Minor Consent Statement

April 13, 2021

Under Oregon law, minors, 15 and older, may give consent to medical treatment, including vaccinations, provided by a physician, physician assistant, naturopath, nurse practitioner, dentist or optometrist, or others operating under the license of these providers, without the consent of a parent or guardian. (ORS 109.640) At this time, the only COVID-19 vaccine that has received emergency use authorization for individuals under age 18 is the Pfizer vaccine. The Pfizer vaccine is authorized for use in individuals 16 and above.

The Oregon Health Authority supports the rights of minors 16 and older to consent to COVID-19 vaccination without parental consent, particularly in cases where the minor may have difficulty obtaining consent from a parent or guardian.

It is OHA’s understanding that most locations where COVID-19 vaccinations are provided have oversight by a medical provider who would meet the definition of the provider types listed above, and therefore consent of a parent or guardian should not be required for a 16 or 17 year-old who wishes to get the Pfizer vaccine.

Providers administering COVID-19 vaccinations should make it clear at the time a vaccine appointment is made for a 16 or 17-year-old whether consent from a parent or guardian will be required.

See our Frequently Asked Questions for more information about 16 and 17-year-old vaccine access.

Document accessibility: For individuals with disabilities or individuals who speak a language other than English, OHA can provide information in alternate formats such as translations, large print, or braille. Contact the Health Information Center at 1-971-673-2411, 711 TTY or COVID19.LanguageAccess@dhsoha.state.or.us