THE S.T.E.P.S. to Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccination

Your guide to proper storage, handling, and administration for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine

Content as of April 1, 2021. For the most up-to-date information, visit www.cvdvaccine-us.com.

S T O R E

1. Store Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine under recommended conditions at the following temperature range: 2°C to 8°C (35°F to 46°F)

2. Do not open vial trays until you are ready to thaw the vials

3. Immediately store thawingophysically in an area at room temperature (22°C to 24°C [72°F to 75°F])

4. If the vials are thawed, then:
   4.1. Thawed vials can be stored in the refrigerator for up to 120 hours (5 days) following the exposure. Thawed vials cannot be frozen.
   4.2. Thawed vials can be stored at room temperature (22°C to 24°C [72°F to 75°F]) for up to 6 hours (1 minute, 1 minute, 1 minute, 1 minute, 1 minute, and 1 minute) following the exposure.
   4.3. Once an individual vial is removed from a vial tray at room temperature, it should not be placed back into the vial tray or refrigerator.

T A L L O W D O S E S A N D T H A W

1. Slowly add. Slow the number of doses allowed for the information session using a system that works for your staff.

2. Remove the number of daily dilute vials you need from room temperature. (See container label for time after dilution)

3. Thaw the vials of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine before use in accordance with the following conditions:

   a. The vials should be thawed in the refrigerator (2°C to 8°C [35°F to 46°F])
   b. The vials should be thawed in the refrigerator (2°C to 8°C [35°F to 46°F]) for less than 1 minute, 1 minute, 1 minute, 1 minute, 1 minute, and 1 minute and then be exposed to room temperature (22°C to 24°C [72°F to 75°F]) for up to 1 minute, 1 minute, 1 minute, 1 minute, 1 minute, and 1 minute
   c. Thawed vials can be stored at room temperature (22°C to 24°C [72°F to 75°F]) for up to 6 hours (1 minute, 1 minute, 1 minute, 1 minute, 1 minute, and 1 minute) following the exposure.

4. Do not use bacteriostatic 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection or any other diluent.

5. Before administration of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, please see Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers Administering Vaccine Reporting to VAERS call 1-800-822-7967. The reports should include the words “Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccination.”

E Q U I L I B R A T E D A N D D I L U T E M O L E C U L A R D O S E V I A L

Using either thawing method, vials must reach room temperature before dilution and must be diluted within 2 hours (including thaw time). Do not refreeze thawed vials.

1. Gentlfly invert the diluted vial 10 times to mix.

2. Do not shake.


4. Adjustments to remove air bubbles should be done with the needle still in the vial to avoid loss of vaccine.

5. After dilution, vials of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine contain six doses of 0.3 mL of vaccine. Low dead-volume syringes and/or needles can be used to extract six doses.

6. Each dose must contain 0.3 mL of vaccine.

7. Discard vaccine vials in a sharps container as medical waste to ensure they are permanently destroyed. Discard vial trays as medical waste so they cannot be reused.

8. After administration of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, you may feel some pressure in the vial as you add the diluent. Ensure vial pressure is equalized by withdrawing 1.8 mL of air into the empty diluent syringe before removing the needle from the vial. Place this syringe on the table to discard any residual syringe remaining in the vial.

8. Do not give to individuals under 16 years of age or pregnant women.

R E P A R E A N D A D M I N I S T E R M U L T I P L E D O S E V I A L

The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine should be administered using low dead-volume syringes and/or needles. If standard syringes and needles are used, there may not be sufficient volume to extract a sixth dose from a single vial.

8. After administration of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, you may feel some pressure in the vial as you add the diluent. Ensure vial pressure is equalized by withdrawing 1.8 mL of air into the empty diluent syringe before removing the needle from the vial. Place this syringe on the table to discard any residual syringe remaining in the vial.

9. Injectable and S.C. injections of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine should be given into the medial aspect of the upper arm (up to 1 inch below the acromion) within 24 hours of receipt.

10. Follow the vian pressure release valve by squeezing the rubber ball on the plunger handle. Be sure to remove all air from the syringe after each injection.

11. Dispose of used needles properly in a sharps container.


1. Discard waste vaccine vials and syringes.

2. Discard waste vaccine vials and syringes.

3. Do not use bacteriostatic 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection or any other diluent.

4. Use only sterile needles to withdraw and inject the vaccine.

5. Use only sterile needles to withdraw and inject the vaccine.

6. Use only sterile needles to withdraw and inject the vaccine.

FIND ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

about the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine at www.cvdvaccine-us.com

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