

NEW MEXICO HEALTH ALERT NETWORK (HAN) ALERT **2026-2027 COVID-19 Vaccine Guidance**

09/01/2026

Background:

On August 27, 2026, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved updated COVID-19 vaccines for the 2026–2027 respiratory viral season. Given variations in COVID-19 vaccine recommendations and schedules, the New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH) is issuing evidence-based recommendations to support clinical decision making and public health planning for the upcoming season.

This [guidance](#) is intended to assist healthcare providers in identifying populations for whom COVID-19 vaccination is currently advised. In general, given the constrained healthcare resources in the state, NMDOH recommends broad access to the COVID-19 vaccine.

This guidance document is based on review of guidance released by other medical professional organizations and the [Vaccine Integrity Project](#) Evidence Review. Where no new evidence review exists, NMDOH relied on ACIP and ACP guidance from the 2025-2026 season. NMDOH will review and revise this guidance as necessary following the release of new evidence or evidence-based recommendations from medical professional organizations.

This document outlines population-based recommendations for COVID-19 vaccination but does not include specific product, formulation, or dosing guidance.

Recommendations for Clinicians:

1. COVID-19 vaccine should be offered to all persons aged 65 years and older. A second dose may be offered 6 months after the first (minimum interval: 2 months).
2. COVID-19 vaccine should be offered to all persons aged 6 months to 24 months.
3. COVID-19 vaccine should be offered to all persons aged 2 - 64 years at high risk of serious adverse outcomes from COVID-19 infection, and to caregivers or individuals cohabitating with individuals at high risk of serious health outcomes.
4. COVID-19 vaccine should be offered to all pregnant, recently pregnant, and lactating individuals.
5. COVID-19 vaccine should be offered to all persons living in long-term care or congregate settings.
6. COVID-19 vaccine should be offered to all healthcare personnel across all settings.
7. COVID-19 vaccine may be offered to all healthy individuals ages 2 through 64 years who desire protection from COVID-19.
8. Additional doses of COVID-19 vaccine may be offered at the discretion of the healthcare provider to all persons with immune compromise, based on the individual's clinical circumstances.
9. Persons with immune-compromise or underlying conditions may self-attest to their moderately or severely immunocompromised status or high-risk condition and receive COVID-19 vaccine. Vaccinators should not deny COVID-19 vaccination to a person due to lack of documentation.

Additional Resources:

The following COVID-19 vaccines have been approved for use by the FDA for the 2026-2027 viral respiratory illness season. Additional guidance and recommendations for specific populations and the NMDOH standing orders can be found in the [NMDOH 2026-2027 COVID-19 Vaccination Guidance](#) posted at nmhealth.org.

1. [Pfizer's COMIRNATY](#) is approved for:
 - adults ages 65 years and older
 - people ages 5 through 64 years who have at least one condition that puts them at high risk for severe outcomes from COVID-19
 2. [Moderna's SPIKEVAX](#) is approved for:
 - adults ages 65 years and older
 - people ages 6 months through 64 years who have at least one condition that puts them at high risk for severe outcomes from COVID-19
 3. [Moderna's MNEXSPIKE](#) is approved for:
 - adults 65 years and older
 - people ages 12 through 64 years who have at least one condition that puts them at high risk for severe outcomes from COVID-19
 4. [Novavax's NUVAXOVID](#) is approved for:
 - adults 65 years and older
 - people ages 12 through 64 years who have at least one condition that puts them at high risk for severe outcomes from COVID-19
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