

# COVID-19 Vaccine

Quick Reference Guide for  
Healthcare Professionals



The table below provides basic information on the proper storage, preparation, and administration of the currently authorized COVID-19 vaccine products in the United States. For additional information and detailed clinical guidance go to the manufacturer's and CDC's webpages listed.

		Pfizer	Moderna	Janssen
<b>GENERAL</b>	<b>EUA</b>	<a href="http://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/pfizer-biontech-covid-19-vaccine">www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/pfizer-biontech-covid-19-vaccine</a>	<a href="http://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/moderna-covid-19-vaccine">www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/moderna-covid-19-vaccine</a>	<a href="http://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/janssen-covid-19-vaccine">www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/janssen-covid-19-vaccine</a>
	<b>CDC Vaccine Information</b>	<a href="http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/pfizer/index.html">www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/pfizer/index.html</a>	<a href="http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/moderna/index.html">www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/moderna/index.html</a>	<a href="http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/janssen/index.html">www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/janssen/index.html</a>
	<b>Manufacturer Contact information</b>	<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.cvdvaccine.com">www.cvdvaccine.com</a> <b>Medical information:</b> 800-438-1985 <b>Customer service:</b> 800-879-3477	<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.modernatx.com">www.modernatx.com</a> <b>Medical Information:</b> 866-663-3762	<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.vaxcheck.inj">www.vaxcheck.inj</a> <b>Medical information:</b> 1-800-565-4008
<b>STORAGE &amp; HANDLING</b>	<b>How supplied</b>	<b>Multidose vial:</b> 6 doses	<b>Multidose vial:</b> Maximum of 11 doses <b>Multidose vial:</b> Maximum of 15 doses	<b>Multidose vial:</b> 5 doses
	<b>Diluent</b>	0.9% sodium chloride (preservative-free, normal saline) provided in the ancillary kit. Do NOT use other diluent.	None	None
	<b>Storage Temperatures: Before Puncture</b>	<b>Between:</b> -80°C and -60°C (-112°F and -76°F) until the expiration date -25°C and -15°C (-13°F and 5°F) for up to 2 weeks 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) for up to 1 month (31 days).	<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	<b>Between:</b> 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) until the expiration date.
	<b>Storage Temperatures: After puncture</b>	<b>Between:</b> 2°C to 25°C (36°F to 77°F) for up to 6 hours. Discard any unused vaccine after 6 hours.	<b>Between:</b> 2°C and 25°C (36°F and 77°F) for up to 12 hours. Discard any unused vaccine after 12 hours.	<b>Between:</b> 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) for up to 6 hours. 9°C and 25°C (47°F and 77°F) for up to 2 hours. Discard any unused vaccine after these time frames.
	<b>Transport Temperatures: Before Puncture</b>	<b>Between:</b> -80°C and -60°C (-112°F and -76°F) -25°C and -15°C (-13°F and 5°F) 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F)	<b>Between:</b> -50°C and -15°C (-58°F and 5°F) 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) for up to 12 cumulative hours.	<b>Between:</b> 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F)
	<b>Transport Temperatures*: After Puncture</b>	<b>Between:</b> 2°C to 25°C (36°F to 77°F) for up to 6 hours.	<b>Between:</b> 2°C and 25°C (36°F and 77°F) for up to 12 hours.	<b>Between:</b> 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) for up to 6 hours
<b>Type of Vaccine</b>	mRNA	mRNA	Viral vector	
<b>Age Indications</b>	12 years of age and older	18 years of age and older	18 years of age and older	
<b>Schedule<sup>†</sup></b>	2-doses, separated by 21 days. Both doses must be Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine	2 doses, separated by 28 days. Both doses should be Moderna vaccine	1 dose only	
<b>Dosage</b>	0.3 mL	0.5 mL	0.5 mL	
<b>Needle gauge/length</b>	<b>12 through 18 years of age:</b> 22–25 gauge, 1" <b>19 years of age and older:</b> 22–25 gauge, 1 – 1½"	22–25 gauge, 1 – 1½"	22–25 gauge, 1 – 1½"	

\*CDC recommends transporting vaccine at refrigerated or frozen temperatures.

†COVID-19 vaccines and other vaccines may be administered on the same day, as well as within 14 days of each other. When deciding if to administer COVID-19 vaccines and other vaccines, providers should consider whether the patient is behind or at risk of becoming behind on recommended vaccines, their risk of vaccine-preventable diseases (e.g., during an outbreak), and the reactogenicity profile of the vaccines.

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	Pfizer	Moderna	Janssen
<b>Route</b>	Intramuscular (IM) injection	Intramuscular (IM) injection	Intramuscular (IM) injection
<b>Site</b>	Deltoid	Deltoid	Deltoid
<b>Thawing Frozen Vaccine</b>	<b>Between:</b> 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) or Room temperature up to 25°C (77°F) <b>Do NOT</b> refreeze thawed vaccine.	<b>Between:</b> 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) or 8°C to 25°C (46°F to 77°F) <b>Do NOT</b> refreeze thawed vaccine.	N/A
<b>Mixing Vaccine</b>	Mix vaccine with 1.8 mL of 0.9% sodium chloride (preservative-free, normal saline)	<b>Do NOT</b> mix with any diluent	<b>Do NOT</b> mix with any diluent
<b>VACCINE ADMINISTRATION</b>	<p><b>Contraindications</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose or to a component of the COVID-19 vaccine</li> <li>Immediate allergic reaction† of any severity to a previous dose or known (diagnosed) allergy to a component of the vaccine</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> Persons who have a contraindication to an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech) may be able to receive the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine (see footnote).‡</p> <p>Persons who have a contraindication to Janssen COVID-19 vaccine may be able to receive an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (see footnote).‡</p> <p><b>Contraindications/Precautions</b></p> <p><b>Precautions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Most people determined to have a precaution to a COVID-19 vaccine at their appointment can and should be administered vaccine.</li> <li>History of an immediate allergic reaction† to any other vaccine or injectable therapy (i.e., intramuscular, intravenous, or subcutaneous vaccines or therapies)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» This includes people with a reaction to a vaccine or injectable therapy that contains multiple components, one of which is a vaccine component, but for whom it is unknown which component elicited the immediate allergic reaction.</li> </ul> </li> <li>People with a contraindication to mRNA COVID-19 vaccines have a precaution to Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine, and vice versa. (see footnote).‡</li> <li>Moderate to severe acute illness</li> </ul> <p>See Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Authorized in the United States <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/clinical-considerations.html">www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/clinical-considerations.html</a></p>		
	<b>Post-Vaccination Observation</b>	<p><b>30 minutes:</b> Persons with a history of an immediate allergic reaction of any severity to any other vaccine or injectable therapy or a history of anaphylaxis (from any cause)</p> <p><b>15 minutes:</b> All other persons</p>	
<b>Most common adverse events</b>	<p><b>Injection site:</b> pain, swelling, redness</p> <p><b>Systemic:</b> fatigue, headache, muscle pain, chills, fever, joint pain</p>	<p><b>Injection site:</b> pain, swelling, redness</p> <p><b>Systemic:</b> fatigue, headache, muscle pain, chills, fever, nausea, joint pain</p>	<p><b>Injection site:</b> pain, redness, swelling</p> <p><b>Systemic:</b> fatigue, headache, muscle pain, nausea, fever</p>

†For the purpose of this guidance, an immediate allergic reaction is defined as any hypersensitivity-related signs or symptoms, such as urticaria, angioedema, respiratory distress (e.g., wheezing, stridor), or anaphylaxis that occur within 4 hours following exposure to a vaccine or medication.

‡Consider consultation with an allergist-immunologist to help determine if the patient can safely receive vaccination. Healthcare providers and health departments may also request a consultation from the Clinical Immunization Safety Assessment COVID vax Project <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccinesafety/ensuringsafety/monitoring/cisa/index.html>. Vaccination of these individuals should only be done in an appropriate setting under the supervision of a healthcare provider experienced in the management of severe allergic reactions.

- People with a contraindication to mRNA COVID-19 vaccines (including due to a known PEG allergy) have a precaution to Janssen COVID-19 vaccination. People who have previously received an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine dose but have a contraindication to a second dose should wait at least 28 days to receive Janssen COVID-19 vaccine.
- People with a contraindication to Janssen COVID-19 vaccine (including due to a known polysorbate allergy) have a precaution to mRNA COVID-19 vaccination.