



## 23 February 2022- Moderna 6-11yo Update | Important steps for Moderna 6-11yo | Vaccine Clinic Finder Update

Dear Service Provider,

This email provides information about a range of matters relevant to participating pharmacies in the COVID-19 Vaccination in Community Pharmacy Program (CVCP), as follows:

- Moderna for children aged 6 to 11 years old
- Important preparation steps for Moderna 6 to 11 years old
- Vaccine Clinic Finder Update.

### MODERNA FOR CHILDREN AGED 6 to 11 YEARS OLD

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has made [provisional approval](#) of the Spikevax (Moderna COVID-19) as a primary course vaccine for individuals aged between [6 to 11 years](#). The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) has considered the regulatory authority's advice.

ATAGI has released a [statement](#) recommending that **the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine can be used as a primary course of COVID-19 vaccination in children aged 6 to 11 years old.**

From 24 February 2022, participating pharmacies will be allowed to administer Moderna vaccines to 6 to 11 years old.

Importantly:

- The **same vaccine formulation** is used as for Moderna 12 years and older
- The Moderna **6 to 11 years dose** is **half** the dose used for the primary course for people 12 years and older
- The **same as the booster dose (50µg per dose; 0.25mL)** for adults.

Note:

- At this stage, ATAGI does **not recommend the use of mixed primary schedules** in this age group
- As outlined in the [CVCP Program Rules](#), you must **ensure that your jurisdictional regulations have been updated to allow Community Pharmacy to administer COVID-19 vaccines to this cohort**
- Pharmacies are able to register paediatric doses of a COVID-19 vaccine for children aged 6 to 11 years in the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) as per usual practice. **Please remember to check the AIR prior to administering any COVID-19 vaccines**

- **Booster doses are not yet recommended for this cohort** (those under the age of 18 years), as severe COVID-19 is uncommon in this age group and the primary course of COVID-19 vaccines generate a strong immune response, so the benefit from additional doses of vaccine is likely to be small.

Moderna is **not recommended for anyone under the age of 6 years of age. *The Pfizer 5-11 (orange cap) vaccine continues to be the only COVID-19 vaccine approved for children who are 5 years of age.***

## IMPORTANT PREPARATION STEPS FOR MODERNA 6 TO 11 YEARS OLD

Pharmacies are to complete Moderna Online Training (once available), Site Declarations and the new Consent Forms.

### Training

- A new specific Moderna training module for children aged 6 to 11 years old is currently in development
- The training will be available in the coming weeks. Further information will be provided by the Taskforce shortly
- Pharmacies interested in administering Moderna to this cohort are recommended to review the ATAGI advice carefully and the TGA's product information prior to administering Moderna to this cohort
- **Pharmacies must complete the specific training module for Moderna for children aged 6 to 11 years old once it is available**
- The COVID-19 Vaccination Training Program is regularly updated with information from Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) and the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), and all vaccine providers are required to remain up to date on clinical best practice and emerging research.

### Site declarations

Pharmacies will be required to complete the updated Moderna Site Readiness Declaration in CVAS.

### Consent Forms

A [new consent](#) form has been published for administering the Moderna vaccine to children aged 6 to 11 years old.

## VACCINE CLINIC FINDER UPDATE

The Vaccine Clinic Finder (VCF) and VCF Connect are being updated to support access to Moderna for **6 to 11 year** old's.

- The VCF will be updated to reflect the availability of Moderna vaccine for 6 to 11 year olds
- VCF Connect will soon allow vaccination providers to add children's Moderna as a new service type, and manage appointment availability for both Moderna 6 to 11 and Moderna 12+ vaccinations
- Another VCF update will then surface providers' appointment availability for different Moderna vaccination appointments - for the 6 to 11 year age group, and for the 12+ age group. This will help providers manage their appointment schedules, and help parents and carers of children to easily find and book suitable appointments.

Important news across all COVID vaccines:

- Pharmacies can use VCF Connect to self-manage details on their vaccination services in VCF, including information about extended appointment times for paediatric vaccinations
- Participating pharmacies have now been on-boarded with VCF Connect
- Please check your registration email for instructions on how to register and update your services - this will come from [CV19.Products@health.gov.au](mailto:CV19.Products@health.gov.au)
- **From 2 March 2022, vaccination providers will be able to create the new vaccine service type in the VCF Connect.** In addition, VCF Connect can be used to update whether your clinic is wheelchair accessible and reflect your opening hours.

If you have further questions, please contact [CV19.Products@health.gov.au](mailto:CV19.Products@health.gov.au) or 1800 316 375.

Kind regards,

Pharmacy Programs Administrator