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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 authorized and recommended by the FDA and CDC for children 6 months through 5 years of age:
 - Review CDC's updated Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines.
 - Use FDA's updated Fact Sheets for the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines.
 - Review COVID-19 vaccine product information 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 3-dose primary series with monovalent or bivalent vaccine are NOT eligible for another bivalent vaccine dose at this time.
 - 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.
 - Interchangeability 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**):
 - Zoom link: <https://nh-dhhs.zoom.us/j/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