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# Routine and COVID-19 Immunization Guidance

Clinical considerations, strategies, and links for routine immunization practices in conjunction with COVID-19 vaccine administration



## Routine Immunization Planning and Considerations

**COVID-19 vaccines are currently available to patients under FDA Emergency Use Authorizations.<sup>1</sup> Additionally, every patient visit can be treated as a potential opportunity to administer routine vaccinations. Here are some things to consider:**

**1**

Prioritizing COVID-19 vaccinations is important, and it is equally important to prioritize routine immunization within the office and with patients. Ensuring that immunization services are maintained or reinitiated is essential for helping to protect individuals and communities from vaccine-preventable diseases.<sup>2</sup>

**2**

When planning routine immunizations for your patients, it is important to consider any administration restrictions and potential scheduling accommodations, such as those on the next page.

# Administration Restrictions and Scheduling Accommodations

## COVID-19 Vaccine Guidance

Stay up-to-date with COVID-19 vaccine recommendations by utilizing the following links:

- [ACIP Recommendations](#)
- [CDC Clinical Resources](#)

## Routine Immunization Planning and Considerations



Per CDC recommendations, COVID-19 vaccines and other vaccines may be administered **without regard to timing.**<sup>3</sup>



Each patient visit can be used as a potential **opportunity to administer additional immunizations**, such as influenza and pertussis vaccines to help reduce respiratory illnesses.<sup>2,4,5</sup>

- Utilize reminder and recall systems to identify patients who are due for or have missed vaccine doses, such as these:
  - [WellConnect®](#)
  - [Walk-Thru Communications](#)
  - [Drive-Thru Communications](#)
  - [Telehealth Scripts](#)
- Recall and immunize adolescent and adult patients for routine vaccinations now
  - For adolescents, don't wait for back-to-school
- Continue to implement strategies to separate well visits from sick visits with the following AAP guidance in mind:
  - [Guidance on Providing Pediatric Ambulatory Services via Telehealth During COVID-19](#)
- Reference existing immunization guidance at the following links:
  - [WHO: Guiding Principles for Immunization Activities During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
  - [CDC: Recommended Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule for Ages 18 Years or Younger, United States, 2021](#)
  - [CDC: Recommended Adult Immunization Schedule for Ages 19 Years or Older, United States, 2021](#)

**REFERENCES:** **1.** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Interim clinical considerations for use of mRNA COVID-19 vaccines currently authorized in the United States. Accessed February 19, 2021. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/clinical-considerations.html#background> **2.** CDC. Interim guidance for routine and influenza immunization services during the COVID-19 pandemic. Accessed February 19, 2021. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pandemic-guidance/index.html> **3.** CDC. Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines. Accessed May 17, 2021. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/clinical-considerations.html#Coadministration> **4.** CDC. Lung disease including asthma and adult vaccination. Accessed February 19, 2021. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/adults/rec-vac/health-conditions/lung-disease.html> **5.** CDC. Pertussis (whooping cough): prevention. Accessed February 19, 2021. <https://www.cdc.gov/pertussis/about/prevention/index.html>