**Nurses’ Quick Reference for COVID-19 Vaccine**

See FNIHB Program resources or product monograph for full details

**COVID-19 vaccine Product Overview**

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| **COVID-19 Vaccine** | **COVID-19 Ultra Frozen** | **COVID-19 Frozen** |
| Manufacturer | Pfizer | Moderna |
| Packaging | Multi-dose: 2 mL vial (6 doses) | Multi-dose: 5 mL vial (10 doses) |
| Diluent | Yes  Single use 0.9% sodium chloride;  must discard any remaining product in vial | No |
| Licensed Use | 12 years of age and older  (born in 2009 or earlier) | 18 years of age and older  (born in 2003 or earlier) |
| **Multi-dose vial Management** - Mark each vial with **Date and time** removed from freezer | | |
| * Primary storage | - 800C to - 600C up to 6 months | -250C to -150C until expiration date |
| * Guidelines re Thawing vials | * 30 minutes at +25 0C **or** * 3 hours in refrigerator (allow to come to room temp before dilution) | * 1 hour at +25 0C **or** * 2 ½ hours in refrigerator (stand at room temp before administering: 15 min). |
| * Thawed vaccine storage | Prior to dilution:   * +2 to 8 0C: up to 31 days **and/or** * +8 0C to +25 0C: 2 hours | Prior to Puncture:   * +2 to 8 0C: up to 30 days **and/or** * +8 to 25 0C: 12 hours |
| * Usage Limit | After dilution: +2 to 25 0C for 6 hours   * Mark vial with date and time of dilution. | After puncture: +2 to 25 0C for 6 hours   * Mark vial with date and time of 1st puncture. |
| * Vaccine handling: **DO NOT SHAKE** | * Gently invert thawed vial 10 times * Add 1.8 mL diluent to vial   + remove 1.8 ml of air before removing needle from vial * Gently invert reconstituted vial 10 times | Swirl vial gently after thawing and between each withdrawal. |
| * Vaccine appearance | Off-white suspension | White to off-white |
| Administration Route | Intramuscular (IM) | Intramuscular (IM) |
| Dose | 0.3 mL for all ages | 0.5 mL for all ages |
| Schedule  See AHS biological pages re vaccine timing for Immunocompromised individuals. | Dose 1: day 0  Dose 2: up to 16 weeks/112 days  Minimum spacing: 19 days | Dose 1: day 0  Dose 2: up to 16 weeks/112 days  Minimum spacing: 21 days |
| **Vaccine Content:** | | |
| mRNA technology | Yes | Yes |
| Formulated in lipid nanoparticles | Yes | Yes |
| Adjuvants | No | No |
| Preservatives | No | No |
| Antibiotics |  | No |
| **Considerations:** | | |
| Other vaccines; TST; IGRA | * No data re potential interference: TST and/or IGRA should be completed before COVID vaccine, or delayed for at least 28 days post vaccine; * Prudent to delay other vaccines for 28 days post COVID vaccine. | |
| Hypersensitivity or allergic reaction to any constituent of the vaccine | Contraindication | |
| Anaphylactic reaction to any constituent of the vaccine. | Contraindication | |
| Acute Febrile Illness | Defer until individual is well | |
| Immunosuppressed individuals *(with exception of HSCT and SOT: see AHS Biological Pages)* | Response for individuals who have not consulted primary care provider re COVID 19 immunization: “***The vaccine studies have not tested whether this vaccine is safe or effective for you. We recommend that you do not receive the immunization until you have discussed it with your doctor. However, it is your choice to proceed without consulting your doctor***.” | |
| Breastfeeding  Pregnancy | Response for individuals who have not consulted primary care provider re COVID 19 immunization: “***Vaccine studies are not complete on the use of this vaccine in pregnant and breastfeeding women. Early information has not identified any safety issues. If you have questions about the immunization, we recommend you speak with your doctor, but it is not required to receive the vaccine***.”  It is prudent to delay pregnancy for 28 days after 2nd dose. | |
| Adverse Events following Immunization: | | |
| Common Reactions | * Pain, redness or swelling at injection site * Chills, fever * Fatigue * Headache, myalgia, arthralgia * Vomiting; diarrhea | * Pain, redness or swelling at injection site * Chills, fever * Fatigue * Headache, myalgia, arthralgia * Nausea, vomiting * Lymphadenopathy |
| Rare Reactions | * Lymphadenopathy * Anaphylaxis | * Facial swelling * anaphylaxis |

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