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To: Maine Immunization Program
From: Maine Immunization Providers
Subject: COVID-19 Vaccine Emergency Use Instructions (EUI) Information and Resources
Date: November 18, 2021

On Wednesday, November 17, 2021 the U.S. CDC issued Emergency Use Instructions (EUI) and updated its [clinical considerations](#) to allow the COVID-19 vaccine by Pfizer-BioNTech to be given as an additional primary dose or booster dose to certain people who completed a vaccine primary series with certain COVID-19 vaccines that are not authorized or approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. This ensures that eligible people who were vaccinated outside of the U.S. with these vaccines, or who received certain non-FDA authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccines through participation in some clinical trials, can get an additional primary dose or booster dose of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine.

The new guidance mirrors CDC's recommendations about who is eligible to receive [boosters](#) and [additional primary doses](#), allowing an additional primary dose of the COVID-19 vaccine by Pfizer-BioNTech in certain immunocompromised persons aged 12 years and older, and/or a single booster dose of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine in certain adults 18 years and older who completed their primary vaccination with a non-FDA authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccines.

Although COVID-19 vaccines continue to work well to prevent severe illness, hospitalization, and death, including against the widely circulating Delta variant, we are starting to see reduced protection, especially among certain populations, against mild and moderate disease. It's important to note that this update only applies to a very small number of people. However, with cases of COVID-19 still high across the U.S. and globally, this update helps to ensure these individuals are better protected from the serious consequences of COVID-19.

Below is a list of resources and upcoming informational activities related to the recommendation:

- [EUI Healthcare Provider Fact Sheet and EUI Recipient/Caregiver Fact Sheet](#)
- Updated [Clinical Considerations](#)

Thank you for everything that you have done and are continuing to do to ensure everyone has access to COVID-19 vaccines.