



TO: West Virginia Healthcare Providers, Hospitals and Other Healthcare Facilities

FROM: Ayne Amjad, MD, MPH, Commissioner and State Health Officer
West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau for Public Health

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LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS: Please distribute to community health providers, hospital-based physicians, infection control preventionists, laboratory directors and other applicable partners.

OTHER RECIPIENTS: Please distribute to association members, staff, etc.

On July 19, 2022, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) endorsed the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendation that the Novavax COVID-19 vaccine be used as a primary-series option for adults ages 18 years and older. Novavax, which will be available in the coming weeks, is the first protein subunit COVID-19 vaccine recommended for use in the U.S. Having multiple types of COVID-19 vaccines offers options and flexibility for providers and recipients. The Novavax COVID-19 vaccine's safety and effectiveness have been confirmed by clinical trials with thousands of individuals in the U.S.

For West Virginians who have been waiting for a COVID-19 vaccine built on a different technology than those previously available, now is the time to join the hundreds of thousands of West Virginians who have been vaccinated.

There are now four different COVID-19 vaccines authorized or approved for use in various age groups in the U.S. The West Virginia Bureau for Public Health recommends everyone ages 6 months and older get vaccinated against the virus that causes COVID-19, and everyone ages 5 years and older get boosted when eligible.

Novavax Dosage and Administration

- The Novavax COVID-19 vaccine for adults 18 years of age and older is supplied in a multiple dose vial as 5mcg SARS-CoV-2rS 50 mcg Matrix-M™ adjuvant and **requires no dilution.**
- The primary series of the Novavax COVID-19 vaccine is two doses (0.5 mL each) given 3 weeks apart.
- An 8-week interval may be used between dose 1 and 2 to potentially reduce the risk of myocarditis and/or pericarditis in young males.
- There is no Novavax COVID-19 vaccine booster dose authorized at this time.
- The [EUA fact sheet for providers](#) should be reviewed thoroughly before initiating Novavax COVID-19 vaccination in patients 18 years and older. The [EUA fact sheet for recipients and caregivers](#) must be provided to patients.

- There are limited data on the safety and efficacy of mixed primary series comprised of any combination of Moderna, Novavax, and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines, if a mixed primary series is inadvertently administered the series is complete and the doses do not need to be repeated. This is considered an error; and should be reported to the [Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System \(VAERS\)](#).
- Adverse events that occur in a recipient following COVID-19 vaccination should be reported to VAERS and reported concurrently to the West Virginia Poison Center by calling 1-800-222-1222.

On July 28, 2022, from 2:00PM – 3:00PM ET, the CDC will host a CDC Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA) webinar: Recommendations for the Novavax COVID-19 Primary Series in Adults Ages 18 and Older. During this [COCA Call](#), presenters will discuss CDC's new guidance on the Novavax COVID-19 vaccine for adults ages 18 years and older, including adults who are moderately or severely immunocompromised. For additional information on registration for this webinar/call please click [here](#).

Visit the [WV COVID-19 Vaccination Due Date Calculator](#), a free, online tool that helps people figure out when they may be due for a COVID-19 shot and what type(s) of COVID-19 shots they are eligible to receive, making it easier to stay up-to-date on COVID-19 vaccination.

For questions about this advisory, contact the Office of Epidemiology and Prevention Services (OEPS) at 1-800-423-1271, ext. 1; 304-558-5358, ext. 2; or the 24/7 answering service at 304-342-5151.