Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Authorized for Ages 12-15

Coronavirus Disease 2019 Supplemental Advisory #12.9
Wyoming Department of Health
May 12, 2021

Pfizer Vaccine Authorized for Children Aged 12-15 Years

On May 10, 2021, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) expanded the Emergency Use Authorization for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine to include individuals aged 12 years and older. On May 12, 2021, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted to recommend that the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine be offered to individuals aged 12 to 15 years. The Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has approved the ACIP recommendation.

Wyoming providers may offer the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine to individuals aged 12-15 years effective immediately, in addition to individuals aged 16 years and older who were previously eligible.

The vaccine dose for individuals aged 12-15 years is the same as for individuals aged 16 years and older. The clinical considerations for administering the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine to individuals aged 12-15 years are generally consistent with those for individuals aged 16 and older, with some additional considerations as described below. Detailed clinical considerations for the use of COVID-19 vaccines can be found here: https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/clinical-considerations.html.

Though syncope was not reported in the clinical trials, syncope in adolescents has been reported with other vaccines. Patients should be seated or lying down when receiving vaccines, and they should be observed for 15 minutes or 30 minutes after administration depending on allergy history.

Providers can consider delaying vaccination for 90 days for individuals who have been diagnosed with Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C). Further details and factors to consider will become available within the next several days.

The FDA fact sheet for healthcare providers for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine can be found here: https://www.fda.gov/media/144413/download
The FDA fact sheet for patients and caregivers can be found here: [https://www.fda.gov/media/144414/download](https://www.fda.gov/media/144414/download)

Additional written updated recommendations from the CDC and ACIP are expected to be available within the next several days.

**Coadministration of COVID-19 Vaccines with Other Vaccines**

On May 12, 2021, the CDC also changed recommendations relating to the coadministration of COVID-19 vaccines with other vaccines. **All COVID-19 vaccines may now be administered without regard to timing of other vaccines in all age groups eligible for vaccination;** a 14-day period before or after COVID-19 vaccine administration is no longer required. Providers should consider the reactogenicity profile of vaccines as well as whether the patient is behind or at risk of becoming behind on their routine vaccinations when deciding whether to coadminister vaccines.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

For questions about the COVID-19 vaccines, providers should visit the WDH Immunization Unit website at [https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/immunization/wyoming-covid-19-vaccine-information/](https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/immunization/wyoming-covid-19-vaccine-information/) or email WDH.immunization@wyo.gov.

Wyoming healthcare providers and facilities are reminded to check COVID-19 resources available from WDH and CDC. Healthcare providers or facilities can contact WDH through the following channels:

- Please email questions about preparedness, PPE, infection control, or other non-urgent topics to wdh.covid19@wyo.gov. This email address is monitored 7 days a week and replies will come within 24 hours.
- Please contact WPHL with questions about specimen collection, storage, or shipping at 307-777-7431 or WPHL@wyo.gov.
- Please use the WDH Public Health Emergency Line (1-888-996-9104) for urgent questions. This line is intended ONLY for healthcare providers. Do not share this number with the public.

Please refer questions from the general public to 211 or to the WDH email box (wdh.covid19@wyo.gov).