



Australian Government



# Primary Care Vaccine Roll-out

## Pharmacy Bulletin

6 May 2024

*Bulletins provide you with regular updates and guidance on the COVID-19 Vaccine Program.*

### Key Messages

#### COVID-19 VACCINE UPDATES

##### Moderna (XBB.1.5) 12 years+ PFS

The last order window for Moderna (XBB.1.5) 12 years+ PFS vaccine closed on **3 May 2024** and sites can no longer order this vaccine through the COVID-19 Vaccine Administrative System (CVAS). Final deliveries submitted through CVAS for this vaccine will be completed by **Friday 17 May 2024**.

Supply of Moderna (XBB.1.5) 12 years+ PFS vaccine is nearing depletion and Additional Orders for remaining supply will be assessed on a case-by-case basis by the Vaccine Operations Centre (VOC). This is to ensure equitable distribution and to minimise excess wastage of this vaccine. Please contact the VOC directly with requests to access remaining supply of Moderna (XBB.1.5) 12 years+ PFS vaccine going forward.

For sites receiving their final deliveries during this time, please be mindful that Moderna (XBB.1.5) 12 years+ PFS has a **thawed-use-by of 30 days**. Please refer to the **use-by date** on the packaging and ensure **no administrations occur after this date**.

Moderna has satisfied all deliveries under the current supply arrangements and the Commonwealth has sufficient supplies of alternative COVID-19 vaccine brands for 2024.

Sites are reminded to submit a request in CVAS to activate access to one or more vaccine products available in the Program.

##### Reminder Pfizer 5-11 Years (Orange Cap)

Sites are reminded that all stock on hand for this vaccine type **expired on 30 April 2024**.

Please do not administer this vaccine and discard any remaining stock, as per existing state

and territory guidelines for the disposal of clinical waste and schedule 4 medication, ensuring that it is **reported as wastage in CVAS**.

The Pfizer (XBB.1.5) 5-11 years ([Light Blue](#)) is available to replace the Pfizer 5-11 Years ([Orange Cap](#)) formulation.

For further information about patient eligibility for this vaccine, please refer to the [Australian Immunisation Handbook COVID-19 Chapter](#).

## COVID-19 PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

### Vaccine Administration Errors

A vaccine administration error (VAE) occurs when a COVID-19 vaccine is given outside the current guidance outlined in the [Australian Immunisation Handbook COVID-19 Chapter](#).

**If a VAE occurs at your site, please contact the VOC to inform them.** Once they have received all the relevant details relating to the incident, they will review and provide advice relating to the incident.

Ways to prevent VAEs include:

- Check the Australian Immunisation Register (for previous vaccine doses, brands, and age);
- Check age of patient and eligibility for vaccination & vaccine type;
- Check the manufacture (batch) expiry date of the vaccine (including any extensions that may apply);
- Check the thaw expiry date of the vaccine; and
- Keep up to date with the latest advice in the [Australian Immunisation Handbook](#).

For all thawed (2°C to 8°C) vaccine deliveries, there will be a sticker applied to the external packaging specifying the accurate vaccine **Use-by date for unopened vials**.

The **Defrost date** is the date that the frozen vaccines were thawed and stored at 2°C to 8°C by the logistics provider.

The **Use-by date** considers both the defrost date and shelf-life (batch expiry). **DO NOT** use vaccine beyond the **Use-by date**.

### Site declaration update

There are general site requirements and ATAGI site requirements that are part of the Declaration forms that sites sign in order to participate in the COVID-19 Vaccine roll-out Program.

This is part of the Australian Government Requirements for COVID-19 Vaccine Administration and Storage Sites. Sites who are not participating in the Program **cannot store or administer COVID-19 vaccines**.

Sites participating in the COVID-19 Program and who are transitioning from administering Moderna vaccine's must ensure they have completed the **Pfizer Site Readiness Declaration** in CVAS.

### Professional Immunisation Training

Please also be reminded that there is no longer a requirement for mandatory COVID-19 Vaccine Training. The Department of Health and Aged Care published resources to assist

vaccine providers, such as a [COVID-19 Vaccine Reference Guide](#) and the [complete CVTP module set](#). These documents supplement existing COVID-19 reference resources.

Healthcare providers who are immunisers will need to ensure that their professional immunisation training, as required by jurisdictional and professional standards, is up to date.

## Managing COVID-19 Vaccine Stock

A reminder that it is mandatory for all sites to complete a **Vaccine Stock Management Report** weekly in CVAS no later than **9pm (local time) Friday** every week.

This report will include questions for **each vaccine that your site is configured to administer, even if you have not administered or received** any doses of that vaccine in the reporting period.

The reports capture:

- details of stock on-hand;
- the number of doses administered to patients during the week;
- any transfers to or from other participating sites; and
- any wastage of doses from the stock.

The [CVAS Reporting Guide](#) for sites provides assistance in completing weekly Vaccine Stock Management Reports.

## RESOURCES

- [COVID-19 Vaccine Comparison A3 Poster](#) – updated May 2024.
- [CVAS Reporting Guide for Sites](#) – September 2023
- [Vaccine Administration Error \(VAE\) Reporting Form](#)
- [Cold Chain Breach \(CCB\) Reporting Form](#)