

Date: 11/2/2021

Subject: IMPORTANT Reminders for Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine for Ages 5 Through 11 Years

Good Morning Immunization Partners,

If your site is anticipating arrival of Pfizer's COVID-19 Vaccine **for Ages 5 through 11 Years**, it is crucial that you understand proper receipt and storage of this product, as it differs from the Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine for ages 12 Years and older. It is also crucial to ensure doses are not administered until ACIP and CDC Director recommendations are in place. **Please review the details below and share with staff who may be involved in management of this vaccine.**

Receipt & Storage Requirements

Pfizer pediatric vaccine for ages 5 through 11 years will be shipped on dry ice in smaller disposable shippers. Unlike the adult shippers, these smaller shippers cannot be used for temporary storage and can therefore be disposed of.

Upon receipt, the contents **MUST** be removed and placed in an **ultra-cold freezer between -90°C to -60°C (-130°F to -76°F) or in a refrigerator between 2°C to 8°C (36°F to 46°F) immediately.**

- **Do NOT store this vaccine in a standard freezer at -25°C to -15°C (-13°F to 5°F). This is also explicitly stated in the EUA.**
- An orange sticker has been added to the shipper to reinforce this message (see below)
- This information (along with details on preparation, administration, etc.) is detailed in the [EUA For Healthcare Providers](#).



Temperature Monitor/Logger: Each Pfizer 5-11 shipper includes a Controlant temperature monitoring device (digital data logger or DDL). This device cannot be used to continue temperature monitoring after delivery. Turn off the temperature monitor upon receipt and return it in the box labeled "FOR LOGGER RETURN".

When to Administer Doses for 5-11: Even if you receive this vaccine today (or received doses yesterday), **do not start vaccinating the pediatric population aged 5 through 11 years until CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) meets to discuss and provide**

recommendations. ACIP is meeting today. You can find the meeting information, including the agenda, [here](#). Vaccinating outside of having ACIP recommendations is a violation of the [COVID Provider Agreement](#).

Reminder Regarding Diluent: Orders of Pfizer pediatric vaccine include ancillary kits that contain 10mL diluent vials. **While these vials appear to contain sufficient diluent for multiple vials, they must only be used once.**

- Diluent vials are a one-time-use item and should be discarded with the remaining content after each use.
- For each vial of vaccine, extract 1.3mL of diluent from a single-use vial to reconstitute 1.3mL of vaccine
- Do not be tempted to puncture diluent vials more than once.

If you have questions, please contact checcimms@michigan.gov

Thank you,
MDHHS Division of Immunization