







Guide to COVID-19 Vaccination Schedules



APhA COVID-19 RESOURCES:
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This resource summarizes key information about COVID-19 vaccination schedules. Reference CDC's [Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines](#) for detailed information and recommendations.

Table 1: FDA-authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccine options

Vaccine Product	Age Requirement	Vial Cap Color	Dilution Requirement	Primary Series	Booster Dose
Pfizer-BioNTech	≥ 12 years		1.8 mL 0.9% NaCl Inj.	0.3 mL (30 mcg)	
Pfizer-BioNTech	≥ 12 years		Do NOT dilute	0.3 mL (30 mcg)	
Pfizer-BioNTech	5–11 years		1.3 mL 0.9% NaCl Inj.	0.2 mL (10 mcg)	0.2 mL (10 mcg)
Moderna	≥ 18 years		Do NOT dilute	0.5 mL (100 mcg)	0.25 mL (50 mcg)
Moderna	≥ 18 years		Do NOT dilute	N/A	0.5 mL (50 mcg)
Janssen (J&J)	≥ 18 years		Do NOT dilute	0.5 mL (5x10 ¹⁰ viral particles)	0.5 mL (5x10 ¹⁰ viral particles)



COVID-19 vaccination schedules: key concepts

The following diagrams summarize the current COVID-19 vaccination schedules based on age (diagram 1) and based on age for people who are [moderately or severely immunocompromised](#) (diagram 2). When using the diagrams below, reference table 1 (above) for the appropriate dose based on the product and the indication (primary, additional, or booster dose).

1. All time intervals listed in the diagram below indicate the **minimum time interval between doses**.
 - a. Be aware that on a case-by-case basis, CDC guidance allows providers who care for moderately or severely immunocompromised patients (diagram 2) to administer mRNA COVID-19 vaccines based on clinical judgment, outside FDA and CDC dosing intervals.
2. The **Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine** supplied in a vial with an orange cap is authorized for use only in children ages 5–11 years. It is **NOT interchangeable** with Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine for people ages 12 years and older (supplied in vials with a purple cap or a gray cap).
3. Either **Moderna COVID-19 vaccine** supplied in a vial with a red cap (0.25 mL injection volume) or Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine supplied in a vial with a blue cap (0.5 mL injection volume) can be used to administer a 50 µg booster dose.
4. **Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines are preferentially recommended in most situations compared to Janssen (J&J) COVID-19 vaccine**, the Janssen (J&J) vaccine may be considered in some situations.
5. A 3-dose mRNA vaccine primary series is recommended for people ages 5 years and older who are moderately or severely immunocompromised at the time of vaccination. The same mRNA vaccine product should be used for all doses of the primary series, if available.
6. An 8-week interval in the primary series **may** be optimal for some people ages 5 years and older, and especially for males ages 12 through 39 years, who are not moderately or severely immunocompromised, and for whom there is not increased concern about community transmission or severe disease.
7. Individuals aged ≥ 18 years **may** choose which vaccine they receive as a booster dose. Some individuals may prefer the vaccine type that they originally received (homologous booster), and others may prefer to get a different booster (heterologous booster). CDC's recommendations allow for this type of mix-and-match dosing for booster shots.

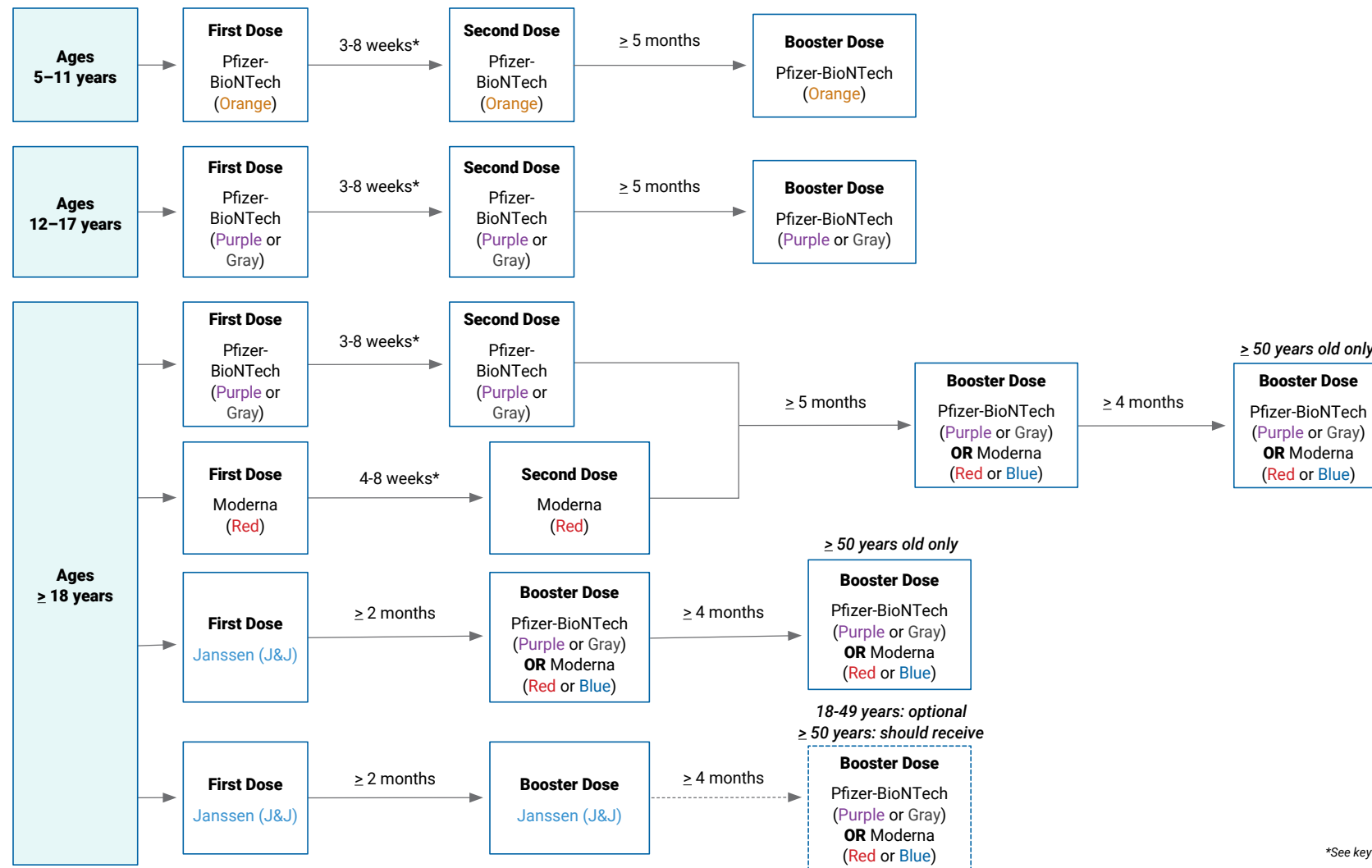
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Diagram 1: COVID-19 vaccination schedule by age (for people who are NOT moderately or severely immunocompromised)

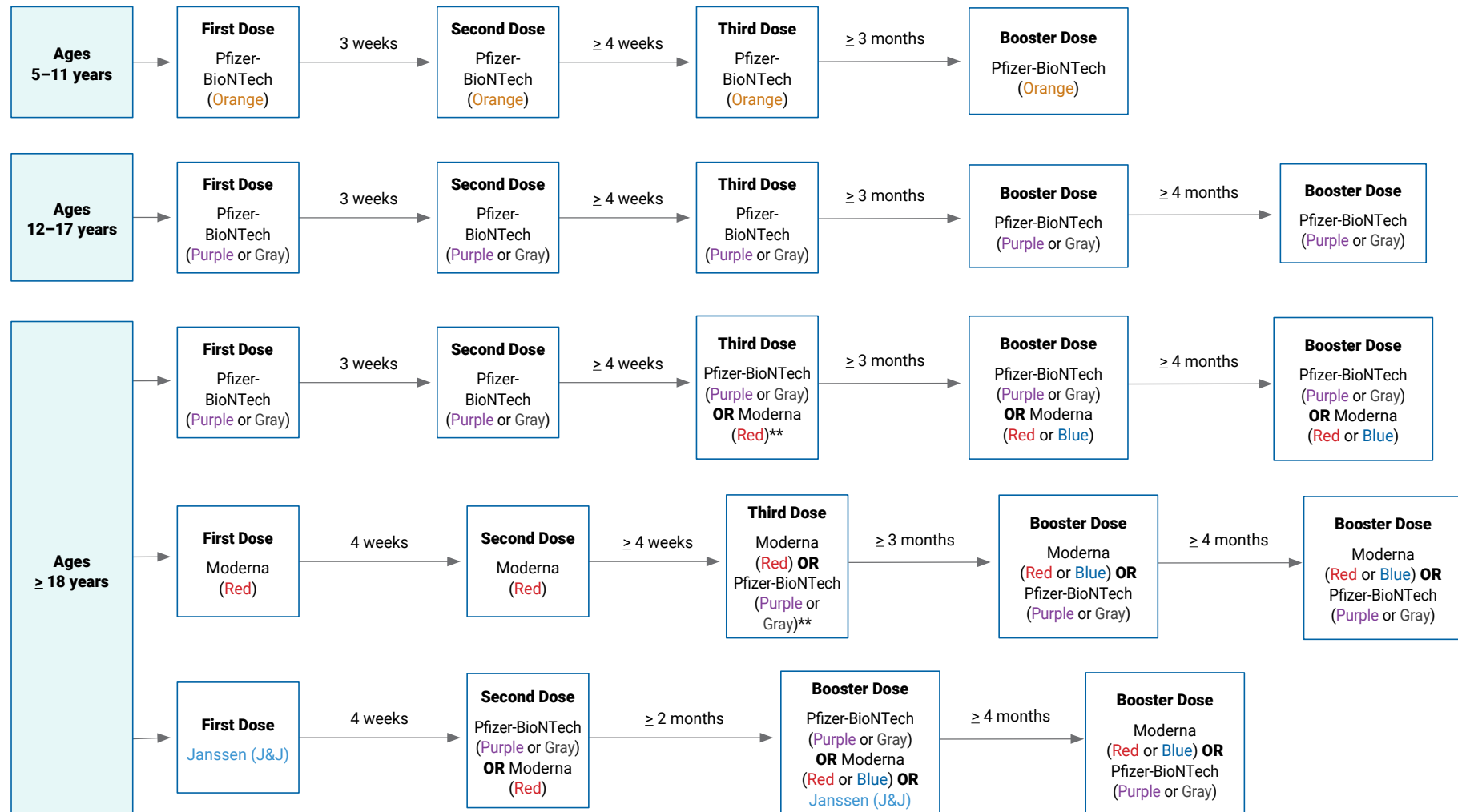


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Diagram 2: COVID-19 vaccination schedule for people who are moderately or severely immunocompromised



**See key concept 5 for more information.

