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To: Maine COVID-19 Vaccine Providers
From: Maine Immunization Program
Subject: Coadministration of Influenza and COVID-19 Vaccines
Date: September 16, 2021

[The U.S. CDC and the Advisory Committee on Immunizations Practices recommend](#) that if a patient is eligible, both the flu and COVID-19 vaccines can be administered at the same visit. In addition to flu vaccine, the COVID-19 vaccine can be given with other vaccines as well. Even though both vaccines can be given at the same visit, people should follow the recommended schedule for either vaccine.

Previously, CDC guidance recommended healthcare professionals administer COVID-19 vaccine alone. This recommendation was out of an abundance of caution during a period when these vaccines were new and not based on known safety or immunogenicity concerns. However, substantial data have now been collected regarding the safety of COVID-19 vaccines currently approved or authorized by FDA.

Giving all vaccines for which a person is eligible at the same visit is considered best practice as it increases the probability people will be up-to-date on recommended vaccines. It also is an important part of immunization practice, especially if a health care provider is uncertain that a patient will return for additional doses of vaccine.

Key points to remember when administering COVID-19 and flu vaccines during the same clinical visit:

- When preparing more than one vaccine, label each with the name and dosage (amount) of vaccine, lot number, the initials of the preparer, and the exact beyond-use time, if applicable.
- Always inject vaccines into different injection sites. Separate injection sites by 1 inch or more, if possible so that any local reactions can be differentiated. Each muscle (deltoid, vastus lateralis) has multiple injection sites ([Vaccine Administration Route and Site](#)).
- Inject vaccines rapidly without aspiration since aspiration is not recommended before administering a vaccine.

There are many existing resources on administration and co-administration of vaccines for healthcare providers, including:

- [PinkBook Vaccine Administration](#)
- [You Call the Shots: Vaccinating Adolescents](#)
- [Vaccine Administration Training Module](#)
- [Vaccine Administration: Needle Gauge and Length](#)
- [Vaccine Administration: Intramuscular \(IM\) Injection Children 7 through 18 years of age](#) and [Vaccine Administration: Intramuscular \(IM\) Injection Adults 19 years of age and older](#)
- [Intramuscular \(IM\) Injection: Sites - YouTube](#)
- [Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine \(LAIV\) - YouTube](#)
- [ACIP Backs Flu and COVID Vaccine Co-Administration | MedPage Today](#)
- [Simultaneous administration of childhood vaccines: an important public health policy that is safe and efficacious](#)