



State of New Jersey  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

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JEFFREY A. BROWN  
*Acting Commissioner*

**CONTROL NUMBER: 2025-02**

**A) AUTHORITY**

This Standing Order is issued by the Deputy Commissioner of Public Health Services of the New Jersey Department of Health in his official capacity authorizing pharmacists, pharmacy interns, pharmacy externs and pharmacy technicians practicing in the State of New Jersey, in accordance with their respective scopes of practice, to administer age-appropriate, FDA approved COVID-19 vaccines to eligible individuals.

Pharmacists, pharmacy interns, pharmacy externs and pharmacy technicians are authorized to administer COVID-19 vaccines to persons aged 3 years and older pursuant to the 12<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Declaration under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act, through December 31, 2029, as well as under the Division of Consumer Affairs Administrative Orders – DCA-AO-2021-18 and DCA-AO-2021-19. Should the PREP Act Declaration terminate prior to the expected date, pharmacy personnel shall be authorized pursuant to existing New Jersey statutes and rules governing immunization by pharmacy personnel.

**B) PURPOSE**

To prevent individual cases and outbreaks of COVID-19 in New Jersey, individuals must have ready access to the COVID-19 vaccine. Preventing the spread of COVID-19 through vaccination provides individuals and communities with protections from the physical sequelae, morbidities, and mortalities that this disease can cause and curtails the associated high social costs, such as absenteeism from school and work and healthcare system strain, that otherwise would burden children, families, older adults, and the community at-large when COVID-19 rates are high. The purpose of this standing order is to ensure equitable, timely, and consistent access to FDA-approved COVID-19 vaccines for all eligible individuals in New Jersey, consistent with the American Academy of Pediatrics 2025 immunization schedule, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists recommendations for use in pregnancy, the American Academy of Family Physicians 2025 immunization recommendations, and robust expert evidence by scientific groups including, but not limited to, the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy's Vaccine Integrity Project at the University of Minnesota. Accordingly, this Standing Order is issued to protect and promote the health of individuals in New Jersey by conforming COVID-19 vaccination access with evidence-based recommendations and schedules for eligible individuals.

**C) PROCEDURES**

**Indication and Eligibility**

An age-appropriate COVID-19 vaccine is indicated for active immunization for any person aged 6 months

or older who desires protection from COVID-19. *However, in accordance with the PREP Act Declaration, pharmacists, pharmacy interns, pharmacy externs and pharmacy technicians may only administer vaccines to children 3 years of age and older.*

- Moderna SPIKEVAX for people 6 months and older
- Pfizer COMIRNATY for people ages 5 years and older
- Moderna mNEXSPIKE for people 12 years and older
- Novavax NUVAXOVID for people 12 years and older

Pregnant individuals should receive an updated COVID-19 vaccine at the earliest opportunity in any trimester; post-partum and lactating persons are also recommended to receive a COVID-19 vaccination.

### **Order to Administer**

Administer an FDA-approved 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine per current manufacturer Dosing and Administration information. If multiple doses of the vaccine are needed, all doses in the series should be from the same manufacturer. Co-administration with other routine vaccines is permitted, including the influenza vaccine.

#### Moderna — SPIKEVAX (2025–2026 Formula)<sup>1</sup>

Route: Intramuscular (IM).

Dose & Schedule by Age/History:

2–11 years (any prior vaccination status): single 0.25 mL dose; if previously vaccinated, give ≥2 months after last COVID-19 vaccine dose.<sup>2</sup>

≥12 years (any prior vaccination status): single 0.5 mL dose; if previously vaccinated, give ≥2 months after last COVID-19 vaccine dose.

**OR**

#### Pfizer-BioNTech — COMIRNATY (2025–2026 Formula)

Route: Intramuscular (IM).

Dose: 0.3 mL (single dose).

Dose & Schedule by Age/History

5–11 years: single 0.3mL dose (vials with blue caps labeled with blue borders)

≥12 years: single 0.3 mL dose (prefilled syringe labeled with gray borders)

If previously vaccinated with any COVID-19 vaccine: give dose ≥2 months after last COVID-19 vaccine dose.

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<sup>1</sup> It is noted that the Moderna SPIKEVAX (2025–2026 Formula) is FDA authorized for ages 6 months and older. However, this Order is limited to ages 3 years and older, consistent with the scopes of practice established by the PREP Act Declaration for pharmacists, pharmacy interns, pharmacy externs, and pharmacy technicians for immunization administration.

<sup>2</sup> It is again noted that this Order is limited to ages 3 years and older, consistent with the scopes of practice established by the PREP Act Declarations for pharmacists, pharmacy interns, pharmacy externs, and pharmacy technicians for immunization administration.

**OR**

Moderna — mNEXSPIKE (2025–2026 Formula)

Route: Intramuscular (IM).

Dose: 0.2 mL (single dose).

Age:  $\geq 12$  years

If previously vaccinated with any COVID-19 vaccine: give dose  $\geq 3$  months after last COVID-19 vaccine dose.

**OR**

Novavax — NUVAXOVID (2025–2026 Formula)

Route: Intramuscular (IM).

Dose: 0.5 mL (single dose).

Age:  $\geq 12$  years

If previously vaccinated with any COVID-19 vaccine: give dose  $\geq 2$  months after last COVID-19 vaccine dose

**Contraindications**

Do not administer age-appropriate COVID-19 vaccine to individuals with a known history of severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) to any component of the vaccine or to individuals who had a severe allergic reaction following a previous dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

**Warnings and Precautions**

Analyses of data from use of authorized or approved mRNA COVID-19 vaccines have demonstrated increased risks of myocarditis and pericarditis, with onset of symptoms typically in the first week following vaccination. The observed risk has been highest in males 12 years through 24 years of age.

**Documentation and Reporting**

Provide proof of vaccination to the recipient.

Enter all doses in the New Jersey Immunization Information System (NJIS) as required by N.J.S.A. 26:4-134; N.J.A.C. 8:57-3.12; and Executive Order No. 207.

Report vaccine administration errors and adverse events to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS). Report all adverse events following the administration of COVID-19 vaccine to the federal Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS). To submit a VAERS report online (preferred) or to download a writable PDF form, go to <https://vaers.hhs.gov/reportevent.html>. Further assistance is available at (800) 822-7967.

**Patient Education**

The individual should be provided the Information for Recipients and Caregivers or the Vaccine Information Sheet (VIS), as applicable to understand side effects, warnings and precautions, drug interactions and contradictions. The pharmacist may engage in shared decision-making to engage the Individual in an informed vaccination decision.

#### **D) INSURANCE and BILLING**

For insurance coverage and billing for the administered COVID-19 vaccine, the pharmacy will request the individual's insurance information. While the pharmacy will obtain the individual's insurance information, this Standing Order does not guarantee insurance coverage as insurance coverage and administration for COVID-19 vaccines may vary based on insurance policies and individual plans.

#### **E) LIMITATIONS**

This Standing Order does not establish the New Jersey Department of Health, or its clinicians, as a healthcare provider for an individual. Individuals seeking medical advice on vaccinations should contact a primary care provider.

#### **F) EXPIRATION AND REVIEW**

This standing order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in force and effect until modified, supplemented, superseded, or rescinded.

**New Jersey Department of Health  
Issuing Official:**



**Date:** September 8, 2025

**Novneet Sahu, MD  
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