



# COVID-19 VACCINES FOR ADOLESCENTS: *What it means for providers*

On May 10, 2021 the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued an Emergency Authorization (EUA) for use of the Pfizer-BIONTech COVID-19 vaccine for 12–15-year-olds. This includes simultaneous administration of COVID-19 and other vaccines on the same day.

More than [3.8 million children have been infected with COVID-19](#) since the beginning of the pandemic. We encourage you to do your part to make sure adolescents ages 12 and up get immunized against COVID-19 and receive all other vaccinations they are eligible for.

## Enrolling in the COVID-19 Vaccination Program

- In order to administer COVID-19 vaccinations, you must [enroll in the federal COVID-19 Vaccination Program](#).
- Use the [COVID-19 Vaccination Program Provider Preparation Checklist](#).
- Use the [COVID-19 Provider Enrollment Guide](#) to help you through the enrollment process.

## Raising Awareness about COVID-19 Vaccine

- Contact eligible patients and schedule first and second dose appointments for their Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine!
- If you are not enrolled in the COVID-19 Vaccination Program, refer patients to [another location](#) that provides the vaccine.
- Review the American Academy of Pediatrics' [FAQs about COVID-19 vaccines](#) and recommendations on [how to prepare for](#), [how to implement](#), and [how to get paid](#) for COVID-19 vaccine administration in pediatric practices.
- Review DOH materials on [communicating about mRNA vaccines](#).

## Catching-up Children on All Vaccinations

- Use your EMR patient portal, email, phone calls or texts to target outreach.
- Contact patients due for well-child visits associated with shots (0-2, 4-5, 9-11 and 16-18 years).
- **The COVID-19 vaccine for 12-year-olds and older can be administered on the same day as adolescent routine vaccinations.**
- Send [reminder/recall](#) notifications for routine immunizations that include information about COVID-19 vaccinations.
- Generate your clinic's [coverage rate report](#) in the WA IIS.
- Include information on your website and in social media about the importance of routine immunizations during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- If available in your region, partner with [school-based health centers](#) to expand access to routine childhood vaccines.
- Encourage patients to use [MyIR](#) to check their immunization status.

## Looking for more information?

For additional resources and information about COVID-19 vaccines for adolescents, visit the Washington State Department of Health website: <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/COVID19/vaccine>.