



## Health

Public Health  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor; 300 Carlton Street Winnipeg MB R3B 3M9  
[vaccines@gov.mb.ca](mailto:vaccines@gov.mb.ca)

November 15, 2022

Dear Health Care Providers:

### **Replacement of Expiring COVID-19 Vaccine: Pfizer/Comirnaty™ Monovalent 30mcg Product (Purple cap) with Pfizer/Comirnaty™ Monovalent 30mcg Product (Grey cap)**

We are sending a reminder about the upcoming expiration of the Pfizer/Comirnaty™ monovalent 30mcg COVID-19 vaccine product on November 30, 2022. This will be replaced by a new Pfizer/Comirnaty™ monovalent COVID-19 vaccine product with a grey cap. Distribution of this new product will begin the week of November 21<sup>st</sup>.

The **expiring** Pfizer/Comirnaty™ 30mcg monovalent vaccine has a **purple cap**. Please check your vaccine stock for this product and make arrangements to have it returned to the warehouse for processing.

The replacement Pfizer/Comirnaty™ 30mcg monovalent vaccine has a **grey cap**. This product **does not require dilution**. It was approved by Health Canada on March 16, 2022 for use in individuals who are 12 years and older. Manitoba did not make this product available at that time because there was a sufficient supply of the original monovalent product at that time. Continue to use the tariff code 8251 when reporting the administration of Pfizer/Comirnaty™ monovalent 30mcg products. Please see updated Storage and Handling Quick Reference located online at <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/vaccine/healthcare-professionals.html> for further information on the various COVID-19 products and their storage limitations once thawed and punctured.

Of note, the new Pfizer/Comirnaty™ monovalent vaccine product cap and border are the same colour as the Pfizer/Comirnaty™ bivalent vaccine (grey). The bivalent vaccine label says “Original and Omicron BA.4/5”. Please read the product labels carefully. It is recommended that on-site mitigation strategies be implemented to reduce the risk for vaccine administration errors, such as:

- Physical separation of vaccines (i.e. different shelves/storage bins where possible)
- Attaching a colour-coded sticker on the vial and/or pre-filled syringes for easy differentiation
- Separate immunization stations/immunization providers for different vaccine products, where applicable.

In the event that a vaccine administration error occurs, please refer to the Public Health Agency of Canada’s documents for the management of vaccine administration errors:

**COVID-19 vaccine guide for youth and adults (12 years and over): Managing vaccine administration errors or deviations:** <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/guidance-documents/quick-reference-guide-covid-19-vaccines/managing-administration-errors-deviations.html>

**Quick reference guide on use of COVID-19 vaccine for children 5 to 11 years of age: Managing vaccine administration errors or deviations:** <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/guidance-documents/quick-reference-guide-covid-19-vaccines-children/managing-administration-errors-deviations.html>

**An updated Immunization and Tariff Code Listing can be found at:** [https://www.gov.mb.ca/asset\\_library/en/covidvaccine/tariff-code-listing-with-brands.pdf](https://www.gov.mb.ca/asset_library/en/covidvaccine/tariff-code-listing-with-brands.pdf)

Please share this information with all relevant colleagues in your facility/clinic.

Sincerely,

*“Original Signed By”*

Richard Baydack, PhD  
Director  
Communicable Disease Control

*“Original Signed By”*

Natalie Casacang MD, CCFP, FRCPC  
Medical Officer of Health  
Communicable Disease Control