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COVID-19 Update # 69 Bivalent COVID-19 Vaccines for Children 6 Months – 5 Years

Key Points and Recommendations:

- Bivalent COVID-19 vaccines have been <u>authorized</u> and <u>recommended</u> by the FDA and CDC for children 6 months through 5 years of age:
 - o Review CDC's updated Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines.
 - Use FDA's updated Fact Sheets for the <u>Pfizer-BioNTech</u> and <u>Moderna</u> COVID-19 vaccines.
 - o Review <u>COVID-19 vaccine product information</u> for children, including preparation and administration instructions (see corresponding FDA Fact Sheets).
 - For children 6 months through 4 years of age who are receiving the Pfizer-BioNTech primary series (3-dose series), the monovalent Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine is given for the first two doses followed by the bivalent Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for the 3rd primary series dose (note: this is NOT considered a booster dose).
 - Children 6 months through 4 years of age who have completed a Pfizer-BioNTech 3dose primary series with monovalent or bivalent vaccine are NOT eligible for another bivalent vaccine dose at this time.
 - o For children 6 months through 5 years of age who have completed a **Moderna primary series**, a single bivalent booster is recommended starting at least 2 months after completion of the primary series.
 - Interchangability of COVID-19 vaccine products for booster dosing (i.e., heterologous dosing) is dependent on a person's age and the primary series vaccine product received; see CDC's Interim Clinical Considerations and vaccine schedules for details.
- CDC will conduct a provider webinar on **Tuesday**, **12/13** from **2:00 3:00 pm** on "*Clinical Guidance and Patient Education for Bivalent COVID-19 Vaccines*" which can be accessed at: https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2022/callinfo 121322.asp.
- NH Division of Public Health Services (DPHS) continues to host monthly healthcare provider webinars to provide updates on public health issues, which occur on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 12:00 – 1:00 pm (next webinar is Thursday, 1/12):

o Zoom link: https://nh-dhhs.zoom.us/s/94059287404

Call-in phone number: (646) 558-8656

Meeting ID: 940 5928 7404

Password: 353809

- For any questions regarding this notification, please call the NH DHHS, DPHS, Bureau of Infectious Disease Control at (603) 271-4496 during business hours (8:00 a.m. 4:30 p.m.).
- If you are calling after hours or on the weekend, please call the New Hampshire Hospital switchboard at (603) 271-5300 and request the Public Health Professional on-call.
- To change your contact information in the NH Health Alert Network, please send an email to DHHS.Health.Alert@dhhs.nh.gov or visit www.nhhan.org.

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From: Benjamin P. Chan, MD, MPH; State Epidemiologist

Originating Agency: NH Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health Services