

Comirnaty (Pfizer) vaccine for children 5 to 11 years

The Comirnaty (Pfizer) vaccine for children 5 to 11 years has been provisionally approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA). This letter contains important information about next steps for your practice to commence vaccinating with this paediatric vaccine.

The Pfizer vaccine for 5 to 11 years is a different formulation to the Pfizer vaccine for individuals aged 12 years and over. The formulation for people 5 to 11 years of age has an orange cap, while the Pfizer for 12 years and over has a purple cap.

All primary care vaccination sites will receive an ongoing allocation of the Pfizer for 5 to 11 years vaccine and can order from **Saturday 11 December 2021**.

You will receive an ongoing allocation of **100 or 200 doses of thawed Pfizer each fortnight** and can order up to your maximum allocation in multiples of 100 doses. Note this allocation is separate to your existing allocation for the Pfizer 12 years and over vaccine.

First delivery

- If you have already signed the Pfizer Site Readiness Declaration, you can **login** to the COVID-19 Vaccine Administrative System (CVAS) **from Saturday 11 December 2021 and place your first order for Pfizer vaccine for 5 to 11 year olds.**
- If you have not previously signed the Pfizer Site Readiness Declaration, you will be prompted to complete it the next time you login to CVAS and, once signed, you can place your first order.
- **If you are able to receive deliveries in the week ending RDD 7 January 2022, please place your order by midnight Friday 17 December 2021. The Taskforce will contact you if there will be any delays to your delivery.**
 - If you place an order by Friday 17 December 2021, you may request to receive an additional order through your Primary Health Network (PHNs) by midday AEDT Friday 17 December 2021. PHNs will collate this information and provide this to the Taskforce for consideration. Please do not make bookings based on these orders until they are confirmed.
- **To receive your first delivery in the week ending RDD 14 January 2022, please place your order between Saturday 18 December and midnight Friday 24 December 2021. Please note this delivery window differs from the Christmas ordering arrangements.**
- Note that these RDDs differ from the normal ordering cadence to allow time for batch testing of the first vaccines and to align with available supply.
- If you are having difficulty placing an order, please contact the Vaccine Operations Centre (VOC) on 1800 318 208.
- While the Program is intended to commence from 10 January 2022 (and the estimated RDD of 7 January 2022 will enable that), you can commence administering your vaccines as soon as they are received, as long as you have completed the relevant training.
- Please remember to complete a Delivery Acceptance Report the day you receive your vaccine, and a Stock Management Report **every Friday by 9pm**.

Ordering

- Your second order will align with the normal fortnightly ordering windows going forward, in which you order in the same week as you receive your vaccine delivery.
 - If you place an order by midnight Friday 17 December, you will be able to place your second order from Saturday 1 January 2022 to Friday 7 January 2022.
 - If you place an order between Saturday 18 December and Friday 24 December, you will be able to place your second order from Saturday 8 January 2022 to Friday 14 January 2022.

Further information

- You do not have to order immediately to retain your allocation. It is recommended that you complete your Pfizer declaration, if you have not done so already, to allow future orders to be placed or to receive excess Pfizer stock. **Please only order what you need, when you need it**, to limit wastage of COVID-19 vaccines.
- The attached **factsheet** provides further information about the Pfizer vaccine for children. The onboarding pack is currently being updated to include Pfizer for 5 to 11 year olds and will be provided shortly.
- **Please note**, an unopened thawed vial of the Pfizer vaccine for 5 to 11 year olds can be stored at 2°C to 8°C for a **maximum of 10 weeks**.
- It is anticipated that the Pfizer vaccine for children training will be available later this month. **It is essential that all health professional involved in administering this vaccine have completed this module prior to administering the vaccine.**
- If you have greater capacity to administer more than the allocation and is interested in opening larger clinics for children, please contact your Primary Health Network (PHN). PHNs will collate this information and feed this back to the National COVID Vaccine Taskforce for consideration.

We look forward to working with you to support the administration of Pfizer vaccine for children within primary care.

Yours sincerely



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