


Safe Administration of COVID-19 Vaccines to Children Ages 5-11



- ✓ **DOUBLE CHECK** – Always have two clinical colleagues **verify the correct vial was selected**
- ✓ **DOUBLE CHECK** – Always have two clinical colleagues **verify the dilution of a vial**
- ✓ **DOUBLE CHECK** – Always have two clinical colleagues **verify the dose volume (draw) amount**
 - CLEARLY label pediatric doses with orange stickers
 - To avoid confusion, store the pediatric and adult/adolescent vaccines in separate areas in the refrigerator and draw areas
 - Any errors or adverse events need to be immediately reported in VOICE (via ZENworks) and [VAERS: Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System \(VAERS\)](#)

Pediatric Dosing - Primary Series

Manufacturer	Pfizer-BioNTech (For Ages 5-11 years)
Vial Appearance	<p>ORANGE CAP and ORANGE LABEL</p>  <p>✓ Orange plastic cap and label with orange border</p>
Dilute Before Use	YES
Vial Reconstitution Volume*	1.3 mL
Dose Volume after Reconstitution	0.2 mL
Time to Discard after Dilution	12 hours (At Room Temperature)

*See full reconstitution instructions on reverse

Pfizer-BioNTech (For Ages 5-11 years) Preparation Instructions



Prepare the Vaccine

Follow aseptic technique. Perform hand hygiene before vaccine preparation, between patients, when changing gloves (if worn), and any time hands become soiled.



Remove vaccine from the storage unit. **Check the vial label to ensure it is the correct formulation based on the age of the recipient. The vial for children 5 through 11 years of age has an orange cap and orange border on the label.** Allow vaccine to come to room temperature. Vials can be held at room temperature for up to 12 hours before mixing.



Before mixing, check the:

- Age indications on the label
- Expiration date of the vaccine and diluent
- Any beyond-use dates/times

NEVER use expired vaccine or diluent. **NEVER** use vaccine after the beyond-use date or times.



With the vaccine at room temperature, gently invert vial 10 times. **Do not shake the vial.** If the vial is shaken, contact the manufacturer. The vaccine is white to off-white in color and may contain opaque particles. Do not use if liquid is discolored.



Using a new, sterile alcohol prep pad for each vial, wipe off the stoppers of the diluent and vaccine vials. Using a 21-gauge (or narrower) needle, **withdraw 1.3 mL** of 0.9% sodium chloride (normal saline, preservative-free) into a mixing syringe. Discard diluent vial and any remaining diluent every time. **Do NOT** use bacteriostatic normal saline or other diluents to mix the vaccine.



Inject 1.3 mL 0.9% sodium chloride (normal saline, preservative-free) diluent into the vaccine vial.



Using the mixing syringe, remove 1.3 mL of air from the vaccine vial to equalize the pressure in the vaccine vial.



Gently invert the vial containing vaccine and diluent 10 times. The vaccine will be off-white in color. Do not use if discolored or contains particulate matter. **Do not shake.** If the vial is shaken, contact the manufacturer.



Note the date and time the vaccine was mixed on the vial.



Keep mixed vaccine between 2°C and 25°C (36°F to 77°F) for up to 12 hours. **Discard any unused vaccine after 12 hours.** Do not return to ultra-cold freezer storage.



Source: [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine: 5 Through 11 Years of Age • Preparation and Administration Summary \(cdc.gov\)](#)