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To: Maine Immunization Program Providers
From: Maine Immunization Program
Subject: Pfizer Vaccine Administration Recommendations
Date: December 1, 2021

As we have broadened our COVID-19 vaccination efforts to now include the pediatric 5 through 11-year-old population, we have also become acquainted with the new Pfizer vaccine formulation for this age group.

These two formulations are not interchangeable.



ORANGE CAP

Pediatric 5 through 11-year-old formulation

The Pediatric formulation comes with an orange cap and label and is a 10 mcg dose (injection volume is 0.2 mL).



PURPLE CAP

Adolescent/Adult 12 years and older formulation

The Adolescent/Adult formulation comes with a purple cap and label and is a 30 mcg dose (0.3 mL).

To avoid the potential for errors in administering these different formulations, we are recommending that clinicians:

1. Always confirm the patient's age prior to administration of vaccine, both verbally and by checking consent forms from parent/guardian.
2. Check your vials three times to make sure you have the correct vaccine in hand.
3. Confirm the correct dosage. Vaccine dosage is based on the patient's age, not their weight.
4. Document appropriately in ImmPact to ensure the patient receives the correct number of doses and extra doses are not given.

If a vaccine administration error is made, please take the following steps:

- Inform the recipient of the vaccine administration error.
- Consult with the Maine Immunization Program to see how the dose should be entered into ImmPact, both as an administered dose and to account for inventory.

- Providers are required to report all COVID-19 vaccine administration errors—even those not associated with an adverse event—to VAERS - [VAERS - Report an Adverse Event \(hhs.gov\)](#).
- Determine how the error occurred and implement strategies to prevent it from happening again.

The [COVID-19 Vaccine Administration Errors and Deviations \(cdc.gov\)](#) document provides resources for preventing and reporting COVID-19 vaccine administration errors, as well as actions to take after an error has occurred.

Additional education and training programs for healthcare personnel are also available here: [Vaccine Education and Training for Healthcare Professionals | CDC](#).

If you have any questions, please call the Maine Immunization Program at 207-287-3746 or email at ImmunizeME.DHHS@maine.gov.

As always, we thank you for all you do to keep the children of Maine free from vaccine preventable diseases.