Dentists, as trusted health care providers, have an opportunity to serve as a resource for evidence-based information, helping to educate colleagues and the public about the COVID-19 vaccination. Answering questions, helping to allay concerns, and providing up-to-date guidance based on available data will enable individuals to make informed decisions regarding the COVID-19 vaccination and bring us closer to putting an end to the current pandemic.

**Status of COVID-19 vaccines in the U.S.**
- Only a vaccine with Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) or approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) can be administered in the U.S.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vaccine</th>
<th>Initial EUA (adults)</th>
<th>Second EUA (adolescents)</th>
<th>FDA Approval</th>
<th>Second/Third Dose EUA*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pfizer-BioNTech</td>
<td>December 11, 2020 (≥16 years of age)</td>
<td>May 10, 2021 (12 – 15 years of age)</td>
<td>August 23, 2021 (name: Comirnaty) (16 years of age or older)</td>
<td>September 22, 2021 (immunocompromised or age ≥ 65; individuals at high risk of serious disease)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderna</td>
<td>December 18, 2020 (≥18 years of age)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>October 20, 2021 (immunocompromised or age ≥ 65; individuals at high risk of serious disease)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janssen (J&amp;J)</td>
<td>February 27, 2021 (≥18 years of age)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>October 20, 2021 (second dose) (≥ 18 years of age)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*After completion of primary vaccination (2 doses for Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna; single dose of Janssen), additional dose can be any COVID-19 vaccine with FDA EUA or approval.

**Safety of the COVID-19 vaccines**
- Data on safety of the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines is very good though the fatigue, fever, headache, and achiness that some people will experience might be sufficient to miss a day of work.
- Safety data on the Janssen vaccine is also very good; the proportion of people experiencing fatigue, fever, headache, and achiness is less than those receiving either the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccines. A safety concern regarding a rare clotting disorder, not seen by either the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccine had been reported. After consideration of both the vaccine and COVID-19 infection, the benefits of this vaccine were seen to outweigh the risks.
- The safety profiles for all three vaccines are similar across age groups, genders, ethnic and racial groups, as well as those with or without medical co-morbidities.
- People who have previously had an anaphylactic reaction to any vaccine or any component of the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccines should not receive these vaccinations. The standing order for the vaccine...
indicates that those who have experienced a severe allergic reaction to any foods or other medications should be under medical observation for 30 minutes after vaccination.

The ADA will continue to monitor developments related to COVID-19 vaccine authorizations and administration on behalf of the profession and public. Please visit ADA.org/virus for information for dental professionals and MouthHealthy.org for information for patients.

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