

HSE NATIONAL IMMUNISATION OFFICE

IMMUNISATION BULLETIN

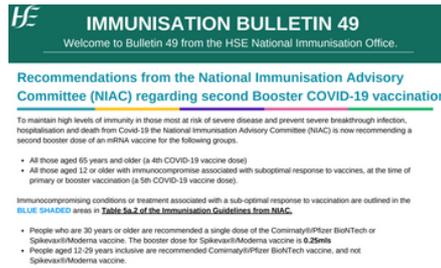
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IMMUNISATION BULLETIN

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A thank you to our readers and contributors for their support and hard work along the way.



35K+

Bulletin downloads

20K



Downloads of Clinical Guidance for COVID-19 Vaccination

20K+



Learners completed our HSeLand COVID-19 Vaccination Training

4.5M+



doses of vaccine processed using TrackVax in CVCs

200K+

Views on IM injection technique video



2M+



Visits to immunisation.ie website

20K+



Clinical queries dealt with

COVID-19 vaccine

Dose of Spikevax® (Moderna) for second booster dose of COVID-19 vaccine

Vaccination with second booster doses is underway.



Remember the dose volume for a booster dose of Spikevax® (Moderna) is 0.25mls. This is half the volume of the dose recommended for the primary course (0.5mls). The dose and volume of vaccine should always be checked before vaccination.



More information

Read summary information on Spikevax® in previous Bulletin 49 [here](#).

Read detailed information in the Clinical Guidance for COVID-19 vaccination [here](#).

Spikevax® (Moderna): European Marketing Authorisation number EU/1/20/1507/001

The Expiry date on the vial is only applicable to the vials if they remain stored in freezers (-25°C to -15°C). The difference between the printed expiry date on the vial and the expiry on the printed paperwork from NCCS is due to the extended shelf-life while stored in freezers (-25°C to -15°C) in NCCS. Therefore it is possible that you will receive vials with printed expiry dates on each vial which have past, but the relevant expiry date will be printed on the delivery docket.

Spikevax® is delivered to you at temperature of +2°C to +8°C and it is in its thawed state. Therefore these vials are governed by the “USE BEFORE” Date and Time printed on the label on the box and not on the vial. You must refer to the USE BEFORE Date and Time as per label affixed by NCCS which is on the vaccine box.

The USE BEFORE Date and Time determines the timelines within which the vials can be used and the vaccines should not be administered after this time.

Who needs a second booster dose of COVID-19 vaccine?

A reminder that only the following groups are recommended a 2nd booster dose by the National immunisation Advisory Committee (NIAC):

- People aged 65 years and older
- People aged 12 years and older with immunocompromise associated with a sub-optimal response to vaccination at the time of their primary or 1st booster vaccination (shaded in **blue** in Table 5a.2 in the immunisation guidelines)

The aim of offering a second booster is to protect those most at risk of hospitalisation and severe breakthrough infection. Age and immune status are the most important determinants of risk of severe breakthrough infection.

People who do not fulfil the criteria above, are not recommended a second booster dose at this time, even if they have conditions that put them at high risk of severe COVID-19 (e.g. those shaded in white in **Table 5a.2** in immunisation guidelines). Pregnant women are also not recommended a 2nd booster dose; they are expected to have had a normal immune response to the vaccine and the 1st Covid vaccine booster.

COVID-19 vaccine

Who needs a second booster dose of COVID-19 vaccine? (cont. from page 1)

The European Medicines Agency (EMA) has stated that there is currently no conclusive evidence that vaccine protection against severe disease is waning or that there is an added value of a fourth dose for younger people with a normal immune response to vaccination.

i More information
Read more from the EMA [here](#).

Novavax® (Nuvaxovid) may be offered to those aged 18 years and older with a contraindication / special precaution to an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine as a booster vaccine.

Jcovden® (formerly COVID-19 vaccine Janssen®) vaccine may also be offered to those aged 50 years or older with a contraindication / special precaution to an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine as a booster vaccine.

New name for COVID-19 Vaccine Janssen®: Jcovden®

COVID-19 Vaccine Janssen® has been re-named as Jcovden®. The [licensed documentation](#), including the product information has been updated.

We are in the process of updating our guidance, training and supporting documents with the new name.

i More information
Read more [here](#).

mRNA COVID-19 vaccination in pregnancy lowers risk of stillbirth

This systematic review and meta-analysis evaluated evidence from 23 studies including 117,552 vaccinated women who were almost exclusively vaccinated with mRNA vaccines. The review shows that the effectiveness of mRNA vaccination against RT-PCR confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection 7 days after the second dose was 89.5% (95% CI 69.0-96.4%).



The risk of stillbirth was significantly lower in women who were vaccinated by 15% (pooled OR 0.85; 95% CI 0.73–0.99).

There was no evidence of a higher risk of adverse outcomes among vaccinated women including miscarriage, earlier gestation at birth, placental abruption, pulmonary embolism, postpartum haemorrhage, maternal death, intensive care unit admission, lower birthweight Z-score, or neonatal intensive care unit admission ($p > 0.05$ for all).

COVID-19 mRNA vaccination in pregnancy appears to be safe and is associated with a reduction in stillbirth.

i More information
Read more [here](#).

COVID-19 vaccine

I.T. system updates

Uploading of GP and Pharmacy-administered vaccines

It is best practice to enter and upload vaccination data on the day of vaccination. Slow upload of GP or pharmacy-administered vaccinations may lead to issues for clients who may present to a HSE or other facilities which have no visibility of their previous dose as it has not been uploaded yet.

How can GPs add the second booster on their GP software system?

We have been informed that the following process should be followed:

GPs can add a second booster by selecting “Booster Dose 1” from the drop down list. The second booster record will come into HSECOVAX and be given a number and marked as booster 2.

Please do not select the additional dose or any other option for booster 2 as it causes data quality issues which are hard to fix.

If anyone has chosen different options for the second booster, please raise a case with the GP resolver support groups and they will arrange a bulk update on these records.

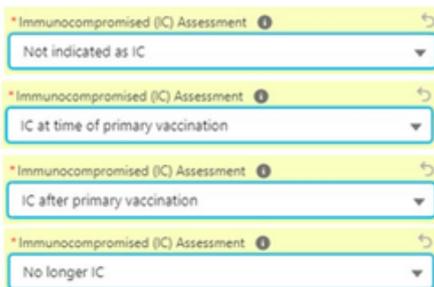
Please note that the National Immunisation Office cannot respond to I.T. system queries. All queries regarding entering of data in the GP software system should be directed to gpvaccines@vision.com

Pharmacy I.T. queries should be sent to pharmacyvaccines@vision.com

Update on COVAX System

Sprint 21 bring a New Immunocompromised Assessment box on a person account and immunisation record. This replaces the previous tick box.

There is a pick list of 4 options



COVID-19 vaccine

I.T. system updates (cont. from page 3)

The clinical assessment field can only every be updated upon receipt of a clinical referral

- Referral from hospital consultant or GP via referral processes previously established
- If patient presents at CVC with a physician letter

Booster courses will now have sequence number clearly indicated:

Vaccine Course #	Vaccine Category	Vaccine Schedule Name	Vaccine Date
1	COVID-19 Vaccine	Pfizer 21-Day	04/26/2022, 11:38
2	COVID-19 Additional Dose - Immunocompromised	Moderna Additional Dose - 60 days	04/26/2022, 11:38
3	COVID-19 Booster 1	Pfizer Booster	04/26/2022, 11:38
4	COVID-19 Booster 2	Pfizer Booster	04/26/2022, 12:08

Vaccine categories will indicate if it is a booster or other dose:

Client: ClientDemo TEST-Booster2Civax22; 1 May 1960; Male;

Vaccine Category: COVID-19 Booster 2, Vaccine Schedule: Pfizer Booster, Dose: 1

I confirm that I have reviewed the client's consent and eligibility status.

Has the client confirmed that they have had the opportunity to ask any questions about the vaccine and are happy to proceed?

Refuse (Unable to Continue)

Vaccine Assets Available

Asset Name	Account ID	Batch Number	Vaccine Use Before...
PFIZER-BIONTECH COVID-19 VACCINE -	UCF_Safety_Production_1	Not Entered	5/5/2022, 01:00 IST

Booster doses schedule names updated, this is to allow Booster 2:

Add Course

New Vaccine Course

Information

Client Last Name

--None--
 Pfizer Booster - Immunocompromised 12 to 18 years
 Pfizer Booster - 12 to 18 years
 Pfizer Booster
 Pfizer Additional Dose - 60 days
 Pfizer 21-Day
 Novavax Booster
 Novavax Additional Dose - 60 days
 Novavax 21-Day
 Moderna Booster
 Moderna Additional Dose - 60 days
 Moderna 28-Day
 Janssen Booster
 Janssen Additional Dose - 60 days
 Janssen 1-dose
 Comirny Children 5 to 11 years Additional Dose - 28 days
 Comirny Children 5 to 11 years - 21 days
 AstraZeneca Booster
 AstraZeneca Additional Dose - 60 days
 AstraZeneca 28-Day



Please note that the National Immunisation Office cannot respond to I.T. system queries. All queries regarding entering of data in the GP software system should be directed to gpvaccines@vision.com

Pharmacy I.T. queries should be sent to pharmacyvaccines@vision.com

Additional resources for people coming to Ireland from Ukraine

Our office is leading on the creation and translation of materials to support people coming from Ukraine who require vaccines. Training, guidance and supporting material for healthcare professionals vaccinating people coming from Ukraine have also been developed.



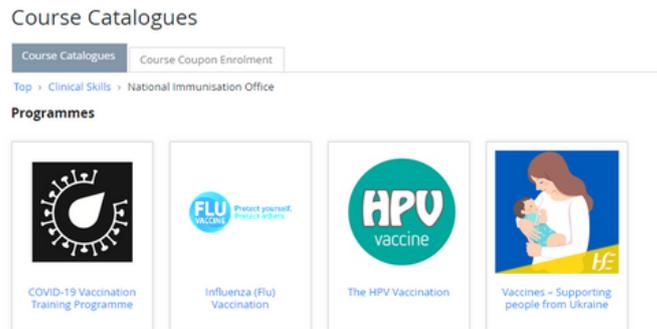
More information

Visit our HCP webpage [here](#).

Resources for healthcare professionals administering vaccines

- An e-Learning Programme on hseland.ie to support HSE healthcare professionals in the delivery of catch up vaccines

Selecting Course > Clinical Skills > National Immunisation Office > Vaccines - Supporting people from Ukraine



- Information for healthcare professionals on Catch-up vaccines
- Clinical information to support HSE staff to deliver catch-up vaccination for children and adults coming from Ukraine
- Consent Form

The NIO has also worked with ONMSD to create medicine protocols to support the delivery of vaccines to people coming to Ireland from Ukraine.

Translated information for the public

The following information is available in English, Irish, Ukrainian and Russian

- Posters – PCI Programme, *School Immunisation Programme and Pertussis vaccine
- Factsheet – Immunisation Programmes in Ireland*
- FAQs – PCI Programme
- Leaflets – 4 in 1 and MMR, HPV, Tdap and MenACWY, Pertussis in Pregnancy
- Vaccine abbreviations

**Not yet available in Irish*

Translation of MMR information to support Departments of Public Health in the event of an outbreak situation are also available.

The NIO has also worked with HSE Communications to develop information for people from Ukraine on the [HSE Website](#).

Website

Visit our website www.immunisation.ie regularly for the most up to date information to support vaccinators and health professionals responding to queries.

 Visit website [here](http://www.immunisation.ie).

HSeLanD Vaccination Training Programme

COVID-19 vaccination training programme

You can access updates to the National Immunisation Office COVID-19 Vaccination Training Programme for

- Children 5 to 11
- Pfizer,
- Moderna,
- Janssen, and
- Nuvaxovid vaccine

through your HSeLanD account.

We would encourage you to log in and complete the updated content in each programme to refresh your knowledge and ensure you are up to date with your COVID-19 Vaccination Training.

Other immunisation training programmes

You will also find other programmes developed by our office by logging into your account on www.hseland.ie selecting **courses** then selecting **clinical skills** and finally selecting **National Immunisation Office**.

Our programmes cover topics like “Communicating about vaccines”, “HPV vaccine”, the “Flu vaccine”, “LAIV flu vaccine” and “vaccines in pregnancy”, “Vaccines - supporting people from Ukraine” and “Storing and Managing Vaccines”.

 Visit HSeLanD [here](http://www.hseland.ie).

If you have any issues with the platform please contact HSeLanD directly.

 Contact HSeLanD [here](http://www.hseland.ie).

Do you have queries?

Clinical queries from healthcare professionals can be directed to our dedicated email address

 Send your query [here](mailto:clinical@immunisation.ie).

Should vaccines be exposed to temperatures outside of parameters please contact a National Immunisation Office pharmacist immediately. Contacts include:

- Mariangela Toma: mobile 087 7575679
- Cliona Kiersey: mobile 087 9915452
- Achal Gupta: mobile 087 4064810

Queries that are not clinical or technical cannot be answered by the National Immunisation Office