



May 12, 2021

Subject: Standing Order for Procedures on Administering Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine

Purpose

To reduce morbidity and mortality from influenza by vaccinating all persons who meet the criteria established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.

Nebraska DHHS, Division of Public Health, Dr. Gary Anthonie, MD, has issued a standing order to further facilitate the availability of Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine (in accordance with relevant state statutes). Expanding the availability of Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine will increase the likelihood that it will be administered in a timely manner, and further protect Nebraskans from spread of disease. Details specific to the COVID-19 Standing Order are included below. If you have questions about the COVID-19 Standing Order, please contact DHHS Immunization Program at 402-471-6426.

Procedure


During the COVID-19 pandemic, additional infection control procedures should be followed.

1. Assess Individuals for Need of Vaccination against COVID-19
 - All persons aged 12 years and older are recommended to receive COVID-19 vaccination.
2. Screen for Contraindications and Precautions
 - Do not administer Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine to individuals with known history of a severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) to any component of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine.
 - Precautions for use of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine include ensuring medical treatment to manage immediate allergic reactions be immediately available and recognizing that immunocompromised persons may have a diminished immune response to the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine.
3. Provide EUA Fact Sheet
 - Provide all patients with a copy of the most current Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) Fact Sheet. Provide non-English speaking patients with a copy of the EUA Fact Sheet in their native language, if one is available and desired.
4. Administer 0.3 mL of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine IM in deltoid to persons aged 12 years and older. Use appropriate gauge and size needle to administer. See: <https://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p3085.pdf>

5. Document each person's vaccine administration information and follow up in the following places:
 - Medical record: Record the date the vaccine was administered, the manufacturer and lot number, the vaccination site and route, and the name and address and, if appropriate, the title of the person administering the vaccine. You must also document, in the patient's medical record or office log, the publication date of the EUA fact sheet and the date it was given to the patient. Note that medical records/charts should be documented and retained in accordance with applicable state laws and regulations. If vaccine was not administered, record the reason (s) for non-receipt of the vaccine (e.g., medical contraindication, patient refusal); discuss the need for vaccine with the patient (or, in the case of a minor, their parent or legal representative) at the next visit.
 - Personal immunization record card: Record the date of vaccination and the name/location of the administering clinic.
 - Immunization Information System (IIS) or "registry": Report the vaccination to the NE State Immunization Information System.
6. Be Prepared to Manage Medical Emergencies
Be prepared for management of a medical emergency related to the administration of vaccine by having a written emergency medical protocol available, as well as equipment and medications. To prevent syncope, vaccinate patients while they are seated or lying down and consider observing them for 15 minutes after receipt of the vaccine.
7. Report All Adverse Events to VAERS
Report all adverse events following the administration of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine to the federal Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS). To submit a VAERS report online (preferred) or to download a writable PDF form, go to <https://vaers.hhs.gov/reportevent.html>. Further assistance is available at (800) 822-7967.
8. Administer second dose 21 days later with the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine.

Effective Period for this Order:

This standing order will expire September 30, 2021



Gary Anthone, MD
NPI # 1528079514
301 Centennial Mall South
Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services
Lincoln, NE 68509

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