



Comirnaty (3mcg) 6 months-4 years, maroon cap Vaccine Preparation

Preparation and administration of this vaccine should only be carried out by fully authorised, provisionally authorised or pharmacist vaccinators that have completed IMAC's Comirnaty 10mcg and 30mcg online courses. It is also recommended that they have watched the 'Everything you need to know about Comirnaty (3mcg) 6 months to 4 years' webinar. It should not be carried out by Vaccinating Health Workers or COVID-19 Vaccinators Working Under Supervision.

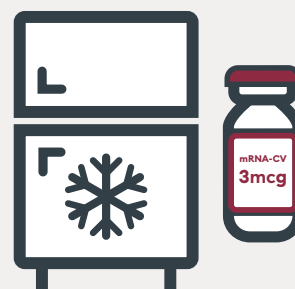
All usual infection prevention and stock management processes for preparing multidose vials should be followed.

Each multi-dose vial contains 10 doses of 0.2mL AFTER DILUTION

1. STORAGE

- Vaccine will be delivered to site thawed. Do not refreeze.
- Store vials in manufacturer's carton to ensure vials are not separated from their USE BY date (which is only printed on the carton) and to protect from light. Keep in a clearly labelled section of fridge, separated from other vaccines.
- When stock arrives check USE BY date on box and highlight for quick reference.
- Store unopened, undiluted vials at **+2°C to +8°C for up to 10 weeks**, which is the USE BY date printed on carton label.
- Comirnaty (3mcg) maroon cap vaccine comes as a concentrate and **REQUIRES DILUTION**.

Store at +2°C to +8°C for up to 10 weeks



2. PREPARE WORK AREA

Vaccine should be prepared in dedicated space away from any other vaccines and distractions. Two appropriately trained staff need to work together, completing and documenting second checks on dilution record

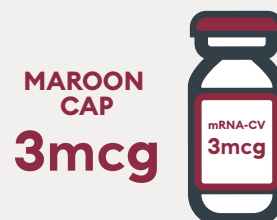
Have supplies to hand:

- 1mL LDS syringe
- 3mL syringe
- 21G (or smaller) 25mm needle for dilution
- 23-25G 16-25mm needles for giving
- Syringe labels (available from logistics)
- Dilution record (available from IMAC)
- Alcohol swabs, indelible pen, wipeable vaccine container, hand sanitiser, *Comirnaty 3mcg vaccine preparation* directions, sharps bin, clear workspace.
- Ensure surfaces and equipment are cleaned/sanitised. Perform hand hygiene.



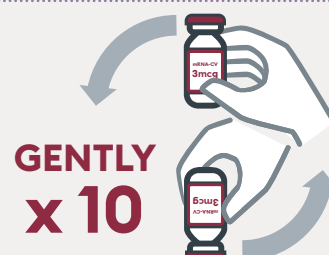
3. SELECT VACCINE FROM THE FRIDGE

- **Confirm correct vaccine selected: vials should have a plastic maroon cap on top of vial. Label will have maroon border and maroon writing "10 doses of 0.2ml".**
- Check vaccine is in date by confirming USE BY printed on carton.
- Add information to dilution record.
- **Second person checks correct vaccine selected and initials dilution record.**



4. PRIOR TO DILUTION

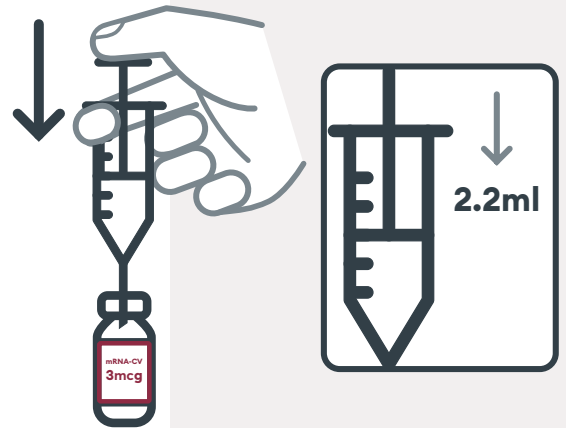
- Bring vial to room temperature (up to 30 mins). It should not feel cold to touch.
- Ensure maroon cap is intact.
- **Invert the vial gently 10 times. DO NOT SHAKE.**
- Inspect the vial. Prior to dilution, the thawed suspension may contain white to off-white opaque amorphous particles.



CONTINUED OVERLEAF ►

5. DILUTING THE VACCINE

- Remove maroon cap from top of vial.
- Cleanse stopper with alcohol swab and allow to dry.
- Use supplied diluent (0.9% sodium chloride). Record expiry date and batch number on dilution record.
- Using 3mL syringe with 21G 25mm non-LDS needle **withdraw 2.2mL saline. Second person to check this volume.**
- **Slowly add 2.2mL diluent into vial.**
- Prior to removing needle, **equalize vial by withdrawing 2.2mL air.**
- Discard needle and syringe into sharps bin.
- **Gently invert vial 10 times. DO NOT SHAKE.**
- Inspect the diluted vaccine. It should be a white to off-white suspension with no particulates visible. Do not use if particulates visible.



6. LABELLING VACCINE

DILUTED VACCINE STORED IN SYRINGE HAS 6 HOUR EXPIRY

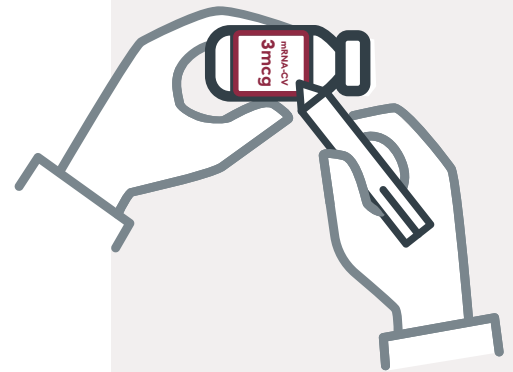
- If all 10 doses are to be withdrawn from the vial at once, then label each individual syringe with **USE BY (date/time) of 6 hours from time of dilution.**

DILUTED VACCINE STORED IN VIAL HAS 12 HOUR EXPIRY

- If withdrawing doses as needed from vial, write the **USE BY (date/time) on the vial which is 12 hours from time of dilution. You also need to label each syringe with USE BY date and time, (6 hours from draw up OR expiry time from vial, whichever is soonest).**

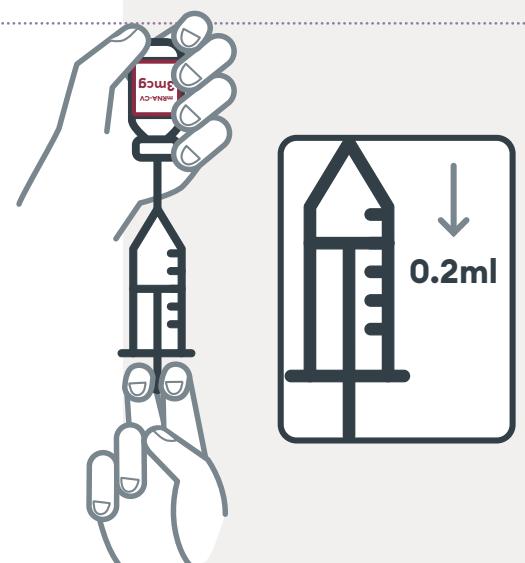
Diluted vaccine is more stable when stored in vial due to microbiological risk of storing vaccine in syringe.

- **Diluted vials and prepared syringes can be stored at 2°C to 30°C.** If refrigerated, allow the diluted suspension to come to room temperature before administration.
- **Vials and syringes need to be stored in a clearly defined area, separated from other vaccines.**
- All syringes must have labels attached to the needle guards. Labels available from logistics.



7. PREPARING EACH DOSE

- Cleanse stopper with alcohol swab and allow to dry.
- Each dose is drawn up using the needles they will be administered with. Prepare 1mL syringe and needle (either 16mm or 25mm needle depending on size of child) using standard infection control techniques.
- Withdraw 0.2mL vaccine from diluted vial.
- Carefully replace the needle guard and place into clean tray.
- Label each syringe with **USE BY of 6 hours from time dose was drawn up or USE BY of 12 hours from vial dilution, whichever occurs first.**
- Obtain a second check for each dose.
- If drawing up doses from a partially used diluted vial: double check it is the correct vaccine, check date and time of dilution have been written on the vial and is within limits.
- Use dilution template to record all steps in the preparation process.



Error prevention. In areas administering both maroon and orange cap vaccines; Prepare each vaccine separately, ensure independent second check of vaccine selection, dilution volumes, and prepared doses. Complete dilution records to ensure correct number of doses obtained. Every dose of vaccine must be labelled, and should be stored in a different coloured container. Always double check the age of the child is appropriate for the selected dose.

OUR MESSAGE IS DON'T DELAY - IF IN DOUBT CALL 0800 IMMUNE (466 863)