

## COVID-19 Vaccine TIPS Session 3 COVID-19 Vaccine Handling and Storage

COVID-19 Vaccine TIPS sessions handouts and recordings are posted here:

<https://whyimmunize.org/covid-19-vaccine-t-i-p-s/>

### Vaccine Manufactures Specific Information

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/index.html>

### Vaccine Administration

Videos and resources to set up clinics and giving shots refresher:

[https://phonlinetraining.maricopa.gov/courses/community-immunizations/story\\_html5.html](https://phonlinetraining.maricopa.gov/courses/community-immunizations/story_html5.html)

Please take a minute to let us know if session 3 was helpful and what topics you'd like to cover in the next sessions: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/M6YRF23>

**Join us next week for:** Billing and reporting requirements for COVID-19 vaccine

### Questions submitted to us by email for Session 3:

Question: Where do we put our data logger reports in ASIIS?

Answer: email data loggers every month to [arizonavfc@azdhs.gov](mailto:arizonavfc@azdhs.gov)

Question: Are data loggers on back order?

Answer: Not all data logger brands are on backorder. The ADHS ones ordered are on backorder. If providers want to order their own data loggers they can. If they want to request data loggers from ADHS, they do so when completing the onboard forms and when they get some, they will ship them. [arizonavfc@azdhs.gov](mailto:arizonavfc@azdhs.gov)

Question: Having problems with your EHR and ASIIS inventory?

Answer: TAPI is informally matching offices that use the same EHRs to help each other troubleshoot problems. Join the ASIIS buddy group:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ASIIS-User-Group>

Question: Who can we call about technical issues with ASIIS interface with our EHR?

Answer: Maggie - [ASIIS\\_GROUP1@azdhs.gov](mailto:ASIIS_GROUP1@azdhs.gov)

## Session 3 Q&A from chat

### Reporting

Question: If our office decides to administer the vaccines when approved for our demographics, will our normal VFC shipments be delayed if we could not document all the COVID vaccines within the 24 hour timeframe?

Answer: ADHS says that the VFC program and the COVID-19 vaccine program are two separate programs, however they both use ASIIS for ordering, so if a provider's ASIIS account is on hold for not meeting the requirements of one program, it may affect their ability to order in the other program. If the ASIIS account orders are being held, it would hold both VFC and COVID-19 orders. It is really important to add the patient immunization dose record to ASIIS right away.

Question: What are the vaccine abbreviations for the different COVID-19 vaccine options, so they can be identified in ASIIS?

Answer: All of the ASIIS codes for reporting COVID-19 vaccine are on this list:  
[https://azdhs.gov/documents/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/novel-coronavirus/vaccine/arizona-hl7-specific-rules-with-covid-19-reporting.pdf?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://azdhs.gov/documents/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/novel-coronavirus/vaccine/arizona-hl7-specific-rules-with-covid-19-reporting.pdf?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

Be sure to set up your EHR patient templates to have funding designations for vaccine. Most already have VFC and Private, but for COVID-19, you also need PAN as an option.

### Cold Chain, Storage and Handling

Question: Does verification of cold chain need to be done with the delivery person still in office?

Answer: No, but you are responsible for the cold chain once it's arrives in your office. Make sure deliveries are left somewhere where someone sees it immediately.

Question: I thought we weren't allowed to transport vaccine once we received it?

Answer: Many of the COVID-19 vaccine clinics have been offsite. When taking vaccine to an offsite clinic, providers should use this CDC checklist.  
<https://www.izsummitpartners.org/content/uploads/2019/02/off-site-vaccination-clinic-checklist.pdf>

To clarify, the CDC and ADHS discourage transferring vaccines between providers. Doses should be shipped to their intended location. In the scenarios where providers are conducting off-site clinics, they should only take what they need for the day and strictly follow the CDC checklist.

Question: If you have multiple sites, it is okay to use one of your other sites as a back-up?

Answer: Absolutely!

Question: What if a patient receives the vaccine before being thawed out appropriately?

Answer: It's frozen and hard to draw up unless it's thawed.

Question: How long does it take to thaw in the fridge?

Answer: About 6 hours and 2 hours on counter

Question: Do all vials have an extra dose?

Answer: Pfizer's extra dose per vial has been FDA approved, so inventory allotment will change to 6 doses per vial. Moderna and J&J are still officially 10/5 doses in inventory counts.

Question: Do you get less doses per vial? Some say 8 doses.

Answer: We have determined that it depends on the syringe and needle being used. With Vanish Point, you have almost always drawn 11 doses.

Question: If you have an unpunctured vial out in the counter, and is not being used, can you put it back in the fridge?

Answer: As long as you count the time out of the fridge as how long you have to use the dose.

## General

Question: How do we volunteer?

Answer: TAPI has quick links on places to volunteer on our website under "Help Support Public Health by Volunteering" here: <https://whyimmunize.org/covid-19/>

Question: Does anyone have a POD I could shadow?

Answer: We don't have a "POD" but are utilizing our clinic meeting rooms for the large volume. Plus, we are starting a Contactless Check-In process with our vaccine clinics.

Amy Nunez - Mountain Park Health Center - [anunez@mphc-az.org](mailto:anunez@mphc-az.org)

## Billing

Question: What are the billing codes for Medicare pts and non-Medicare

Answer: All plans use the following codes for vaccine, dose 1 and dose 2

Pfizer: 91300, 0001A, 0001B

Moderna: 91301, 0011A, 0012A

J&J: 91303, 0031A

Updated billing guide with new CMS/AHCCCS rate of \$40 per dose and codes:

<https://whyimmunize.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Covid-19-Vaccine-Billing-slides-AZ.pptx>

Question: For uninsured populations are you still recommending the UHC (UnitedHealthcare) Optum option or has an easier process been set up for billing administration fees?

Answer: You still have to use the HRSA/Optum system if you are billing for uninsured patients <https://coviduninsuredclaim.linkhealth.com/get-started.html>

Question: To clarify, if we are not submitting for reimbursement, we do not need an Optum account?

Answer: No, only if you plan to bill for uninsured patients. Billing questions? Contact: [Jennifert@tapi.org](mailto:Jennifert@tapi.org) and join us next week!