



# Primary Care Vaccine Roll-out

## Provider Bulletin

23 February 2022

*Bulletins provide you with regular updates and guidance on the COVID-19 Vaccination Program.*

### Key Messages

#### MODERNA UPDATE

##### ATAGI recommends Moderna for individuals aged 6 years and older

Following the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) [provisional approval](#) of the Spikevax (Moderna COVID-19) as a primary course vaccine for individuals aged 6 years and older, the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) has considered the regulatory authority's advice and released a [statement recommending that Moderna COVID-19 vaccine can be used as a primary course of COVID-19 vaccination in people aged 6 years and older](#).

The same vaccine preparation employed for older age groups will be used, however, the Moderna **6-11 years dose** is **half** that of the dose used for the primary course for people 12 years and older; but the same as the booster dose (**50µg per dose; 0.25mL**) for adults.

At this stage, ATAGI does not recommend the use of mixed primary schedules in this age group.

Moderna is not currently recommended for anyone under the age of 6 years.

**The Pfizer 5-11 (orange cap) vaccine continues to be the only COVID-19 vaccine approved for children who are 5 years of age.**

##### Important information for practices administering Moderna

The Australian Government has **accepted** this advice and will immediately include the Moderna vaccine for children **6 years** and over in the COVID-19 Vaccination Program. This means all primary care sites can commence administering Moderna to individuals aged 6 from **24 February 2022**.

**Clinicians who are considering administering Moderna to children are recommended to review the ATAGI advice carefully together with the TGA's product information prior to administering Moderna to this cohort and, once available, are required to complete the specific training module for Moderna for children aged 6-11.**

**The dose for children aged 6-11 years old is 0.25mL (50 micrograms)**

## Training

A new specific Moderna training module for children aged 6 years and older is currently in development and will be available in the coming weeks.

Clinicians who are considering administering Moderna to children are recommended to review the ATAGI advice carefully and the TGA's product information prior to administering Moderna to this cohort and, once available, are required to complete the specific training module for Moderna for children aged 6-11.

The COVID-19 Vaccination Training Program is regularly updated with information from Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) and the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), and all vaccine providers are required to remain up to date on clinical best practice and emerging research.

## Consent Forms

A new consent form has been published for administering the Moderna vaccine to children aged 6-11 years.

## Vaccine Clinic Finder

The Vaccine Clinic Finder (VCF) and VCF Connect are being updated to support access to Moderna for **6-11 year** old's.

- From mid week, the VCF will be updated to reflect the availability of Moderna vaccine for **6-11 year** olds.
- In addition, VCF Connect will soon allow vaccination providers to add children's Moderna as a new service type, and manage appointment availability for both Moderna 6-11 and Moderna 12+ vaccinations.
- Another VCF update will then surface providers' appointment availability for different Moderna vaccination appointments – for the 6-11 year age group, and for the 12+ age group. This will help providers manage their appointment schedules, and help parents and carers of children to easily find and book suitable appointments.

Vaccination providers can save time by using VCF Connect to self-manage details on their vaccination services in VCF, including information about extended appointment times for paediatric vaccinations. All primary care sites nationally have now been on-boarded with VCF Connect. Please check your registration email for instructions on how to register and update your services, this will come from [CV19.Products@health.gov.au](mailto:CV19.Products@health.gov.au). Vaccination providers will be able to create the new vaccine service type in the VCF Connect from Wednesday 2 March. In addition, VCF Connect can be used to update whether your clinic is wheelchair accessible and reflect your opening hours.

If you have further questions, please contact [CV19.Products@health.gov.au](mailto:CV19.Products@health.gov.au) or 1800 316 375.

## CVAS

The existing Moderna vaccine product will be maintained in the COVID-19 Vaccine Administrative System (CVAS), with sites having a single allocation.

## Important information for practices interested in administering Moderna

### Sites in the program, but not approved for Moderna

As per the standing EOI open for all general practices interested in expanding their participation in the COVID-19 Vaccination Program, sites can indicate their interest through their PNH.

Sites will receive an ongoing allocation of up to 400 doses of thawed Moderna per fortnight. Practices can order in batches of **100 doses up to their maximum allocation**. There is no requirement to order the full allocation. Sites should only order what they need.

### New sites to the program

As per existing arrangements, sites can apply via their PHN to join the COVID-19 Vaccination Program. All sites participating in the Program, are onboarded for Astra Zeneca and Pfizer in the first instance. It is not compulsory to order all these vaccines if sites do not wish to administer them.