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Use of Moderna COVID-19 vaccine for booster vaccinations in CPs, VCs and HHs

1A Use of Moderna Assurance and Booster Guidelines by CPs

Any site which receives confirmation from their regional team that they will be supplied the Moderna vaccine for use as a booster should follow the guidance below to ensure that they are adequately prepared for rapid, safe and effective deployment.

The first date that sites will be able to record the administration of a Moderna booster dose is 15 October 2021, subject to completion of the Moderna self-assessment checklist below. Regional Teams may request confirmation that this has been completed and so the checklist must be retained and provided to Regional Teams as requested.

Section 12 of the Community pharmacy Local Enhanced Service Specification – phase 3 coronavirus vaccination (the LES) requires that sites are able to use any phase 3 booster vaccination. This checklist will ensure that you are able to demonstrate that the site is compliant with this aspect of the LES in respect of the Moderna vaccine.

1B – Use of Moderna Assurance and Booster Guidelines by VCs

The first date that sites will be able to record the administration of a Moderna booster dose is 15 October 2021, subject to completion of the Moderna assurance process, the details of which have been communicated previously (where needed) and can be found using this [link](#).

For new VC sites going through the assurance process prior to becoming active, Moderna assurance should be part of that assurance process and therefore the guidance regarding preparation for boosters will become applicable once that process is complete.

Those sites who do not currently use Moderna will be informed by their regions if they will need to begin to do so and will be given instructions as to how to prepare to do so.

Any site currently assured for Moderna which receives confirmation from their regional team that they will be supplied the Moderna vaccine for use as a booster should follow the guidance below to ensure that they are adequately prepared for rapid, safe and effective deployment.

This guidance is produced in addition to instructions on assuring the use of Moderna previously provided to sites and does not supersede those instructions.

1C – Use of Moderna Assurance and Booster Guidelines by HHs

The first date that sites will be able to record the administration of a Moderna booster dose is 15 October 2021, subject to completion of a Moderna assurance process which we will communicate separately.

Any site which receives confirmation from their regional team that they will be supplied the Moderna vaccine will need to follow the assurance process as instructed at the time, after which they should follow the guidance below to ensure that they are adequately prepared for rapid, safe and effective deployment.

2. Guidance

Please note that an updated Patient Group Direction for Spikevax (formerly COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna) [is now available here](#), alongside the [updated National Protocol here](#).

Moderna booster doses should be separated in different cubicles to Moderna primary course doses. Guidance on boosters from JCVI outlines the appropriate doses for Moderna¹.

Information about the Moderna vaccine characteristics can be found in [Chapter 14a in the Green Book](#) and the [Summary of Product Characteristics for COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna \(SmPC\)](#).

The Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) has prepared [information relating to the use of COVID-19 vaccines](#). This includes advice on how to reduce the risk of errors where multiple vaccine types are available. It is possible to use more than one vaccine on a site where the safe principles for practice are implemented and risk of errors have been considered and mitigated. Due to the risk associated with different dosing, the storage, preparation and administration of Moderna booster doses should be separated in different cubicles to Moderna primary course doses. Primary courses include the third dose for immunosuppressed patients.

3. Staff training

Staff already trained and signed off as competent in using Moderna:

- Would not need to re complete the Moderna e-learning module, but should read the updated Green Book chapter 14a and updated Moderna PGD/protocol.
- If already trained/competent in drawing-up COVID vaccines, drawing up a half dose would be a minor variation in practice. Non-registrants should receive a

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/jcvi-statement-september-2021-covid-19-booster-vaccine-programme-for-winter-2021-to-2022/jcvi-statement-regarding-a-covid-19-booster-vaccine-programme-for-winter-2021-to-2022>

brief update (e.g. see-1-do-1) and be signed off as competent. RHCPs may complete a self-assessment of competency.

- If not yet trained/competent in drawing-up COVID vaccines, and due to undertake this task, staff would need to undertake training and competency assessment in accordance with the [training specification for diluting and drawing-up vaccines](#).

Staff not yet trained and signed off as competent in using Moderna:

- Should complete the Moderna e-learning module (30mins), read the Green Book chapter 14a and Moderna PGD/protocol.
- If already trained/competent in drawing-up COVID vaccines, drawing up a half dose would be a minor variation in practice. Non-registrants should receive a brief update (e.g. see-1-do-1) and be signed off as competent. RHCPs may complete a self-assessment of competency.
- If not yet trained/competent in drawing-up COVID vaccines, and due to undertake this task, staff would need to undertake training and competency assessment in accordance with the [training specification for diluting and drawing-up vaccines](#).

Staff will also need to sign up to the new PGD, if appropriate, now that it has been published.

4. Ordering vaccine supply

Sites can order Moderna boosters in the same way that Pfizer is ordered currently, through the Supply Planner and Ordering Platform tools in Foundry. Supply plans are currently open for Moderna, with deliveries of booster Moderna available from Wednesday 13 October at the earliest.

Sites should be aware that:

- Quantities on the tool will be measured in doses to be administered or 'vaccination events'.
- The tool will take sites' inputs in either their Phase 2 or Phase 3 supply plans and translate that into the correct number of boxes of Moderna required at each site.
- Minimum order quantities for Moderna will be 1 pack of 10 vials. For boosters, this will therefore be 200 doses, while for first / second doses this will remain at 100 doses.
- It may not always be possible to draw a full 20 booster doses from a Moderna vial, depending on the technique used. As such, we recommend sites consider that they may need to receive up to 10% more vaccine when estimating the number of booster doses required initially.
- Sites are reminded that for children under 18 the recommended vaccine is Pfizer BioNTech; Moderna should not be used in this cohort.

5. Vaccine deliveries

Your regional team will work with you to determine an appropriate volume of vaccine that can safely be administered by your site. If there are any exceptional circumstances in which you require further support or you are concerned that you will

not be able to take delivery of your vaccine as set out, please speak to your regional team as soon as possible.

10. Accurate records

To assist with accurate allocations, payment, and to reduce the risk of clinical errors, it is important that all vaccine events are recorded in the Point of Care system on the day of vaccination. The point of care system will be able to record Moderna booster doses from 15 October.

Appendix A – Moderna Readiness Self-Assessment Checklist

Moderna readiness checklist To be completed where an additional vaccine brand is being introduced into a vaccination site.	Comments	Assured (Yes / No)
Have sites reviewed and implemented the SPS guidance on handling multiple vaccines including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead Pharmacist oversight into the process • Clear separation of vaccine sessions by either time (separate sessions) or space (separate area) and a plan to reduce risk of errors and the wrong vaccine being administered. • Safety huddles, vaccine posters, different colour trays and stickers for different vaccines and extra marshals to support better queue management and ensuring patients don't re-enter the wrong queue. • Good front end triage and site level planning is required to manage the complexity of patient cohorts and ensuring vaccines are separated so the correct vaccine and correct dose is given. Patient flow should be tested, and a risk assessment completed, and mitigations put in place and signed off by the clinical lead. 		
Have staff: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • completed the relevant e-learning and training • read the updated chapter of the Green Book • been alerted to the importance of accurately recording the relevant dose of vaccine? 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are non-registered vaccinators competent in drawing up a half dose of Moderna? 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there adequate space in the fridge to allow separation of each vaccine, eg are different vaccines physically segregated during storage, from receipt to administration? 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are the approved policies in place to support the receipt (including when frozen if applicable), storage, preparation, and administration of the vaccine? 		
This includes good cold chain management for each vaccine being administered.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there a legal mechanism for supply and administration of the vaccine, eg the national protocol, PGD or is a patient specific direction in place? 		

Name (Contractor)..... Date

Name (NHS England & NHS Improvement Regional Team) Date