

Moderna and Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines, bivalent authorized down to 6 months old – CDC approves

- On December 8, 2022, the <u>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) expanded</u> the use of updated (bivalent) COVID-19 vaccines for children ages 6 months through 5 years.
 - The approval quickly followed the <u>FDA's action</u> for the Moderna and Pfizer/BioNTech bivalent vaccines.
 - All individuals seeking a Moderna COVID-19 booster who are ages 6 months and older should receive the Moderna bivalent vaccine.
 - Individuals 6 months to 4 years of age seeking a third dose of the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccination series should receive the Pfizer/BioNTech bivalent vaccine instead of the monovalent third dose.
- Only about 1.6 million individuals <5 years of age have received at least one dose of vaccine since June 18, 2022. This means that about 95% of children <5 years of age are not vaccinated or have only received one dose.
- The U.S. government has already purchased bivalent booster doses for children. The Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna bivalent vaccine vials for children have been available for <u>preordering</u>.
- With the CDC's recommendation, pharmacies and other administration sites may begin
 administering bivalent booster vaccine to appropriate children when they have supply.
- Updated information about Moderna and Pfizer/BioNTech's bivalent vaccines for children 6
 months to 5 years of age will be posted on the CDC website.



At Optum, we help create a healthier world, one insight, one connection, one person at a time. All Optum trademarks and logos are owned by Optum, Inc., in the U.S. and other jurisdictions. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners. This document contains information that is considered proprietary to Optum Rx and should not be reproduced without the express written consent of Optum Rx. RxNews® is published by the Optum Rx Clinical Services Department.