



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**This is an official
MS Health Alert Network (HAN) Alert**

MESSAGE ID: MSHAN-20210512-00517-ALT (Health Alert)

RECIPIENTS: All Physicians, Hospitals, ERs, ICPs, NPs, and Healthcare Providers – Statewide

DATE: Wednesday, May 12, 2021

SUBJECT: Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices Recommends use of Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine in Adolescents Aged 12–15 Years

Dear Colleagues:

- Today the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted to recommend the use of Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for adolescents aged 12-15 years of age under the FDA's Emergency Use Authorization.
- The ACIP also revised guidance on the coadministration of routine vaccines with COVID-19 vaccine for all ages, removing the 14-day minimum interval for administration of any other vaccine before or after any COVID-19 vaccine.
- Pfizer was previously approved for use in individuals 16 years and older.
- Both Moderna and Johnson and Johnson COVID-19 Vaccines are still recommended only for individuals 18 years and older.
- In Mississippi, there have been more than 22,000 reported cases resulting in 62 hospitalizations, including 20 cases of MIS-C, in adolescents aged 12-17 years, highlighting the importance of vaccination in this age group.
- Please see the following updated FDA resources:
 - [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine EUA Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers Administering Vaccine \(Vaccination Providers\) \(fda.gov\)](#)
 - [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine EUA Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers \(fda.gov\)](#)
- If you are interested in providing COVID-19 vaccines through your facility, you must be enrolled as a COVID-19 vaccine provider. See the MSDH website at [COVID-19 Vaccination Providers - Mississippi State Department of Health \(ms.gov\)](#) for enrollment information.

Regards,

Paul Byers, MD
State Epidemiologist



Alerting Message Specification Settings

Originating Agency: Mississippi State Department of Health
Alerting Program: MS Health Alert Network (MS HAN)
Message Identifier: MSHAN-20210512-00517-ALT
Program (HAN) Type: Health Alert
Status (Type): Actual ()
Message Type: Alert
Reference: MSHAN-00517
Severity: Unknown
Acknowledgement: No
Sensitive: Not Sensitive
Message Expiration: Undetermined
Urgency: Undetermined
Delivery Time: 600 minutes

Definition of Alerting Vocabulary and Message Specification Settings

Originating Agency: A unique identifier for the agency originating the alert.

Alerting Program: The program sending the alert or engaging in alerts and communications using PHIN Communication and Alerting (PCA) as a vehicle for their delivery.

Message Identifier: A unique alert identifier that is generated upon alert activation (MSHAN-yyymmdd-hhmm-TTT (**ALT=Health Alert**, **ADV=Health Advisory**, **UPD=Health Update**, **MSG/INFO=Message/Info Service**)).

Program (HAN) Type: Categories of Health Alert Messages.

Health Alert: Conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

Health Advisory: Provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

Health Update: Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

Health Info Service: Provides Message / Notification of general public health information; unlikely to require immediate action.

Status (Type):

Actual: Communication or alert refers to a live event
Exercise: Designated recipients must respond to the communication or alert
Test: Communication or alert is related to a technical, system test and should be disregarded



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Message Type:

Alert: Indicates an original Alert
Update: Indicates prior alert has been Updated and/or superseded
Cancel: Indicates prior alert has been cancelled
Error: Indicates prior alert has been retracted

Reference: For a communication or alert with a Message Type of “Update” or “Cancel”, this attribute contains the unique Message Identifier of the original communication or alert being updated or cancelled. “n/a” = Not Applicable.

Severity:

Extreme: Extraordinary threat to life or property
Severe: Significant threat to life or property
Moderate: Possible threat to life or property
Minor: Minimal threat to life or property
Unknown: Unknown threat to life or property

Acknowledgement: Indicates whether an acknowledgement on the part of the recipient is required to confirm that the alert was received, and the timeframe in which a response is required (Yes or No).

Sensitive:

Sensitive: Indicates the alert contains sensitive content
Not Sensitive: Indicates non-sensitive content

Message Expiration: Undetermined.

Urgency: Undetermined. Responsive action should be taken immediately.

Delivery Time: Indicates the timeframe for delivery of the alert (15, 60, 1440, 4320 minutes (.25, 1, 24, 72 hours)).