



SARS-CoV-2 Bivalent Vaccination in Pregnancy

Posted 9-22-22

The Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine (SMFM) COVID-19 Task Force

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve, vaccination remains a critical component of protecting people from moderate and severe disease. Given waning immunity and the dominance of the SARS-CoV-2 Omicron variant, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) currently recommend that people aged 12 years and older receive an updated Pfizer or Moderna bivalent booster with an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine at least two months after completion of the primary series (for people who have not received any booster), or at least two months after the last monovalent booster dose.

SMFM endorses current CDC recommendations with particular emphasis that all pregnant, recently pregnant, or lactating people receive a bivalent booster, to mitigate increased risk of adverse maternal, fetal, and obstetric outcomes of COVID-19 disease. Additionally, the bivalent booster should be given at any point in pregnancy.

This CDC tool (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html>) can inform the timing of eligibility for the bivalent booster. Frequently encountered scenarios about bivalent booster eligibility are described below:

- Prior SARS-CoV-2 infection is not a contraindication to bivalent boosters. Individuals with current infection should wait until after completion of the isolation period (5 to 7 days) or until they have had a negative viral test to receive their bivalent booster.
- Receipt of monoclonal antibodies is not a contraindication to the bivalent vaccine. Individuals who received tixagevimab/cilgavimab (Evusheld) for pre-exposure prophylaxis should defer receipt of the bivalent booster by at least two weeks.
- Receipt of nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid) is not a contraindication to the bivalent booster vaccine.
- Tdap, seasonal influenza, and the bivalent booster vaccine may be co-administered safely in different limbs.

SMFM continues to recommend that all unvaccinated individuals who are considering pregnancy, pregnant, recently pregnant, or lactating receive vaccination against COVID-19.

Please visit the [CDC COVID-19 vaccination webpage](#) for details on vaccine recommendations.