

# COVID-19 vaccine comparison



The Immunisation  
Advisory Centre

COVID-19  
EDUCATION

| VERSION 9                        | Comirnaty (3mcg)<br>6 months-4 years  | Comirnaty Paediatric (10mcg)<br>5-11 years   | Comirnaty (30mcg)<br>12+ years  | Comirnaty Bivalent (15/15mcg)<br>16+ Booster   |
|----------------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| Vial cap colour                  | Maroon  | Orange   | Grey  | Grey   |
| Technology                       | mRNA  | mRNA   | mRNA  | mRNA   |
| Eligibility                      | 6 months- 4 years with complex and/or multiple medical conditions, as described in the Starship guidelines for COVID-19 in children   | 5-11 years   | 12 years and over<br><i>Comirnaty is the preferred COVID-19 vaccine for use in NZ, reflecting its excellent safety and efficacy profile</i>   | Those eligible 16 years and over   |
| Primary Schedule                 | 3 doses. 21 days between 1st and 2nd dose, minimum 21 days between 2nd and 3rd dose.  | 2 doses administered 3-8 weeks apart   | 2 doses administered 3-8 weeks apart  | N/A booster only   |
| Severe immunocompromise          | N/A   | 3rd primary dose available 8 weeks after 2nd dose  | 3rd primary dose available 8 weeks after 2nd dose   | Not approved for use as a primary vaccine. Would require a prescription and written consent.   |
| Booster                          | N/A   | N/A  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not preferred vaccine for boosters</li> <li>Can be used at consumer's request</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>18 years and over – 1st booster 3-6 months after primary course</li> <li>16-17 years – 1st booster 6 months after primary course</li> <li>16 years and over – 2nd booster is recommended for those at increased risk of severe illness administered at least 6 months after 1st booster (see eligibility criteria)</li> </ul> |
| Who can administer               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prescribers</li> <li>Authorised/provisional vaccinators (after COVID-19 Vaccinator Education course and Paediatric COVID-19 Vaccinator Education course completed)</li> <li>Requirement to watch the Comirnaty (3mcg) maroon cap webinar</li> </ul> <p>Note: Provisional vaccinators can only vaccinate those 3 years and older.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prescribers</li> <li>Authorised/provisional vaccinators (after COVID-19 Vaccinator Education course and Paediatric COVID-19 Vaccinator Education course completed)</li> <li>Stage 2 Vaccinating Health Workers</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prescribers</li> <li>Authorised/provisional vaccinators (after COVID-19 Vaccinator Education course completed)</li> <li>COVID-19 Vaccinators Working Under Supervision and Vaccinating Health Workers</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prescribers</li> <li>Authorised/provisional vaccinators (after COVID-19 Vaccinator Education course)</li> <li>COVID-19 Vaccinators Working Under Supervision and Vaccinating Health Workers</li> </ul>  |
| Pregnancy                        | N/A   | N/A  | Safe to administer during any stage of pregnancy or conception  | Safe to administer during any stage of pregnancy or conception   |
| Breastfeeding                    | N/A   | N/A  | Yes   | Yes  |
| Written consent                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Verbal or written consent by legal guardian</li> <li>Written consent required for any dose outside of recommended schedule</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Written or verbal consent by legal guardian for 1st and 2nd dose</li> <li>Written consent required for 3rd primary dose and any dose outside of recommended schedule</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Written or verbal consent for 1st, 2nd or booster doses</li> <li>Written consent required for 3rd primary dose and any dose outside of recommended schedule</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Verbal or written consent for 1st or 2nd booster doses</li> <li>Written consent required for any dose outside of recommended booster schedule</li> </ul>  |
| Prescription required            | For any dose outside of recommended schedule  | For 3rd primary dose or any dose outside of recommended schedule   | For 3rd primary dose or any dose outside of recommended schedule  | For any dose outside of recommended booster schedule   |
| Appearance                       | Clear to off-white, particle free   | Clear to off-white, particle free  | Clear to off-white, particle free   | Clear to off-white, particle free  |
| Dilution                         | <b>Must dilute with 2.2mL sodium chloride 0.9% prior to use</b>   | <b>Must dilute with 1.3mL sodium chloride 0.9% prior to use</b>  | <b>No dilution required</b>   | <b>No dilution required</b>  |
| Doses per vial                   | 10 doses per vial   | 10-12 doses per vial (dependent on LDS equipment)  | 6 doses per vial (5 or 7 doses per vial acceptable dependent on LDS equipment)  | 6 doses per vial (5 or 7 doses per vial acceptable dependent on LDS equipment)   |
| Injection volume                 | 0.2mL   | 0.2 mL   | 0.3 mL  | 0.3mL  |
| Syringe/needle                   | 1ml LDS Syringe with 16mm or 25mm needle  | 1ml LDS Syringe with 16mm or 25mm needle   | 1mL syringe with 25-38mm, 21-25G standard or LDS needle   | 1mL syringe with 25-38mm, 21-25G standard or LDS needle  |
| Refrigerator (+2°C to +8°C)      | Undiluted 10 weeks.<br><b>Always follow use by date on box</b>  | Undiluted 10 weeks.<br><b>Always follow use by date on box</b>   | 10 weeks.<br><b>Always follow use by date on box</b>  | 10 weeks.<br><b>Always follow use by date on box</b>   |
| Room temperature (+2°C to +30°C) | Stable for 2 hours prior to adding diluent and 12 hours from adding diluent (6 hours in a syringe)  | Stable for 2 hours prior to adding diluent and 12 hours from adding diluent (6 hours in a syringe)   | Stable in vial for 12 hours from first puncture. (6 hours in a syringe)   | Stable for 12 hours from first puncture (6 hours in a syringe)   |

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