

December 31, 2021

COVID-19 Vaccine: Moderna for individuals aged ≥ 30 years

At this time there is a significant Pfizer/Comirnaty™ supply shortage that requires alternative strategies in order to vaccinate the most Manitobans possible.

For individuals aged 12 to ≤ 29 years, Pfizer/Comirnaty™ is preferentially recommended for all doses to maximize the benefits while minimizing the risks of myocarditis/pericarditis among adolescents/young adults. Adults aged ≥ 30 years did not experience the same increased risk of myocarditis/pericarditis regardless of which product they received.

As a result, your assistance is required to ensure there is sufficient Pfizer/Comirnaty™ for individuals aged 12 to ≤ 29 years.

Effective immediately, all immunizers need to provide the Moderna/Spikevax™ product to all eligible individuals aged ≥ 30 years for dose 1, dose 2, dose 3 (for immunocompromised clients) and booster doses, regardless of product previously received.

Pfizer/Comirnaty™ can only be given to individuals aged ≥ 30 years in the following circumstances:

- Contraindication to Moderna/Spikevax™.
- If following a discussion about the safety and efficacy of using either mRNA vaccine for adults, the client would otherwise decline vaccination if only Moderna/Spikevax™ were available.
- If there is no Moderna/Spikevax™ product available.

While we don't want to turn clients away, it is critical the initial active offer of the Moderna/Spikevax™ product occurs to help vaccinate as many Manitobans as possible.

It is expected that new Pfizer/Comirnaty™ shipments to your facility/clinic will be very low for the foreseeable future. When Pfizer/Comirnaty™ supply increases, an update will be sent.

Please share this information with all relevant colleagues in your facility/clinic.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Reimer', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Joss Reimer, MD FRCPC MPH
Medical Lead, Vaccine Implementation Task Force