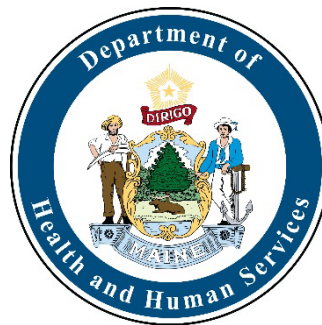


Respiratory Season 2026-2027: COVID-19, Influenza, and Pneumococcal Recommendations

Nicole Lake
September 2026



2026 – 2027 Influenza Vaccine Recommendations

Everyone aged 6months and older are recommended to get the flu vaccine by the end of October. It does take up to two weeks after vaccination to be protected from the flu. **All flu vaccine for the 2026-2027 season are Trivalent**

When should vaccination start?

- If only 1 dose is needed for the season, vaccination should ideally be done during September or October. Though it is recommended vaccination continue throughout the season if influenza is circulating.
- Children 6 months through 8 years who require 2 doses should receive the first dose as soon as vaccine is available.



Guide for Determining the Number of Doses of Influenza Vaccine to Give to Children Age 6 Months Through 8 Years

Did the child receive at least 2 doses of any influenza vaccine* before most recent July 1?

* The two doses need not have been received during the same season or consecutive seasons.

YES

Give 1 dose of current season's influenza vaccine.

NO / DON'T KNOW

Give 2 doses of current year's influenza vaccine, spaced at least 4 weeks apart.

NOTES

- Any influenza vaccine dose may be counted. The two doses may be the same or different brands, formulations, or routes of administration (injectable or intranasal).
- Administer a second dose to a 9-year-old child who received their first dose in the current season when they were age 8 years, if they haven't or don't know if they have received 2 doses in prior years.

Flu Vaccines Offered Through MIP for the 2026-2027 Influenza Season

- MIP will supply flu vaccine for all children in Maine, ages 6months through 18 years.
- A limited supply of Flu vaccines for adults 19 -64 who are uninsured or underinsured will be available For this season.

Trade Name	Age Range	How it is supplied
FluLaval IIV3*	6 months to 18 years	0.5mL single dose prefilled syringe
Fluzone IIV3*	6 months to 18 years	0.5ml single dose prefilled syringe
Flucelvax ccIIV*	6 months to 18 years	0.5mL single dose prefilled syringe
FluMist LAIV3*	2 years to 18 years	0.2mL single dose prefilled intranasal sprayer

*IIV = egg-based inactivated influenza vaccine

*ccIIV = cell culture inactivated influenza vaccine

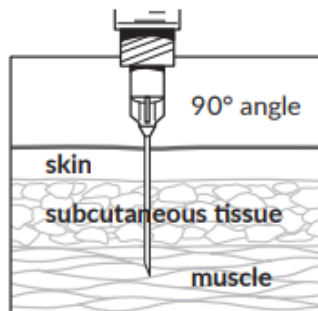
*LAIV3= live attenuated influenza vaccine

IM Injection Influenza Vaccine and NAS Flu Mist Administration Recommendations

Intramuscular injection (IM)

All injectable influenza vaccines

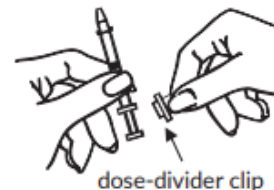
- 1 Use a needle long enough to reach deep into the muscle.
Infants age 6 through 11 mos: 1"; 1 through 10 yrs: 1–1¼";
and children and adults 11 years and older: 1–1½".
- 2 With your non-dominant hand, bunch up the muscle.
- 3 With your dominant hand, insert the needle at a 90° angle to the skin with a quick thrust.
- 4 Push down on the plunger and inject the entire contents of the syringe. There is no need to aspirate.
- 5 Remove the needle and then apply pressure to the injection site with a dry cotton ball or gauze. Hold in place for several seconds.
- 6 If there is any bleeding, cover the injection site with a bandage.
- 7 Put the used needle and syringe in a sharps container.



Intranasal administration (NAS)

Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (LAIV)

- 1 FluMist (LAIV) is for intranasal administration only. Do not inject FluMist.
- 2 Remove rubber tip protector. Do not remove dose-divider clip at the other end of the sprayer.
- 3 With the patient in an upright position, place the tip just inside the nostril to ensure LAIV is delivered into the nose. The patient should breathe normally.
- 4 With a single motion, depress plunger as rapidly as possible until the dose-divider clip prevents you from going further.
- 5 Pinch and remove the dose-divider clip from the plunger.
- 6 Place the tip just inside the other nostril, and with a single motion, depress plunger as rapidly as possible to deliver the remaining vaccine.
- 7 Dispose of the applicator in a sharps container.



<https://www.immunize.org/wp-content/uploads/catg.d/p2024.pdf>

2026 – 2027 COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations for Children 6 months – 18 Years

- The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends all infants and children 6 through 23 months of age who do not have contraindications receive 2026–2027 COVID-19 vaccine.
- The AAP also recommends a single dose of age-appropriate 2026–2027 COVID-19 vaccine for all children and adolescents 2 through 18 years of age at increased risk of severe COVID-19, regardless of prior COVID-19 vaccination status.
- Children 2 through 18 years of age not considered at increased risk of severe COVID-19 whose parent or guardian desires their protection from COVID-19 should be offered a single dose of age-appropriate 2026–2027 COVID-19 vaccine.
- Any available COVID-19 vaccine appropriate by age and health status can be administered and the most updated version of the COVID-19 vaccine that is available should be used.



Available COVID-19 Vaccines for Children 6 months – 18 Years

- MIP will supply COVID-19 vaccines for all children in Maine, ages 6 months through 18 years.

Vaccine Presentations Available:

Manufacturer	Trade Name	NDC#	Eligible Population	Presentation
Pfizer-BioNTech	Comirnaty	0069-2609-10	Children ages 5 – 11 years <i>* There is currently no FDA-approved or authorized Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for ages 6 months – 4 years.</i>	0.3 mL single dose vial with blue caps and labels with blue borders
Pfizer-BioNTech	Comirnaty	0069-2631-10	Children ages 12 – 18 years	0.3 mL single dose pre-filled syringe with gray label
Moderna	Spikevax	80777-0115-80	Children ages 6 months – 11 years	0.25 mL single dose pre-filled syringe with red label; 10-pack
Moderna	Spikevax	80777-0114-96	Children ages 12 – 18 years	0.5 mL single dose pre-filled syringe with blue label; 10-pack
Novavax	Nuvaxovid	80631-0207-10	Children ages 12 – 18 years	0.5 mL single dose pre-filled syringe with dark cyan label

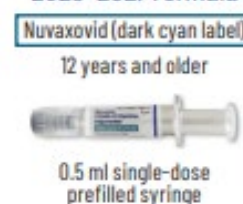
Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Products 2026–2027 Formula



Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Products 2026–2027 Formula



Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine Product 2026–2027 Formula



COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations for Adults 19 Years and Older

- A limited supply of COVID-19 vaccine for adults aged 19-64 who are uninsured or underinsured will be available for this season.
- We do anticipate doses being available for all eligible groups in the 2027 – 2028 respiratory season.
- The American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) recommends all adults 19 years and older should receive a COVID-19 vaccine. It is especially important to get a COVID-19 vaccine if you are:
 - 65 years and older;
 - At increased risk for severe COVID-19 infection; and
 - Have never received a COVID-19 vaccine.
- Adults 65 years and older should receive a second dose of the updated COVID-19 vaccine 6 months after the initial dose to help maintain protection as immunity wanes over time.
- Offer COVID-19 vaccines as soon as the updated formulation is available.

<https://www.aafp.org/clinical-insights/immunizations-and-vaccines/immunizations-schedules-resources/adult-immunization-schedules>



Pneumococcal Vaccine Recommendations for Infants and Children

The AAP recommends routine pneumococcal vaccine for all infants and children 2 through 59 months of age.

- **Routine use:** Children ages 2-23 months should receive either PCV15 or PCV20 according to recommended dosing and schedules.
 - 2 months
 - 4 months
 - 6 months
 - 12 through 15 months
- **Catch-up vaccination:** Healthy children ages 24 – 59 months with incomplete PCV vaccination status and children ages 24 – 71 months with certain underlying conditions and an incomplete PCV vaccination status should receive either PCV15 or PCV20 according to currently recommended dosing and schedules.
- Children **ages 2 – 18 years with any risk condition** who have received all recommended doses before age 6 years do not need additional doses if they have received at least one dose of PCV20. If they received PCV13 or PCV15 but not PCV20, they should receive a dose of PCV20 or pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPSV23) using the previously recommended doses and schedule.
- Children **ages 6 – 18 years with any risk condition** who have not received any dose of PCV13, PCV15 or PCV20 should receive a single dose of PCV15 or PCV20. When PCV15 is used, it should be followed by a dose of PPSV23 at least eight weeks later if not previously given.

<https://www.aap.org/en/patient-care/immunizations/pneumococcal-vaccines/>

Pneumococcal Vaccine Recommendations for Adults

Routine Vaccination Recommendations for Adults 50 Years or Older:

- Administer PCV15, PCV20, or PCV21 for all adults 50 years or older
 - Who have never received any pneumococcal conjugate vaccine
 - Whose previous vaccination history is unknown

PCV15: Additional vaccination recommended:

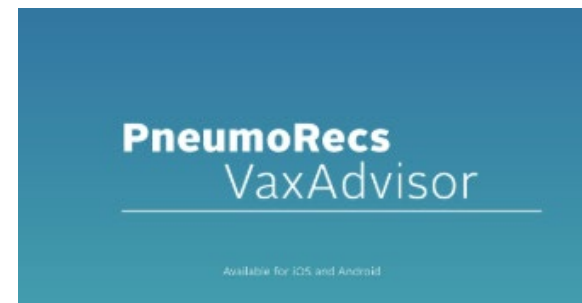
- If PCV15 is used, administer a dose of PPSV23 one year later. Only one dose of PPSV23 is indicated.
- If PPSV23 was previously administered, another dose isn't needed. The patient's pneumococcal vaccinations are complete.
- The minimum interval is 8 weeks and can be considered in adults with:
 - An immunocompromising condition
 - A cochlear implant
 - A cerebrospinal fluid leak

PCV20 or PCV21: Additional vaccination not recommended:

- If PCV20 or PCV21 is used, a dose of PPSV23 isn't indicated. Regardless of which vaccine is used (PCV20 or PCV21), the patient's pneumococcal vaccinations are complete.

Recommendation for shared clinical decision-making:

- Based on shared clinical decision-making, adults **65 years or older** have the option to get PCV20 or PCV21, or to not get additional pneumococcal vaccines. They can get PCV20 or PCV21 if they have received both
 - PCV13 (but not PCV15, PCV20, or PCV21) at any age and
 - PPSV23 at or after the age of 65 years old



- Use PneumoRecs VaxAdvisor to quickly and easily determine which pneumococcal vaccines a patient needs and when.

[PneumoRecs VaxAdvisor App for Vaccine Providers | Pneumococcal | CDC](#)

Respiratory Vaccine Coadministration



INFLUENZA VACCINE

RSV VACCINE

COVID-19 VACCINE

Getting more than one vaccine at the same visit.

Vaccines given with a needle at the same visit should be given at separate places on the body (at least one inch apart). Adults and older children can get them in the same arm at least an inch apart, or they can get them in different arms. Young children can get them in the same thigh at least an inch apart, or they can get them in different thighs.

Respiratory Vaccine Resources

Influenza:

- [2026-2027 Influenza Vaccine Products-](#) Immunize.org
- [Preparing for the 2026-2027 Influenza Season](#) – AAP
- [2026-2027 Influenza Season-](#) CDC
- [Interim Clinical Considerations for Seasonal Influenza Vaccines](#) – CDC

COVID-19:

- [COVID Vaccine Dosing Quick Reference.pdf-](#) AAP
- [Fall Immunization Recommendations to Protect Patients and Communities-](#) AAP

Pneumococcal (PCV):

- [Recommendations for Pneumococcal Vaccines Use in Children and Teens](#)
- [Pneumococcal Vaccines](#) - AAP
- [Catch-Up Guidance for Healthy Children 4 Months through 4 Years of Age](#)
[Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine: PCV-Revised January 2025](#)

Questions?

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