

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases



COVID-19 Vaccine Policy and Next Steps

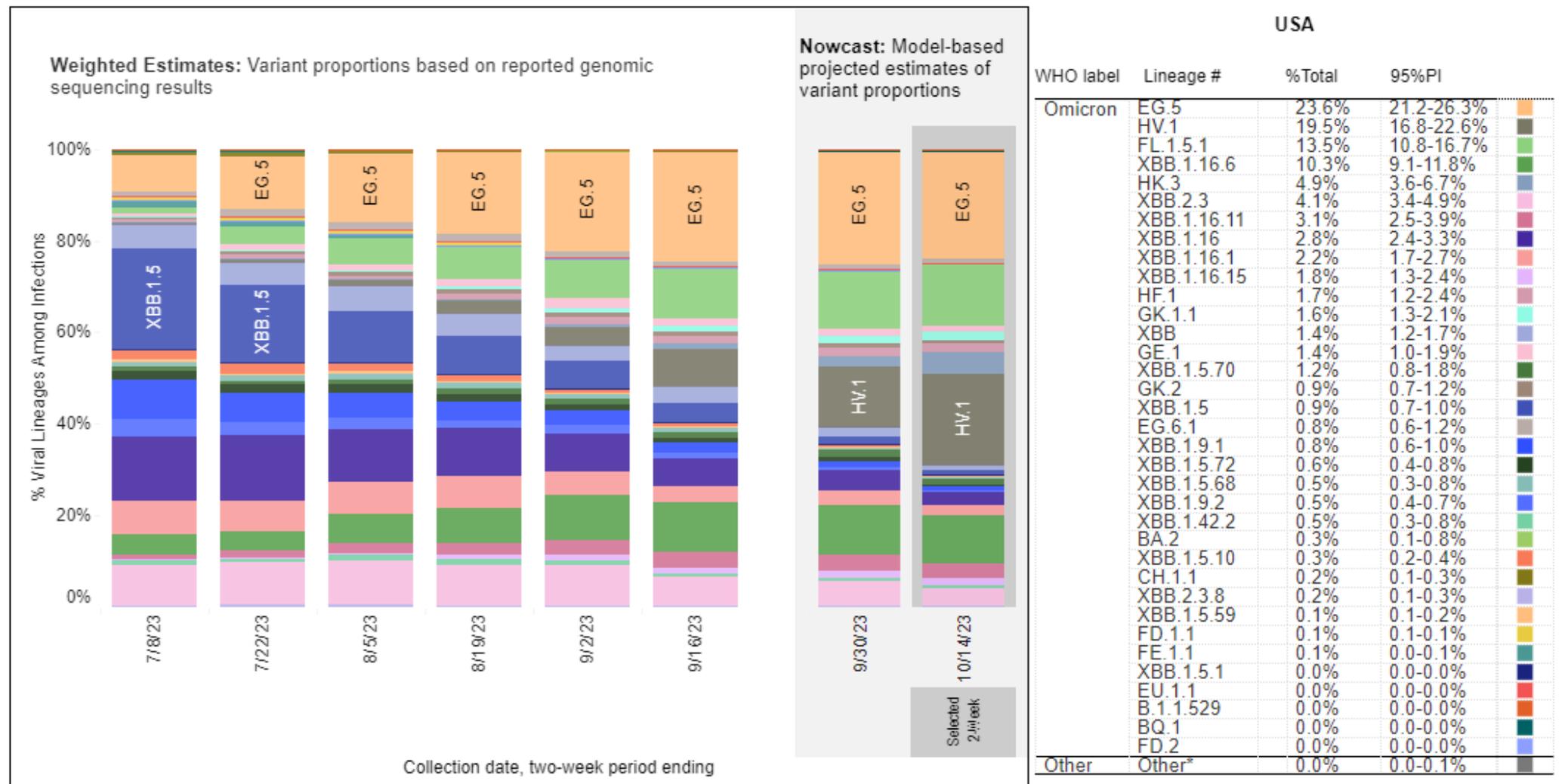
October 26, 2023

Megan Wallace, DrPH, MPH

COVID-19 Epidemiology

The background of the slide features a pattern of overlapping hexagons. The hexagons are rendered in various shades of blue and purple, creating a layered, geometric effect. Some hexagons are solid, while others are outlined, and they vary in size and opacity, giving the impression of a complex, interconnected network or molecular structure.

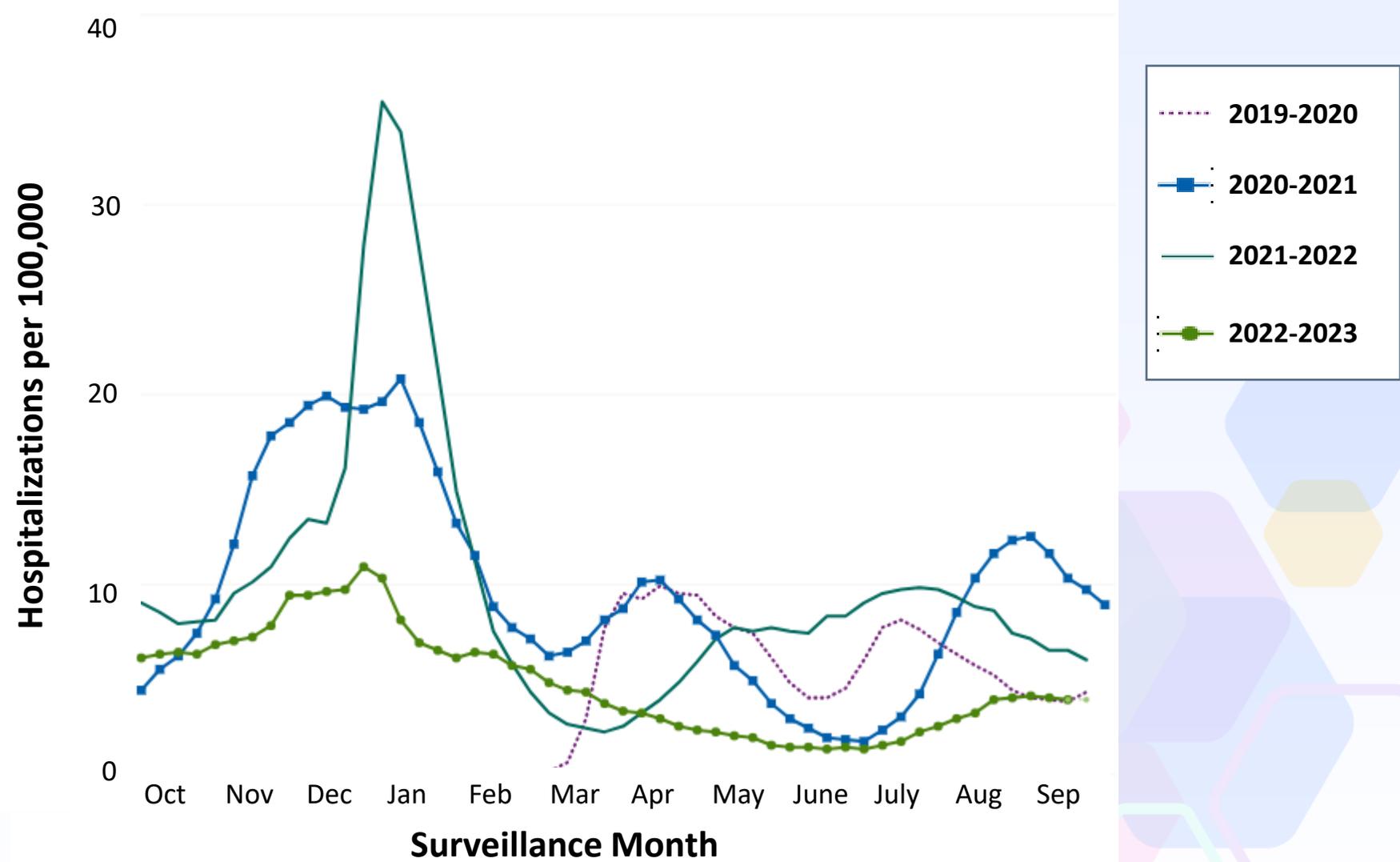
Trends in weighted variant proportion estimates and Nowcast – United States, June 25 – October 14, 2023



PI=Prediction Interval

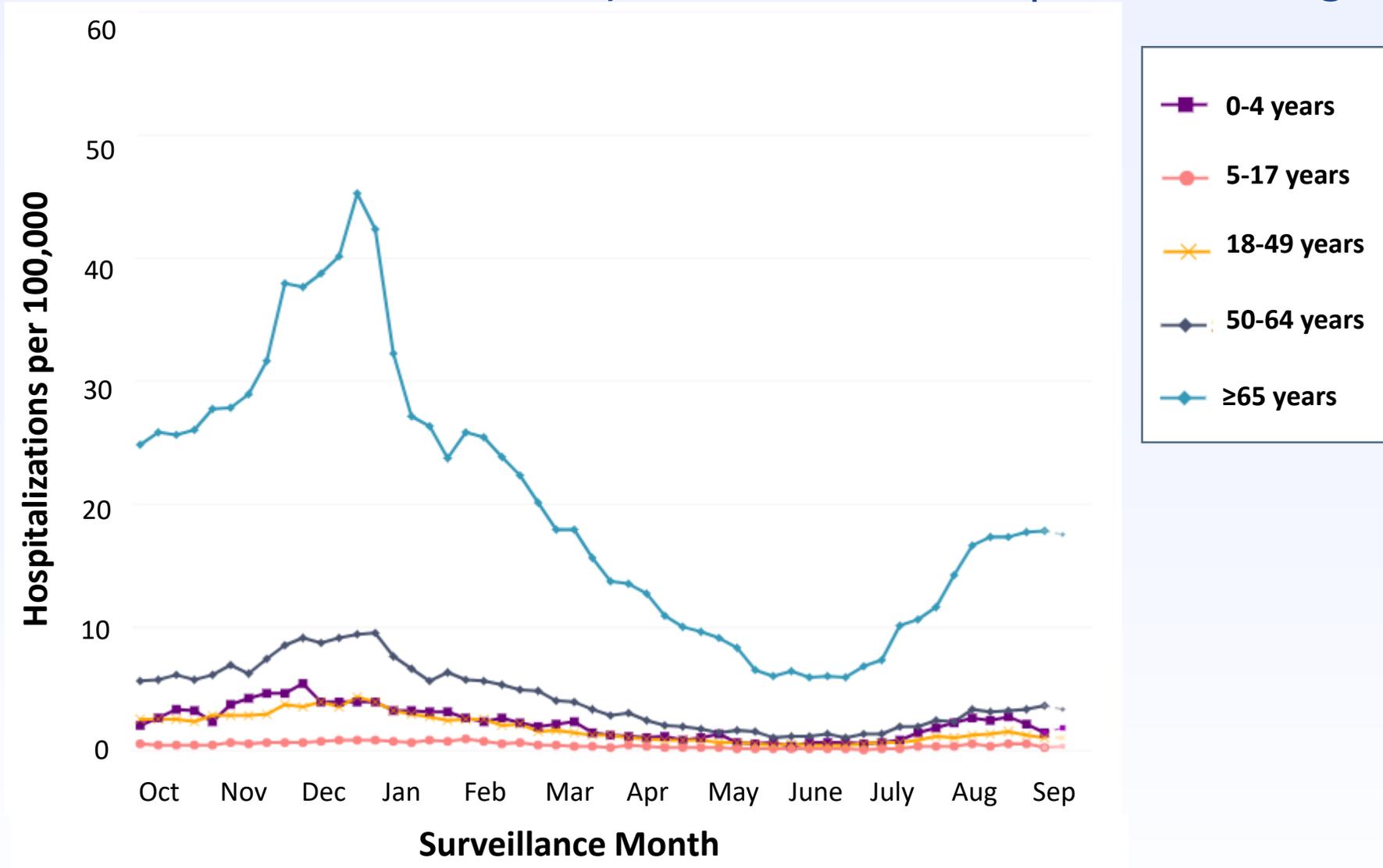
Source: <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#variant-proportions>

Weekly population-based rates of COVID-19-associated hospitalizations by season – COVID-NET, United States, March 2020–September 2023

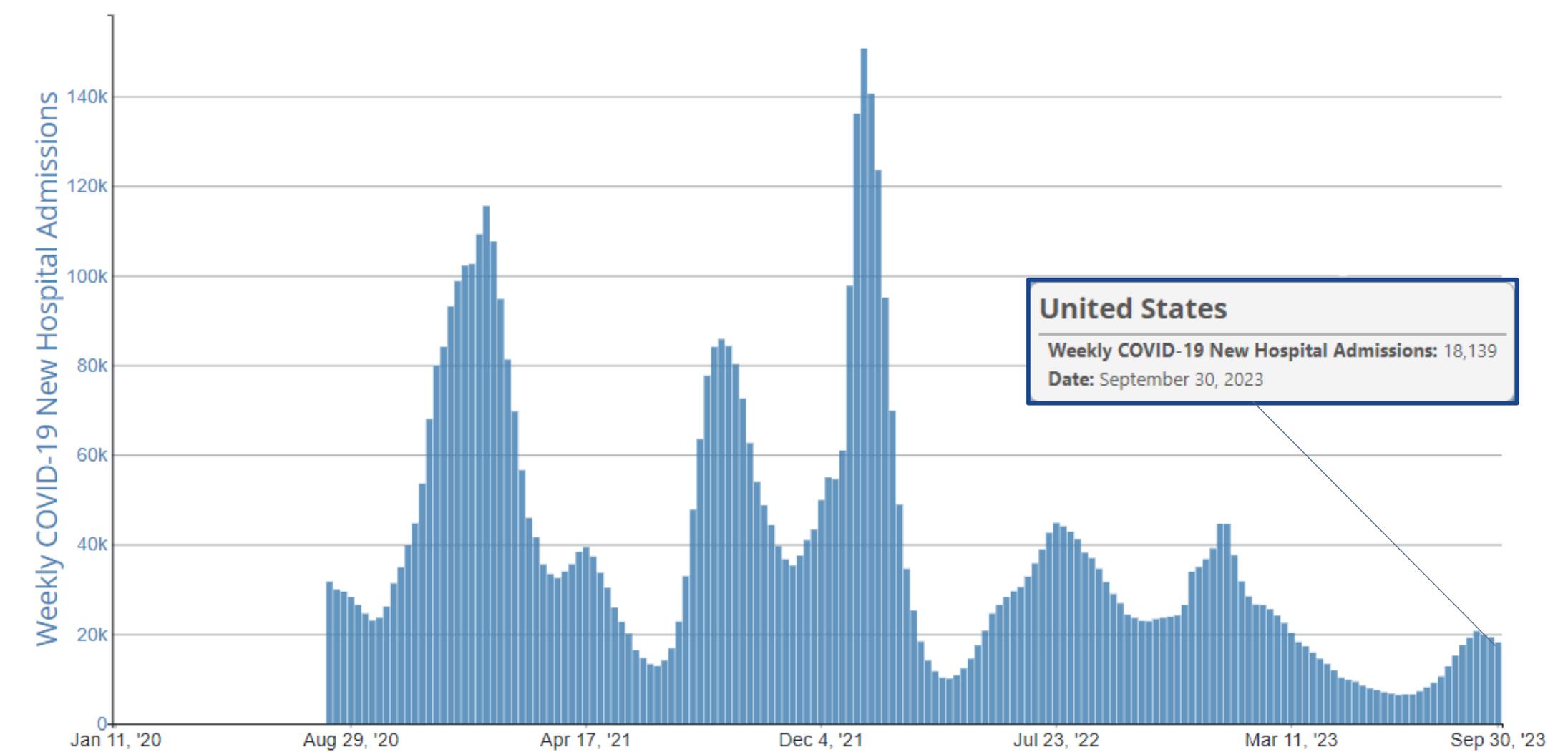


Source: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Hospitalization Surveillance Network (COVID-NET); <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/covidnetdashboard/de/powerbi/dashboard.html>. Accessed October 16, 2023.

Weekly population-based rates of COVID-19-associated hospitalizations by age group – COVID-NET, United States, October 2022–September 2023



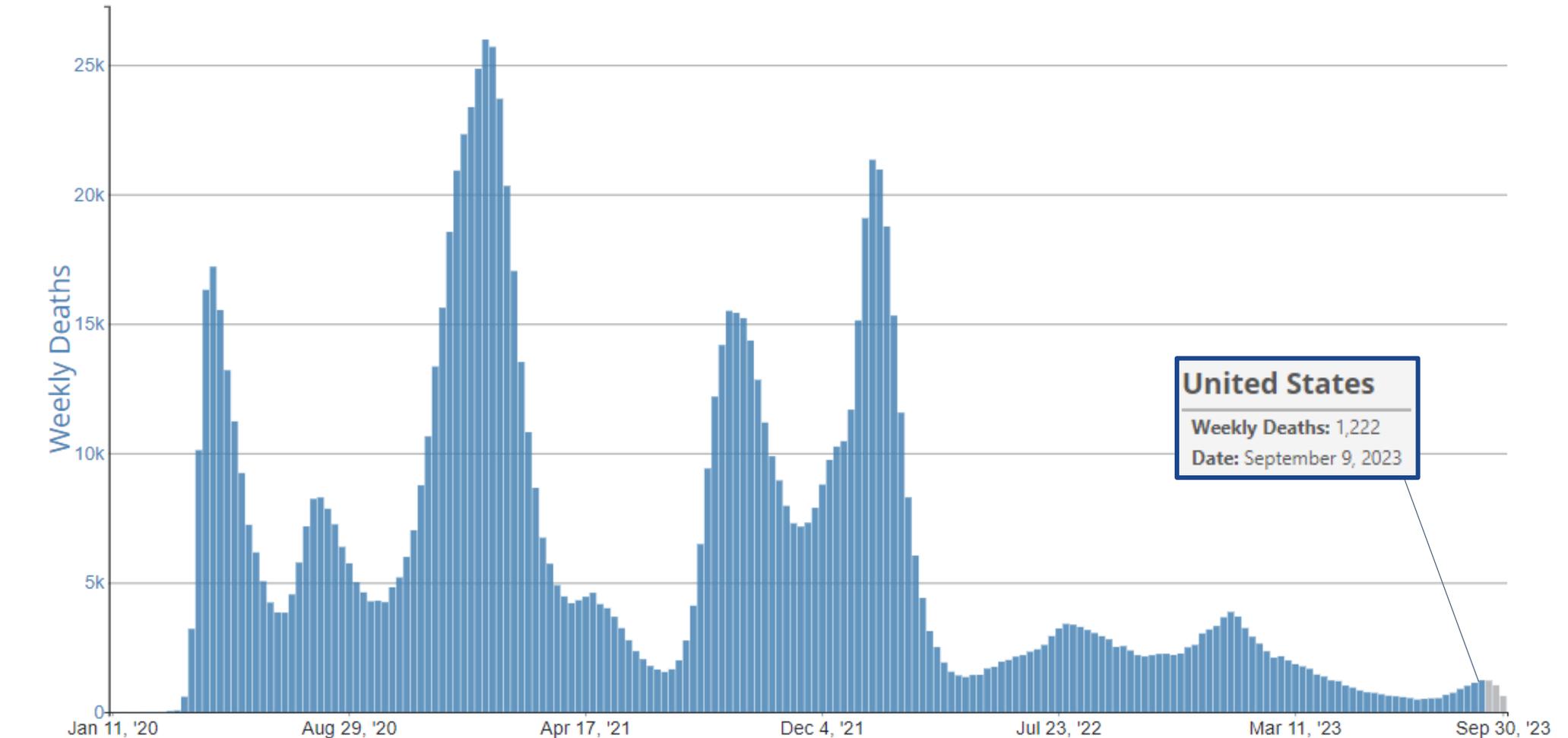
Weekly COVID-19 new hospital admissions – National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN), United States, August 2020 – September 2023



Source: COVID-19-associated hospitalization data reported to CDC’s National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN).

https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#trends_weeklyhospitaladmissions_select_00

Weekly provisional COVID-19 deaths – National Vital Statistics System (NVSS), United States January 2020 – September 2023



Source: Provisional Deaths from the CDC’s National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) National Vital Statistics System (NVSS). https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#trends_weeklydeaths_weeklydeathrateaa_00
Data during recent periods are incomplete because of the lag in time between when a death occurs and when a death certificate is completed, submitted to NCHS, and processed for reporting. This delay can range from 1 week to 8 weeks or more, depending on the jurisdiction. The most recent 3 weeks of mortality counts are shaded grey because NVSS reporting is <95% during this period.

COVID-19 Vaccine Policy

The background of the slide features a pattern of overlapping hexagons in various shades of blue and purple, creating a molecular or crystalline aesthetic. The hexagons vary in opacity and color, with some appearing as solid shapes and others as outlines.

COVID-19 Vaccine Policy

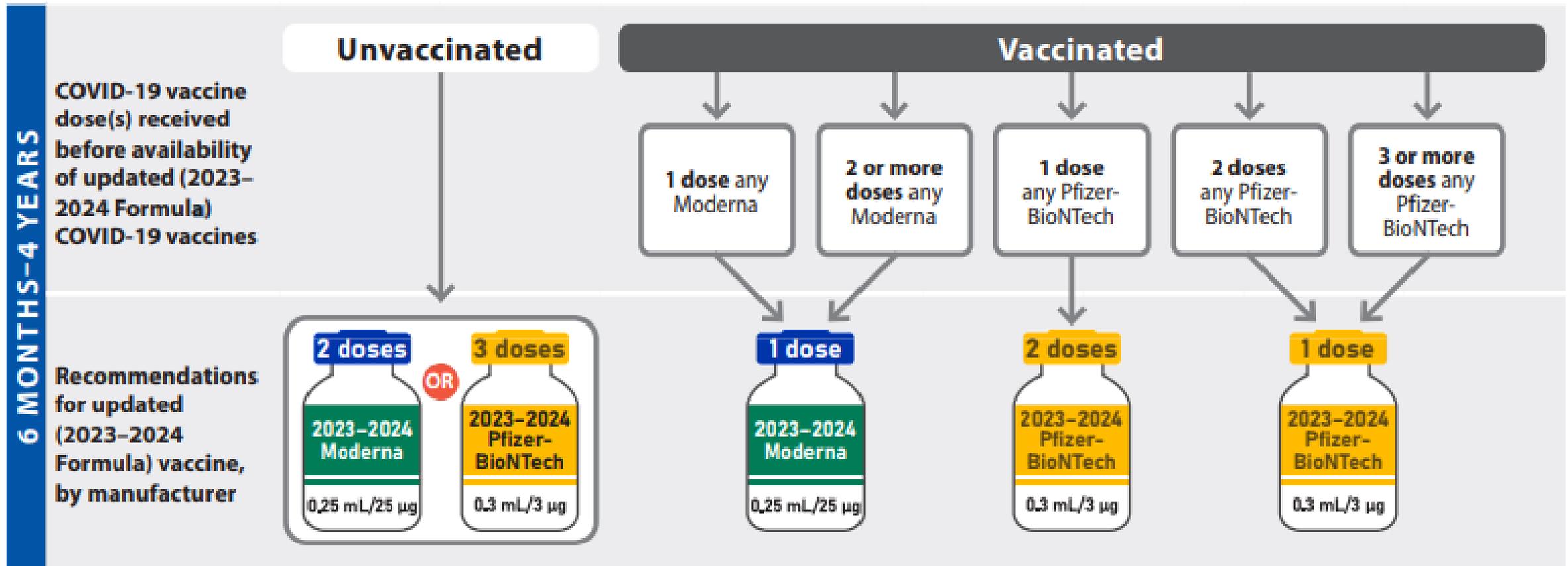
- ACIP met September 12, 2023 to review the available evidence for updated COVID-19 vaccines (monovalent, XBB.1.5 component)
- ACIP recommended updated COVID-19 vaccines as authorized under EUA or approved by BLA in persons aged ≥ 6 months
 - Moderna COVID-19 vaccine in persons ≥ 6 months
 - Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine in persons ≥ 6 months
 - Novavax COVID-19 vaccine in persons ≥ 12 years
- **All anticipated updated (2023–2024 Formula) vaccines are now authorized or approved**

Recommendations for children aged 6 months – 4 years without immunocompromise

Doses recommended:

- Initial series of 2 Moderna vaccine doses OR 3 Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine doses
 - **Including at least 1 dose of 2023–2024 COVID-19 vaccine**
-
- All doses should be homologous (i.e., from the same manufacturer)
 - All Moderna doses in ages 6 months – 11 years are now 25 µcg

Recommended 2023–2024 COVID-19 mRNA vaccines for people who are NOT immunocompromised, aged 6 months–4 years*†



*For information about administration intervals and children who transition from age 4 years to age 5 years, see Table 1 in the [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

† COVID-19 vaccination history refers to previous receipt of doses of Original monovalent mRNA or bivalent mRNA vaccine or a combination of the two; for people ages 12 years and older, Original monovalent Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine doses, alone or in combination with any mRNA vaccine doses; and for people ages 18 years and older, Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine doses, alone or in combination with any mRNA or Original monovalent Novavax vaccine doses.

Prior Version of Interim Clinical Considerations on Interchangeability of COVID-19 vaccines

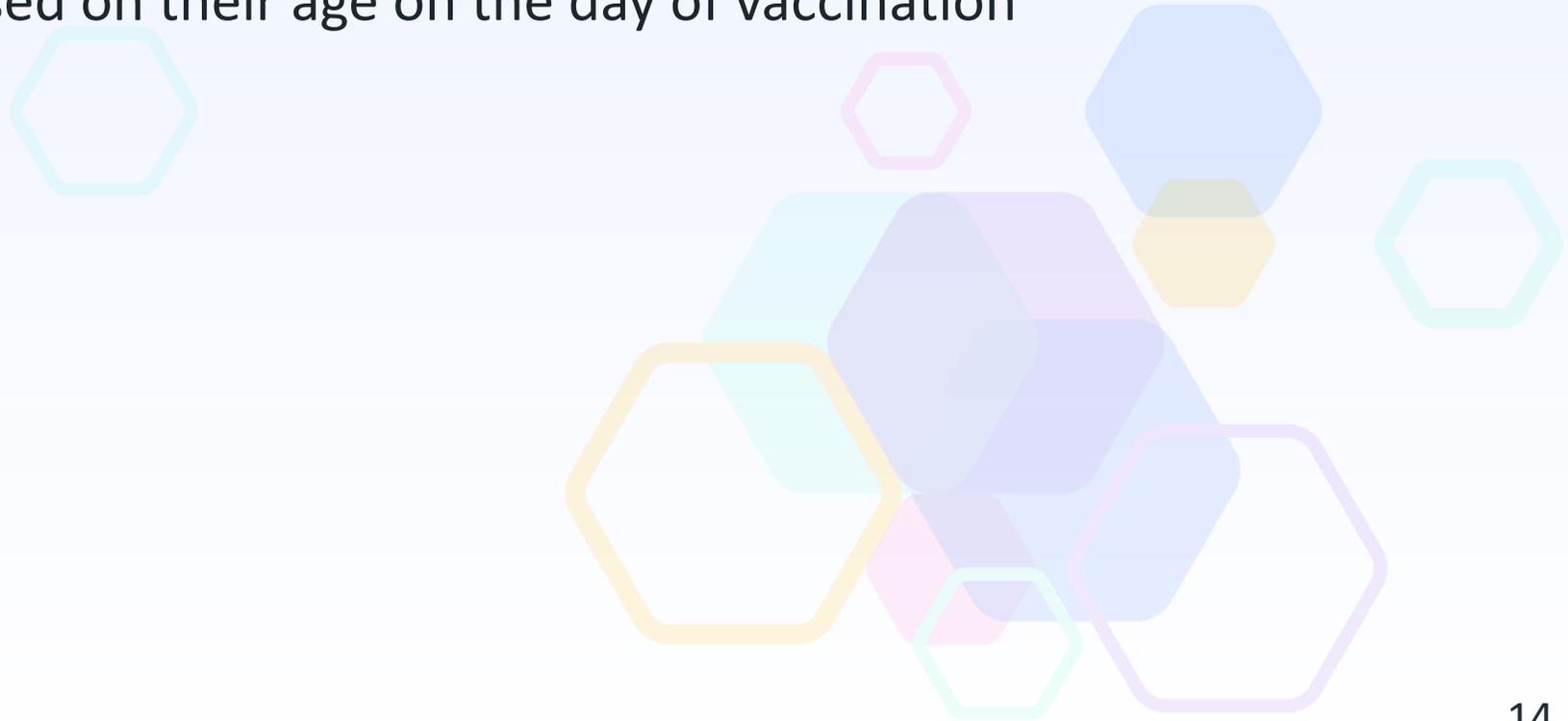
- **Exceptional situations:** In the following **exceptional situations**, a different age-appropriate COVID-19 vaccine may be administered:
 - Same vaccine not available
 - Previous dose unknown
 - Person would otherwise not complete the vaccination series
 - Person starts but unable to complete a vaccination series with the same COVID-19 vaccine due to a contraindication
- A Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) report is not indicated for these **exceptional situations**.

Updated Version of Interim Clinical Considerations on Interchangeability of COVID-19 vaccines

- COVID-19 vaccine doses from the same manufacturer should be administered whenever recommended. In the following **circumstances**, an age-appropriate COVID-19 vaccine from a different manufacturer may be administered:
 - Same vaccine not available **at the vaccination site at the time of the clinic visit**
 - Previous dose unknown
 - Person would otherwise not **receive a recommended vaccine dose**
 - Person starts but unable to complete a vaccination series with the same COVID-19 vaccine due to a contraindication
- A Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) report is not indicated **in these circumstances**.

Additional Updates to Interim Clinical Considerations

- Updated guidance for children who transition during the initial COVID-19 vaccination series from age 4 years to age 5 years and children who are moderately or severely immunocompromised and transition from age 11 years to age 12 years to receive the age-appropriate dosage based on their age on the day of vaccination



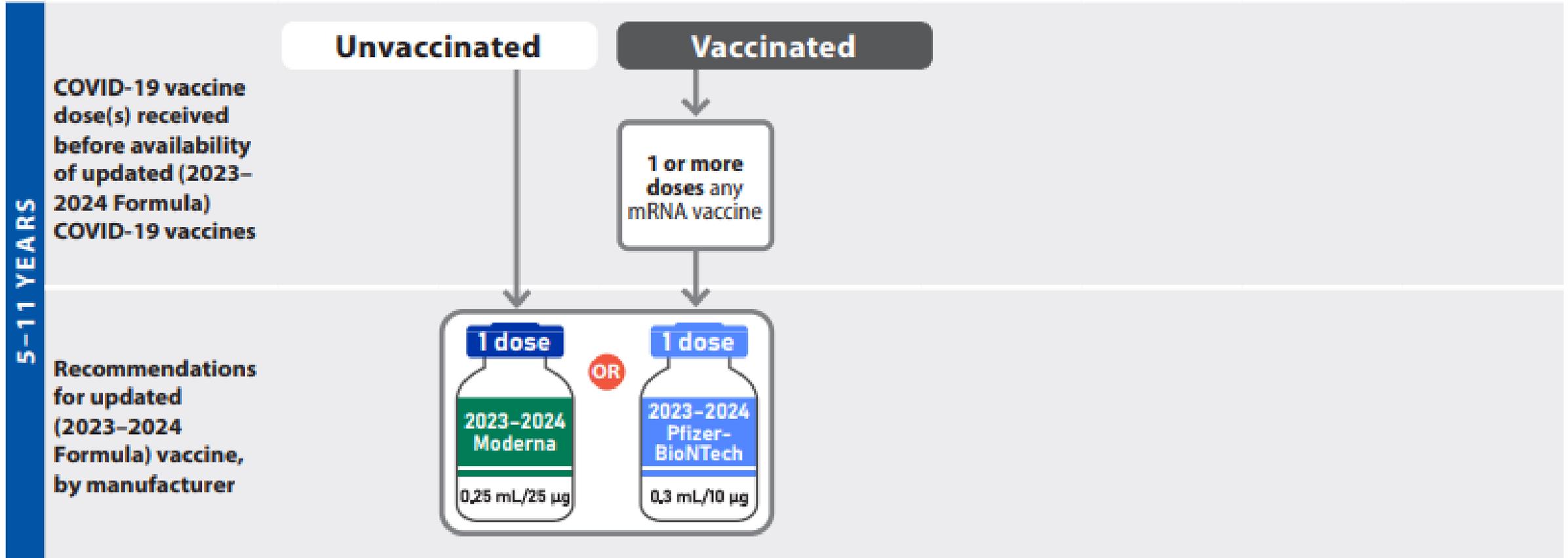
Recommendations for people aged 5 years and older without immunocompromise

Doses recommended:

- **1 dose of 2023–2024 COVID-19 vaccine**

- mRNA COVID-19 vaccines authorized or approved for ages ≥ 6 months and Novavax COVID-19 vaccine authorized for ages ≥ 12 years
- Unvaccinated persons receiving Novavax COVID-19 should complete a 2-dose initial series
- New harmonized age cutoff for recommendations for young children for Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines resulting in simplified recommendations for 5-year-olds
- All Moderna doses in ages 6 months – 11 years are now 25 μcg
- 2023–2024 COVID-19 vaccine dose is recommended at least 2 months after receipt of the last COVID-19 vaccine dose

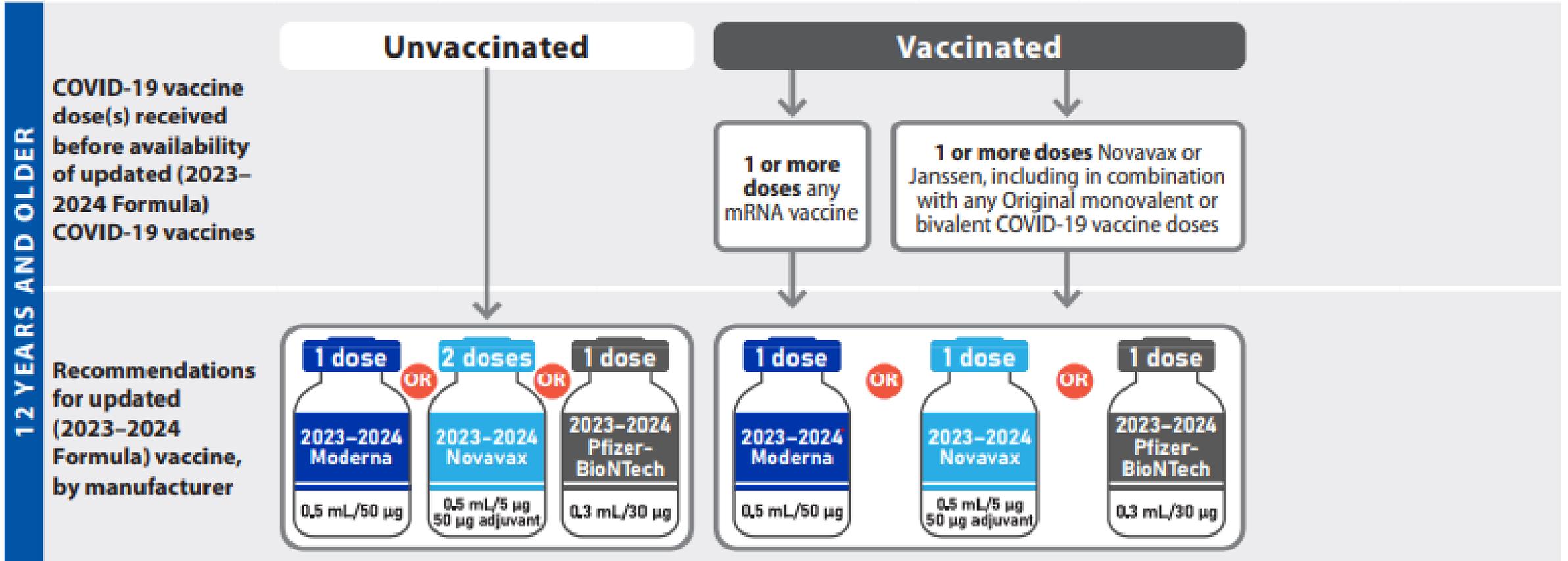
Recommended 2023–2024 COVID-19 mRNA vaccines for people who are NOT immunocompromised, aged 5–11 years*†



*For information about administration intervals and children who transition from age 4 years to age 5 years, see Table 1 in the [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

† COVID-19 vaccination history refers to previous receipt of doses of Original monovalent mRNA or bivalent mRNA vaccine or a combination of the two; for people ages 12 years and older, Original monovalent Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine doses, alone or in combination with any mRNA vaccine doses; and for people ages 18 years and older, Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine doses, alone or in combination with any mRNA or Original monovalent Novavax vaccine doses.

Recommended COVID-19 vaccination schedule for people who are NOT moderately or severely immunocompromised, aged ≥ 12 years^{*†}



*For information about administration intervals and children who transition from age 4 years to age 5 years, see Table 1 in the [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

† COVID-19 vaccination history refers to previous receipt of doses of Original monovalent mRNA or bivalent mRNA vaccine or a combination of the two; for people ages 12 years and older, Original monovalent Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine doses, alone or in combination with any mRNA vaccine doses; and for people ages 18 years and older, Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine doses, alone or in combination with any mRNA or Original monovalent Novavax vaccine doses.

Recommendations for people aged ≥ 6 months who are moderately or severely immunocompromised

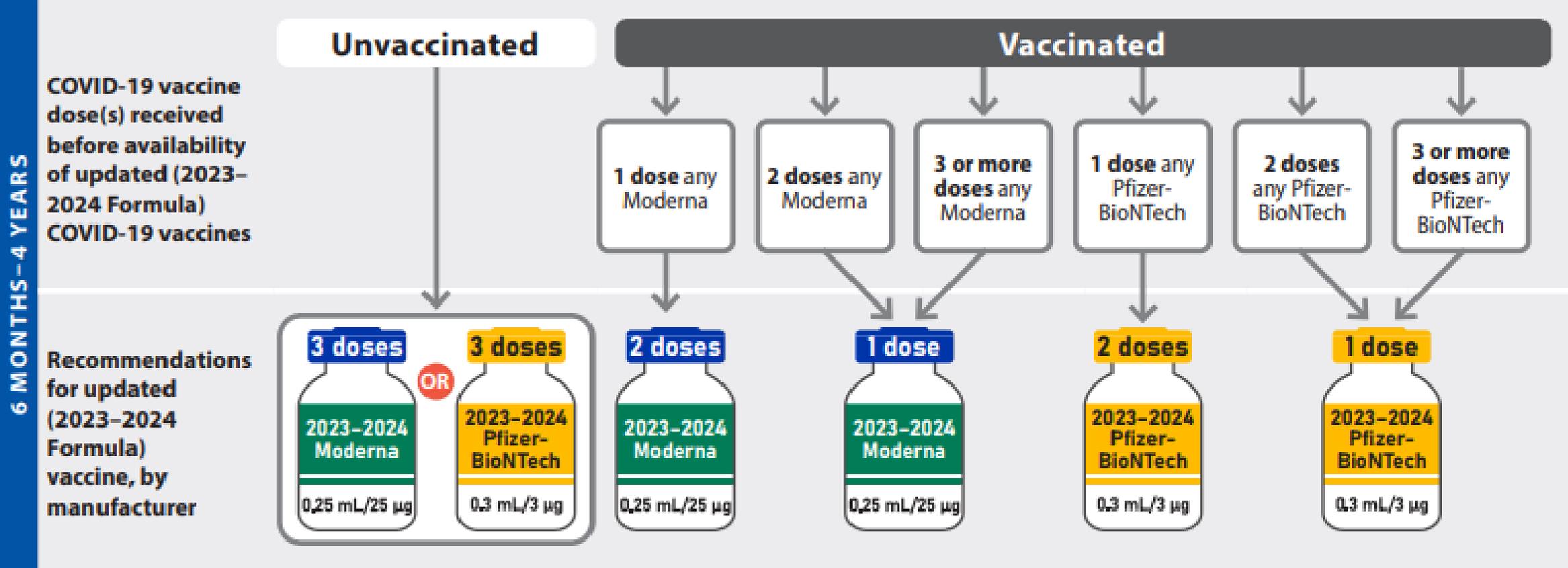
Doses recommended:

- Initial COVID-19 vaccine series*
- **At least 1 2023–2024 COVID-19 vaccine dose**
- May receive 1 or more additional 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine doses**

*Series of 3 homologous mRNA COVID-19 vaccine doses or 2 homologous Novavax COVID-19 vaccine doses at time of initial vaccination. This could also include a history of receipt of 1 or more doses of Novavax or Janssen, including in combination with mRNA vaccine dose(s).

**Further additional dose(s) may be administered, informed by the clinical judgement of a healthcare provider and personal preference and circumstances. Further additional doses should be administered at least 2 months after the last 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine dose.

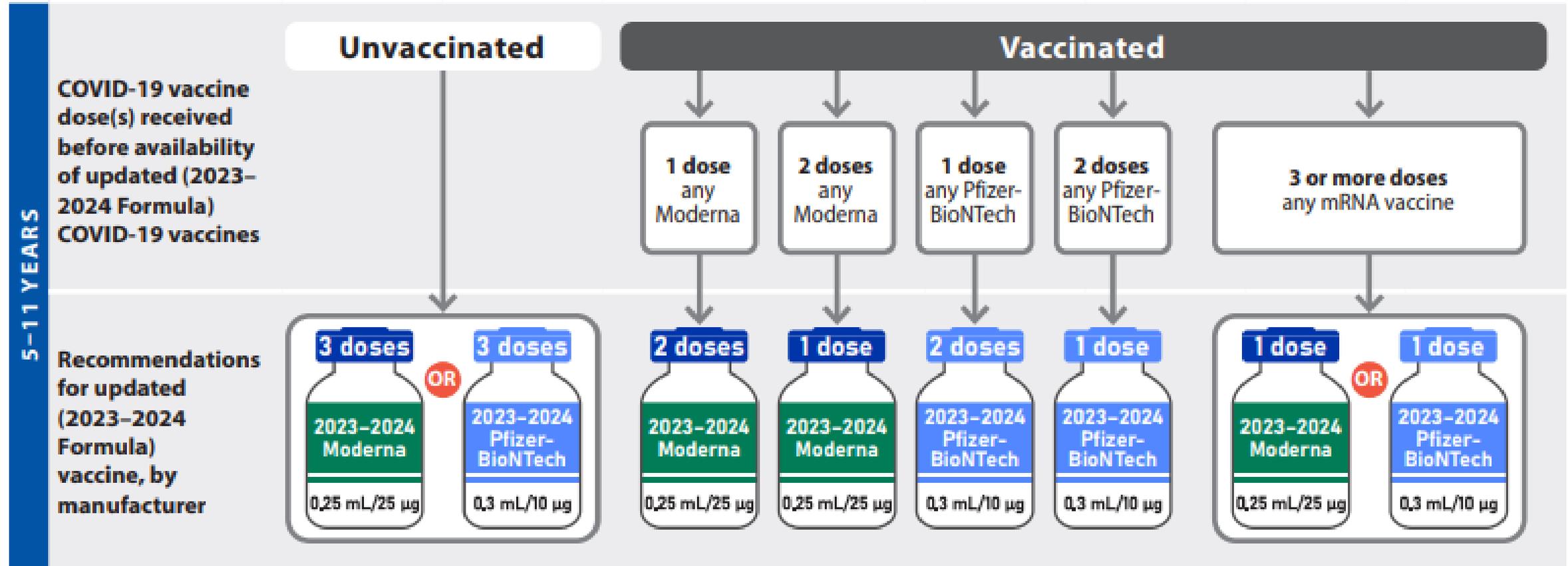
Recommended 2023–2024 COVID-19 vaccines for people who ARE moderately or severely immunocompromised, aged 6 months–4 years*†



* For information about administration intervals and children who transition from age 4 years to age 5 years or age 11 years to age 12 years during an mRNA vaccination series, and administration of additional dose(s), see Table 2 in the [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

† COVID-19 vaccination history refers to previous receipt of doses of Original monovalent mRNA or bivalent mRNA vaccine or a combination of the two; for people ages 12 years and older, Original monovalent Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine doses, alone or in combination with any mRNA vaccine doses; and for people ages 18 years and older, Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine doses, alone or in combination with any mRNA or Original monovalent Novavax vaccine doses.

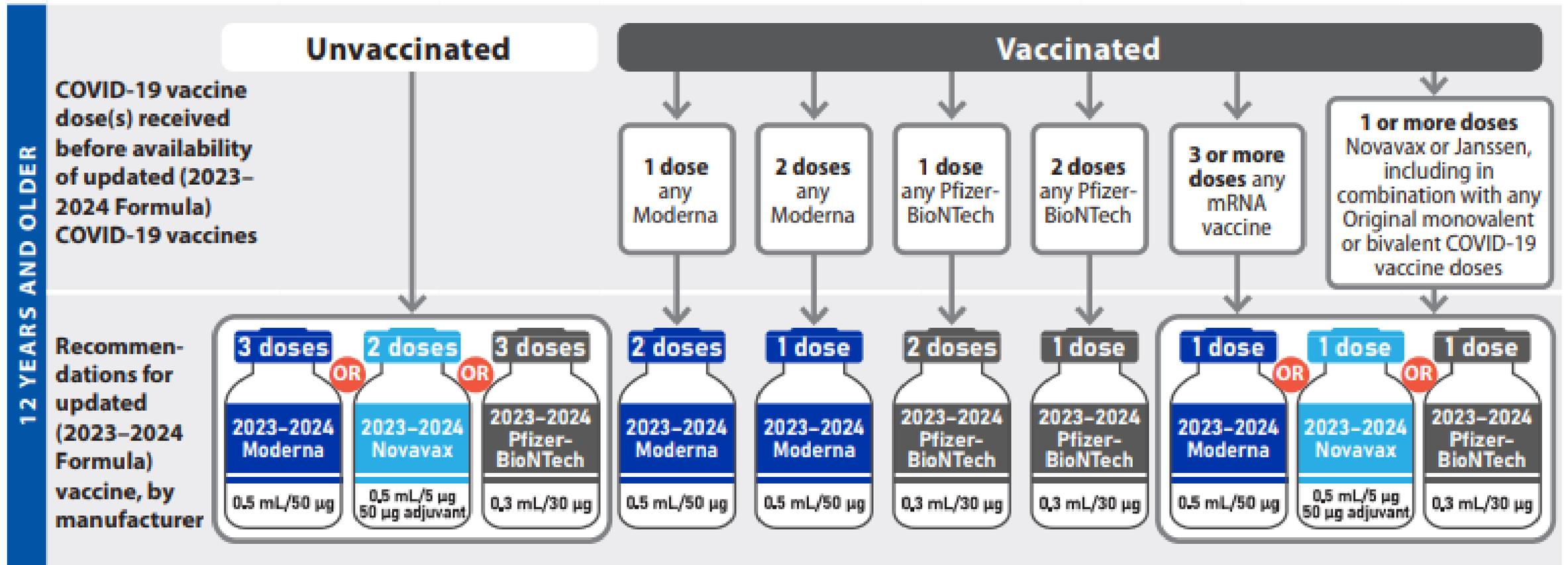
Recommended 2023–2024 COVID-19 vaccines for people who ARE moderately or severely immunocompromised, aged 5–11 years*†



* For information about administration intervals and children who transition from age 4 years to age 5 years or age 11 years to age 12 years during an mRNA vaccination series, and administration of additional dose(s), see Table 2 in the [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

† COVID-19 vaccination history refers to previous receipt of doses of Original monovalent mRNA or bivalent mRNA vaccine or a combination of the two; for people ages 12 years and older, Original monovalent Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine doses, alone or in combination with any mRNA vaccine doses; and for people ages 18 years and older, Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine doses, alone or in combination with any mRNA or Original monovalent Novavax vaccine doses.

Recommended COVID-19 vaccination schedule for people who ARE moderately or severely immunocompromised, aged ≥12 years^{*†}

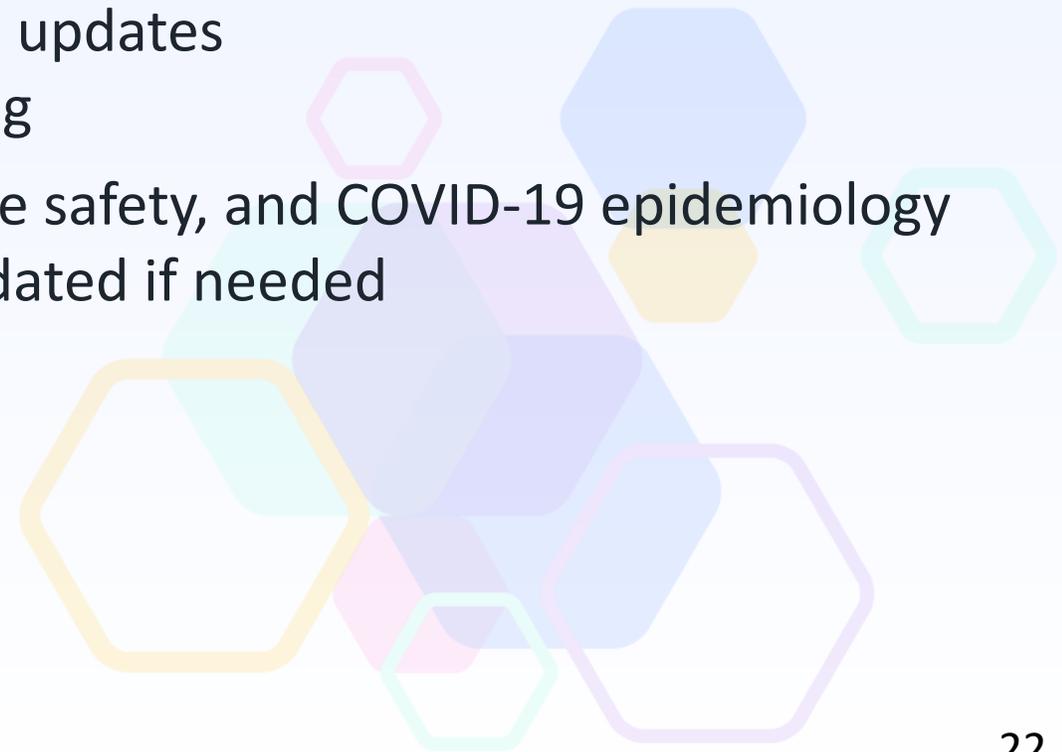


* For information about administration intervals and children who transition from age 4 years to age 5 years or age 11 years to age 12 years during an mRNA vaccination series, and administration of additional dose(s), see Table 2 in the [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

† COVID-19 vaccination history refers to previous receipt of doses of Original monovalent mRNA or bivalent mRNA vaccine or a combination of the two; for people ages 12 years and older, Original monovalent Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine doses, alone or in combination with any mRNA vaccine doses; and for people ages 18 years and older, Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine doses, alone or in combination with any mRNA or Original monovalent Novavax vaccine doses.

Upcoming COVID-19 policy discussions

- Consideration of additional COVID-19 vaccine doses in older adults
 - Anticipated for February 2024 ACIP meeting
 - Policy discussion will occur prior to individuals reaching 6 months since their last dose
- Preparations for future COVID-19 vaccine formula updates
 - Discussions will begin at June 2024 ACIP meeting
- Continue to monitor vaccine effectiveness, vaccine safety, and COVID-19 epidemiology
 - COVID-19 vaccine recommendations can be updated if needed



Acknowledgements

- Monica Godfrey
- Danielle Moulia
- Katherine Fleming-Dutra
- Ruth Link-Gelles
- Sarah Meyer
- Elisha Hall
- Susan Goldstein
- Mary Chamberland
- JoEllen Wolicki
- Natalie Thornburg
- Sierra Scarbrough
- Aron Hall
- Christopher Taylor
- Fiona Havers
- Dave Wentworth
- Meredith McMorrow
- COVID-NET Team
- Coronavirus and other Respiratory Viruses Division
- National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases



For more information, contact CDC
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 www.cdc.gov

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Photographs and images included in this presentation are licensed solely for CDC/NCIRD online and presentation use. No rights are implied or extended for use in printing or any use by other CDC CIOs or any external audiences.

