October 7, 2021

**Pfizer & BioNTech apply for emergency authorization of their pediatric COVID-19 vaccine**

Pfizer and BioNTech announced that they officially submitted a request to the U.S. FDA for Emergency Use Authorization of a COVID-19 vaccine for children 5 to 11 years old. The FDA Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee will meet on October 26 to discuss the clinical trial data. The CDC is scheduled to give their recommendations in early November.

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October 8, 2021

**More people are getting COVID-19 booster shots than first doses of a COVID-19 vaccine**

More people in the U.S. are getting booster shots than getting their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. According to CDC data, about 2.7 million booster shots were administered between September 30 and October 6, compared to 2 million first doses. Some worry that this trend suggests that we might be reaching a ‘ceiling’ in vaccination outreach.

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October 14, 2021

**FDA panel recommends Moderna COVID-19 booster shot for at-risk adults**

The U.S. FDA Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee recommended that the FDA grant an EUA for a booster dose of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine for certain populations. These populations include people 65 and older as well as people 18-64 who are at high risk of severe COVID-19 or who are frequently exposed to COVID-19 in their home or workplace environments. The FDA has not formally authorized this booster shot yet, and the CDC will meet on Thursday (10/21) to discuss their recommendations.

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October 15, 2021

**FDA panel recommends J&J COVID-19 booster shot for all adults over 18 who’ve received the J&J shot**

The U.S. FDA Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee unanimously recommended an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for a booster dose of the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine. This booster would be for adults aged 18 and older who received their initial vaccination with the single-shot vaccine at least two months ago. The FDA has not formally authorized this booster shot yet, and the CDC will meet on Thursday (10/21) to discuss their recommendations.

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October 15, 2021

**U.S. will update its travel policy with new criteria for being “fully vaccinated”**

A new travel policy for foreign nationals traveling to the United States will take effect on November 8. For purposes of entry into the country, “fully vaccinated” individuals will now include those who have 1) received any single dose of an FDA approved/authorized or WHO EUL approved single-dose series (i.e., Janssen), or 2) any combination of two doses of an FDA approved/authorized or WHO EUL approved COVID-19 two-dose series. This includes those who mix-and-match vaccines.

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