

Comparing COVID-19 vaccines for children ages 6 months through 5 years old

	Pfizer	Moderna
Ages eligible	Children 6 months through 4 years	Children 6 months through 5 years
Dose size	3 micrograms, 1/10 of Pfizer's adult dose	25 micrograms, 1/4 of the Moderna's adult dose
Number of doses and timing	<p>Three doses:</p> <p>Second dose at least 21 days after first dose</p> <p>Third dose at least two months after second dose</p>	<p>Two doses:</p> <p>Second dose at least 28 days after first dose</p>
Time to full protection	About two weeks after third dose	About two weeks after second dose
What it does	<p>The vaccine contains messenger RNA (mRNA). mRNA is like an instruction manual. It teaches your body how to make a harmless protein (spike protein) that looks like the protein on the coronavirus. Your body responds to this by making disease-fighting cells and antibodies that can recognize and fight the coronavirus.</p>	

<p>Is it safe?</p>	<p>Clinical trials with thousands of participants have shown both vaccines to be safe and effective. Scientists from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reviewed safety data from the trials before authorizing and recommending the vaccines.</p>	
<p>Why is the number of doses different for the two vaccines?</p>	<p>Pfizer-BioNTech used a three-dose series in their trials and found three doses to be more effective than two in protecting kids in this age group.</p>	<p>Moderna conducted their trials using a two-dose series. We don't know yet if a booster might increase protection.</p>

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 COVID-19 Communications Unit at 1-971-673-2411, 711 TTY or COVID19.LanguageAccess@dhsosha.state.or.us