



Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
Atlanta, GA 30341-3724

Provider Letter – Discontinuation of CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program

Re: Close-Out of CDC COVID19 Vaccination Program

Dear Provider,

Thank you for participating in the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program. Your efforts helped save lives and ensured that millions of Americans were protected against potentially serious complications from COVID-19 infection.

With the US Government no longer purchasing COVID-19 vaccines for administration through the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program and updated 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccines having now become available for private purchase in the commercial marketplace, the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program will discontinue. This letter describes steps in closing out the Program.

On Monday, Sept. 11, 2023, the FDA took action authorizing and approving the updated 2023–2024 monovalent XBB.1.5 variant mRNA COVID-19 vaccines by Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech. On September 12, 2023, CDC recommended use of these updated 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccines in all individuals ages 6 months and older (<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2023/p0912-COVID-19-Vaccine.html>). With these FDA and CDC actions, the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program is discontinued *as it applies to the bivalent Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech mRNA COVID-19 vaccines previously provided by the US Government (USG)*. Bivalent (Original and Omicron BA.4/BA.5 variant) Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech mRNA COVID-19 vaccines should no longer be administered.

Limited aspects of the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program will remain operational for purposes of administering existing USG-provided Novavax ancestral COVID-19 vaccine doses until the updated 2023-2024 Novavax monovalent XBB.1.5 variant COVID-19 vaccine is approved/authorized by FDA, as expected in the near future. At that time, doses of that updated 2023-2024 Novavax COVID-19 vaccine will become available for private purchase in the commercial marketplace. And, at that time, the Novavax component of the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program will also cease, fully ending the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program.

The USG is no longer purchasing COVID-19 vaccines for distribution through the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program. Providers will need to directly purchase doses of the updated 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccines and administer them through their standard processes outside of the discontinued CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program.

In addition, CDC no longer distributes COVID-19 Vaccination Record Cards. Providers are no longer required to complete these cards. Providers should continue to submit vaccine administration data through either the immunization information system (IIS) of the state and local or territorial jurisdiction or through other designated electronic systems, according to state and local requirements.

We now need your help closing out the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program.

Step One: Reporting and Disposal of Remaining USG Inventory

Since the Program's beginning, the COVID-19 Vaccination Program Provider Agreement has required all enrolled providers to report the number of unused, spoiled, expired, or wasted vaccine doses. Likewise, with the Program ending, excess remaining bivalent mRNA COVID-19 vaccine inventory must now be reported using the wastage transaction in their jurisdictional reporting systems. These vaccines should also be properly disposed of according to state and local regulations. This reporting requirement is for inventory purposes only and such wastage data will not be used to judge provider performance. Questions regarding these disposal activities should be directed to your state or local immunization program.

Step Two: Interim Use of Ancestral Novavax COVID-19 vaccine

Pending availability of an updated 2023-2024 monovalent XBB.1.5 Novavax COVID-19 vaccine, providers in the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program may continue to administer doses of in stock USG provided doses of the existing ancestral Novavax COVID-19 vaccine to individuals who the provider has determined should not wait for an updated 2023-2024 Novavax COVID-19 vaccine, and who otherwise are contraindicated for receipt of an updated 2023-2024 monovalent XBB.1.5 mRNA COVID-19 vaccine or refuse an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine.

Providers who continue to administer ancestral Novavax vaccine supplied by the USG are still bound by the terms of the CDC COVID-19 provider agreement.

When CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program availability of the current monovalent ancestral Novavax COVID-19 vaccine is ended upon FDA approval or authorization of the 2023-2024 monovalent XBB.1.5 variant Novavax COVID-19 vaccine and that updated vaccine becomes available in the commercial marketplace, excess remaining inventory of the Novavax ancestral doses must be reported using the wastage transaction in jurisdictional reporting systems. These vaccines should also be properly disposed of according to state and local regulations. Questions regarding these disposal activities should be directed to your state or local immunization program.

Step Three: Refer to the CDC Provider Agreement Update Website for Additional Program Close-out Steps

Providers must check the CDC Provider Agreement Update Website (<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/vaccination-provider-support.html>) for any additional required steps in closing out their participation in the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program.

Step Four: Unused Ancillary Supplies

Providers may use inventory of ancillary supplies provided by the USG at no cost to you through the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program for administration of your commercially purchased vaccines. Note that the expiration date printed on the exterior box of the CDC ancillary kit does not apply to all of the items contained in the kit. The expiry date found on the external label is based on the earliest expiry of any of the kit's components.

Providers may exercise discretion and continue using unexpired kit components (e.g., needles and syringes) until they expire. Dispose of expired components in accordance with state and local requirements.

Unexpired ancillary kits or the items contained within cannot be sold, but can be shared domestically, at no charge, with other immunization programs. This includes other clinics within the practice, other sites offering healthcare services, or veterinary clinics. Again, these USG provided items cannot be sold. Ancillary kits cannot be donated outside of the United States or to organizations that will use the supplies outside of the US per federal funding requirements.

Step Five: Enrollment in Vaccines.gov vaccine locator service

During the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program, individuals have had access to the US Government website Vaccines.gov to find providers with COVID-19 vaccine availability. With the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program ending, Vaccines.gov is transitioning to becoming an information source for locating providers who are administering the updated 2023-2024 monovalent XBB.1.5 variant COVID-19 vaccines available in both the private commercial marketplace and through the CDC Bridge Access Program. Additional information will be forthcoming.

[end paragraph]

Sincerely,



Georgina Peacock, MD, MPH, FAAP
Director, Immunization Services Division (ISD)
National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD)
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)