerations:

- **The bivalent Omicron-containing mRNA vaccines are the preferred booster products for those that are eligible to receive them.**
- NACI recommends that individuals 5 years of age older and especially those who are at increased risk of severe illness, should be offered a fall COVID-19 booster dose, regardless of the number of booster doses previously received. *NACI recommendations can be viewed here.*
- Everyone 5 years of age and older, who has completed their primary series should be offered a fall bivalent booster.
- Individuals who already received a monovalent or bivalent mRNA COVID-19 vaccine as a fall booster dose will not be eligible for additional COVID-19 booster doses at this time, unless they are considered at high risk for severe infection and will require a prescription to be immunized in a community clinic.

There is no evidence indicating one bivalent vaccine is more effective than the other.

	5 to less than 12 years	12 to less than 18 years	18 years and older	Intervals	**Additional considerations:**
Pfizer (Comirnaty™) *Bivalent* 5 to less than 12 years	✓	✗	✗	Recommended Interval: 6 months Minimum Interval: 3 months Those at higher risk should be immunized as early as possible.	• Providers must ensure that the appropriate vaccine is available when offering clinics that include the {5 to less than 18} age cohort, as they are only eligible to receive Pfizer/Comirnaty™ bivalent products. • If there is no brand preference stated by the client, consider offering the product that will result in the least wastage. • If the client has a strong preference for one product, do not deny access to it (if they meet the eligibility criteria). Do not engage in a difficult conversation with the client. • If necessary, refer the client to their health care provider for a more comprehensive assessment and conversation about which bivalent product is right for them.
Pfizer (Comirnaty™) *Bivalent* 12 years and older	✗	✓	✓		
Moderna (Spikevax™) *Bivalent* 18 years and older	✗	✗	✓		