



Federal Retail Pharmacy Program Updates

Vaccine program updates

Federal Retail Pharmacy Partnership for COVID-19 website

Find up to date information and newsletters on our [website](#) for the Federal Retail Pharmacy Partnership for COVID-19.

[Sitio web en Español](#) para participantes del programa de vacunas COVID

General updates

HHS Secretary Signs 11th Amendment to PREP Act for COVID-19 Medical Countermeasures

On May 9, 2023, U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, Xavier Becerra signed the 11th amendment to the declaration under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act for COVID-19 Medical Countermeasures. The Secretary issues this amendment to clarify that COVID-19 continues to pose a credible risk of a future public health emergency, add two new limitations on distribution, extend the time period of coverage for certain Covered Countermeasures and Covered Persons, clarify the time period of coverage for Covered Persons authorized under the Declaration, and extend the duration of the Declaration to December 31, 2024. Read full details of the amendment in the [Federal Register Notice online](#).

The end of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Declaration does not automatically terminate PREP Act coverage. To learn more, view the [COVID-19 PREP Act FAQs online](#).

Action required: Data reconciliation requirement and process

Pharmacies that participate in the Federal Retail program (FRPP) received US government purchased COVID-19 vaccine and ancillary supplies for administration to individuals. As the Federal program begins to wind down, pharmacies must be able to account for all vaccines received. Please also preserve all records related to COVID-19 vaccine management for a minimum of 3 years, or longer if required by state, local or territorial law.

To aid you in this data reconciliation process, we have started communicating with pharmacies who have unaccounted for doses for each NCPDP that is part of the program. This communication has included targeted emails, as well as phone call outreach. All questions should be directed to COVIDvaccines@amerisourcebergen.com.

It is important that pharmacies account for these doses accurately in the outlined processes, as they may be asked to provide additional documentation on data discrepancies for vaccine administrations or waste data that has been reported to the CDC. Be sure your pharmacy is doing the following:

- Reporting on hand doses in VaccineFinder
- Processing all vaccine administrations through your pharmacy system
- [Reporting waste in ABC Order](#)
- [Reporting any transfers](#)

Failure to comply with reconciliation process may result in your pharmacy being placed in a HOLD status and you will not be able to request COVID Vaccine allocation.

Your pharmacy may be asked to provide additional documentation on vaccine administrations if there are data discrepancies on vaccine administrations or other data that has been reported to the CDC.

We appreciate and thank you for all you are doing for your patients.

Reporting waste

When reporting waste, it's important to complete all the required fields. Incomplete reports will need to be resubmitted. Please report waste as accurately as possible. Once waste is reported it cannot be edited or changed. All questions should be directed to COVIDvaccines@amerisourcebergen.com.

Payer COVID-19 coverage updates

Elevate Provider Network has received updates from Prime and Caremark regarding COVID-19 vaccine and oral antiviral coverage.

- [Prime notice](#) regarding their COVID-19 vaccine coverage update.
- [Caremark notice](#) regarding their COVID-19 oral antiviral update.

Vaccine program updates

CDC updates and resources

Updated Recommendations for COVID-19 Vaccine Use.

Following updates to CDC recommendations, the [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Authorized in the United States](#) have been updated to reflect changes that allow people who are moderately or severely immunocompromised to receive additional COVID-19 bivalent vaccine doses to help restore protection that may wane over time.

CDC's updated guidance provides healthcare providers with the flexibility to administer an additional COVID-19 mRNA vaccine dose to their [immunocompromised patients](#) who have previously received an updated (bivalent) COVID-19 vaccine dose at least two months ago.

Individuals can also self-identify about their eligibility and receive doses anywhere vaccines are offered without a prescription or documentation of medical condition. This will help ensure there are not additional barriers to access for this population.

On Thursday, May 11th, CDC hosted a COCA call to discuss updated COVID-19 vaccine recommendations for those with immunocompromise and by age group, and optional COVID-19 vaccine doses for specific populations. [Watch the recording of this call.](#)

CDC standing orders will be updated to reflect changes to CDC recommendations. Questions regarding the Interim Clinical Considerations should be directed to NIPINFO@cdc.gov.

What's new in CDC's [COVID Data Tracker](#)?

Check it out! The COVID Data Tracker allows you to explore COVID-19 data focused on health equity and specific populations. [Health equity data](#) can be explored in various categories such as demographics, vulnerability, special populations, health care settings and geographic distribution.

What's new in CDC's [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report \(MMWR\)](#)?

- [COVID-19 Surveillance After Expiration of the Public Health Emergency Declaration –United States, May 11, 2023](#)

- [Correlations and Timeliness of COVID-19 Surveillance Data Sources and Indicators — United States, October 1, 2020–March 22, 2023](#)

The Latest Updates to COVID-19 Vaccine and Booster Recommendations.

CDC now recommends an additional updated booster for individuals ages 65 and older as well as individuals who are immunocompromised. This [factsheet](#) provides brief explainer that can be used to spread the word about these new guidelines.

Teens advocating for vaccination.

This [podcast episode](#) features Kelly Danielpour, high schooler and creator of VaxTeen, an organization that encourages teens to take responsibility for getting vaccinated. The episode discusses how Kelly became interested in vaccination uptake, and how teens interested in encouraging vaccination can talk to vaccine-hesitant peers and parents.

Understanding Paxlovid.

These [talking points and FAQs](#) developed by The Public Good Projects, Hispanic Communications Network, explains why taking Paxlovid is important for high-risk individuals and how to access the medication. Download and share with your communities!

Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Shelf-Life Extensions

Several lots of bivalent Moderna COVID-19 vaccine have received shelf-life extensions. Moderna has verified the new expiry dates below and updated the Moderna Vial Expiration Checker.

[Moderna Vial Expiration Date Look Up Tool](#)

Monovalent vaccines are no longer authorized by the CDC

CDC no longer recommends the use of monovalent mRNA COVID-19 vaccine. CDC now recommends the use of bivalent vaccine for all recommended mRNA COVID-19 vaccine dose(s). To minimize the risk of administration errors, providers should:

- Remove all monovalent mRNA vaccine from storage units immediately, even if they are not expired. This includes both EUA and BLA products (Comirnaty and Spikevax).
- Once all inventory is fully accounted for, remove monovalent mRNA COVID-19 vaccine from the vaccine inventory in your Immunization Information System. (Jurisdictions only.)
- Dispose of **all monovalent mRNA COVID-19 vaccine vials** in accordance with local, state, and federal regulations.
- Report all disposed inventory as wastage.

For additional information, including a table listing the mRNA monovalent COVID-19 vaccines that should be removed from your inventory, see [IIS COVID-19 Vaccine Related Code | CDC](#).

Therapeutics updates

Shelf-life extension for specific lots of Paxlovid

View the [COVID-19 Therapeutic Product Expiration Dates Database](#) for the most recent shelf-life extension and product expiration information. To view a full list of HHS/ASPR's updates related to COVID-19 monoclonal antibody therapeutics, please see our [full list of updates](#).
[Learn more](#)

Resources

Expiry checking

Efforts should be made to verify expiration dates for all extended vaccines and therapeutics before administration/dispensing to patients. Pharmacies can check the expiration date using the manufacturer expiration date tool. It is best practice for pharmacies to develop their own process for removing expired vaccines/therapeutics within a reasonable time. Please ensure all team members review this process and are updating inventory.

1. [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Expiry](#)
2. [Moderna Vial Expiration Date Look Up Tool](#)
3. [Janssen COVID-19 Vaccines Expiry Checker](#)
4. [Paxlovid Expiry Dates by Batch Number](#)
5. [Novavax Expiry Date Checker](#)
6. [CDC's COVID-19 Vaccine Lot Number and Expiration Date Report](#)

Updated Implementation and Allocation Guides

- [Therapeutics Allocation guide](#)
- [Therapeutics implementation guide](#)
- [Vaccine implementation guide](#)

- [Vaccine allocation guide](#)

COVID-19 Treatment Marketing Materials

Let your patients know that you have the latest booster shot available at your pharmacy with new print and digital marketing materials. Visit the “COVID-19 Vaccine” library in [Brand Central Station](#) and [SOCi](#) to access the materials.

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