**Emergency Use Instructions**

**CDC Issues Updated Guidance on COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine Dosing Interval**

**CDC Emergency Use Instructions**

On February 22, 2022 the CDC issued Emergency Use Instructions (EUI) which provide information about emergency use of the licensed COVID-19 vaccines by Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty®) and Moderna (Spikevax®). The CDC-issued EUI provide instructions and information for the use of these vaccines that are beyond the FDA-approved labeling. Authority for the issuance of EUI is allowed under the Pandemic and All Hazards Preparedness Reauthorization Act.

**Summary of Revisions to CDC Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines**

Update of COVID-19 vaccine guidance to include addition of considerations for an 8-week interval between the first and second doses of a primary mRNA vaccine schedule for certain persons ages 12-64 years of age: 

(Note that this applies only to use of Spikevax® (Moderna) for people ages 18 years and older and Comirnaty® (Pfizer-BioNTech) for people ages 12 years and older).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vaccine</th>
<th>First Dose</th>
<th>Second Dose</th>
<th>Booster Dose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pfizer-BioNTech (ages 5-11 years)</td>
<td>Month 0</td>
<td>3 weeks after 1st dose</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pfizer-BioNTech (ages 12 years and older)</td>
<td>Month 0</td>
<td>3-8 weeks after 1st dose</td>
<td>At least 5 months after 2nd dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderna (ages 18 years and older)</td>
<td>Month 0</td>
<td>4-8 weeks after 1st dose</td>
<td>At least 5 months after 2nd dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janssen (ages 18 years and older)</td>
<td>Month 0</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>At least 2 months after 1st dose</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For a link to the original CDC table graphic, please click here: [https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/images/covid19-vac-schedule-chart-01.png?_=42169?noicon](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/images/covid19-vac-schedule-chart-01.png?_=42169?noicon)

The originally recommended interval (3 weeks for Pfizer-BioNTech; 4 weeks for Moderna) between the first and second primary doses remains the recommended interval for:

- people who are moderately to severely immunocompromised;
- adults ages 65 years and older; and
- others who need early protection due to increased concern about community transmission or risk of severe disease.

**Rationale**

International data on risk of myocarditis, especially among the highest risk group (males ages 12-39 years of age post dose 2) along with international data on an extended primary series interval related to the risk of myocarditis and vaccine effectiveness suggest that an extended 8-week dosing interval between the 1st and 2nd dose of an mRNA COVID-19 primary vaccine series may:

- increase duration of vaccine protection
- reduce the small risk of myocarditis & pericarditis
Updated CDC mRNA COVID-19 Vaccine EUI Fact Sheets^2-3:

For Healthcare Providers:
- Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine EUI Fact Sheet
- Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine EUI Fact Sheet

For Recipients and Caregivers:
- Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine EUI Fact Sheet
- Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine EUI Fact Sheet

References: