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Maine Health Alert Network (HAN) System

PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY

To: Health Care Providers

From: Dr. Isaac Benowitz, State Epidemiologist
Subject: COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations

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COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations

Summary

The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC) is issuing this Health Alert Network (HAN) Health Advisory with a recommendation that clinicians continue to vaccinate eligible individuals for COVID-19 based on Advisory Committee on Immunization Practice (ACIP) recommendations. COVID-19 vaccines remain available and recommended for individuals 6 months and older, including all children, adults, and pregnant individuals.

Background

The ACIP meets regularly to recommend vaccine schedules, dosages, contraindications, and eligibility. The ACIP's recommendations on COVID-19 vaccination remain unchanged since 2024: https://www.cdc.gov/acip-recs/hcp/vaccine-specific/covid-19.html.

Key Points

- Children 6 months and older remain eligible for COVID-19 vaccine.
- Adults 65 years and older remain eligible for COVID-19 vaccine and should receive 2 doses of COVID-19 vaccine, spaced 6 months apart. Immunocompromised individuals should receive a third dose based on shared clinical decision-making at least 2 months after the last dose.
- **Pregnant individuals** remain eligible for COVID-19 vaccination and should receive 1 dose of COVID-19 vaccine. Individuals should not be denied access to COVID-19 vaccination or given altered consideration at this time.
- **Insurance and billing** remain unchanged, and COVID-19 vaccines continue to be allowable charges for both pediatric and adult populations.
- **Pharmacies** may vaccinate patients aged 3 years and older. Individuals who are pregnant should not be excluded based on pregnancy status.
- The Maine Immunization Program and the Vaccines for Children Program continue to offer COVID-19 vaccines for children aged 6 months through 18 years, and adults aged 19 and older who are uninsured or underinsured.

Vaccination remains a vital public health tool to prevent COVID-19 severe illness, hospitalization, and death. All eligible individuals should continue to receive routine COVID-19 vaccination as indicated in the following table. This is a very abbreviated summary; the specific series depends on the person's age, vaccine history, and vaccine product, and clinicians should refer to ACIP clinical recommendations available online at https://www.cdc.gov/covid/media/pdfs/2025/06/iCC document 5.1.25-V1.pdf.

COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations from ACIP

Population Group	ACIP Recommendations*
	(No changes made in 2025)
Not moderately or severely immunocompromised	
6 months-17 years	Recommend 1 dose (children age 4–17 years old should receive a
	multidose series in their initial vaccination year)
18-64 years	Recommend 1 dose
65 years or older	Recommend 2 doses, 6 months apart
Pregnant persons	Recommend 1 dose**
Moderately or severely	immunocompromised
6 months-17 years	Recommend 2 doses, 6 months apart (minimum interval 2 months)
18+ years or older	May receive additional age-appropriate COVID-19 vaccine doses under shared clinical decision-making***

^{*}ACIP clinical considerations recommendations vary based on age and COVID-19 vaccine history.

Clinicians should vaccinate all eligible individuals following the ACIP recommendations as outlined in the <u>Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines in the United States</u>. Clinicians and pharmacies should continue to review patient vaccination history, recommend COVID-19 vaccines, and engage in shared clinical decision-making when indicated or when requested. The Maine Immunization Program will distribute additional educational materials and updates as they become available.

For more Information

- Benefits of Getting Vaccinated | COVID-19 | U.S. CDC
- COVID-19 Vaccination Considerations for Obstetric-Gynecologic Care | ACOG

^{**}U.S. CDC recommends people receive all recommended COVID-19 vaccine doses. Vaccination is especially important for people at highest risk of severe COVID-19, including people ages 65 years and older; people with underlying medical conditions, including immune compromise; people living in long-term care facilities; and pregnant persons to protect themselves and their infants.

^{***}Shared clinical decision-making vaccinations are individually based and informed by a decision process between the clinician and the patient or parent/guardian. Where the parent presents with a desire for their child to be vaccinated, children 6 months and older may receive COVID-19 vaccination, informed by the clinical judgment of a clinician and a patient's personal preference and circumstances.