

Which Vaccine is Right for Me?

The CDC recommends that all individuals aged 6 months and older receive COVID-19 vaccination to prevent hospitalization and death. Those 6 months and older should get boosted with the vaccine that is available to them. The previous booster was monovalent and targeted the original strain while the updated boosters are bivalent and target the original strain and the Omicron strains that have been causing the more recent cases.

Vaccine Options

Pfizer-BioNTech (Pfizer)

- The Pfizer 2-dose primary series is two doses given three to eight weeks apart.
 - » Pfizer, also known as Comirnaty, has been fully approved by the FDA for use in persons aged 12 years and older.
 - » Pfizer has FDA Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for use in persons aged 5-11 years.
- The Pfizer 3-dose primary series is three doses, two monovalent doses given three to eight weeks apart, and a third dose of a bivalent vaccine given at least eight weeks later. Pfizer has FDA EUA for use in persons aged 6 months through 4 years.
- The Pfizer 1-dose Updated Booster (bivalent) has FDA EUA for use in persons aged 5 years and older, given at least two months after their last dose.



Moderna

- The Moderna 2-dose primary series is two doses given four to eight weeks apart.
 - » Moderna, also known as Spikevax, has been fully approved by the FDA for use in persons aged 18 years and older.
 - » Moderna has FDA EUA for use in persons aged 6 months through 17 years.
- The Moderna 1-dose Updated Booster (bivalent) has FDA EUA for use in persons aged 6 months and older, given at least two months after their last dose.

Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine, Adjuvanted (Novavax)

- The Novavax 2-dose primary series is two doses given three to eight weeks apart. Novavax has FDA EUA for use in persons aged 12 years and older.
- Those aged 18 years and older may receive a Novavax booster (monovalent) dose if unable or unwilling to receive a Pfizer or Moderna Updated Booster (bivalent) and if they have not previously received a COVID-19 booster.

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Johnson & Johnson (J&J)

- J&J has FDA EUA for use in persons aged 18 years and older as a single dose for both the primary series and the booster (monovalent), given at least two months after their last dose.
- * Use of J&J is limited for use in persons aged 18 years and older who cannot receive other COVID-19 vaccines due to medical reasons, have limited access to the other vaccines, or who elect to receive it because they would otherwise not receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

Boosters

Immunity against disease and infection naturally wanes over time. A booster dose is a normal part of most vaccine series to ensure a person maintains optimal immunity against infection from a disease. Booster doses enhance protection against severe COVID-19, restoring immunity that might have faded since the first doses were given. The previous booster was monovalent and targeted the original strain while the updated boosters are bivalent and target the original strain and the Omicron strains that have been causing the more recent cases. Eligibility includes:

- **Everyone** should receive an updated bivalent booster dose at least 2 months following completion of their primary vaccine series, if eligible. Those 5 and younger should receive a bivalent vaccine following two monovalent doses of their primary series. For immunocompromised children, parents should consult with their child's healthcare provider.

For more information on dosing intervals, please see [CDPH's COVID-19 Vaccine Timing by Age](#).

Additional information is available on the CDPH COVID-19 Booster website.

