

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
UPDATED MESSAGE ON WASTAGE
(as of 05/12/21):

Take every opportunity to vaccinate every eligible person

- Over a hundred million people are fully vaccinated in the United States, and many more have received at least one COVID-19 vaccination.
- Our goal is to increase vaccine confidence and for everyone who wants to be vaccinated to have every opportunity to be fully vaccinated once they become eligible.
- CDC and our partners are doing everything possible to minimize the amount of vaccine that goes unused.
- Vaccine wastage may increase as the vaccine rollout continues because:
 - more providers, including smaller provider sites, are now receiving vaccine,
 - vial sizes for some vaccines have increased,
 - vaccine vials may be opened without every dose being used
- To ensure providers do not miss an opportunity to vaccinate every eligible person, CDC recommends:
 - Providers follow [clinical best practice for vaccination as well as best practices when managing inventory](#) to maximize vaccination and minimize dose wastage.
 - Providers should not miss any opportunities to vaccinate every eligible person who presents at a vaccination site, even if it means puncturing a multidose vial to administer vaccine without having enough people available to receive each dose.
 - Consider establishing and promoting standing vaccination days or half-days to increase likelihood of larger numbers of people presenting for vaccination on the same day.
 - Vaccinate family members or friends who accompany patients to medical visits even if they are not established patients at the vaccinating practice
 - Continue outreach to employers or other community partners that have a large membership or network to arrange vaccination events.
 - As contingency plan, vaccine providers should attempt to contact additional persons (i.e., from a waitlist or through personal contacts of persons being vaccinated) to use as many vaccine doses as possible.
 - Once punctured, multidose vials must be used within:
 - 12 hours (Moderna)
 - 6 hours (Pfizer)
 - 2 hours at room temperature, 6 hours at 2-8 degrees Celsius (J&J/Janssen)
 - The more Americans who get vaccinated the fewer COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, outbreaks, and deaths that will occur.
- CDC remains committed to helping jurisdictions and sites manage inventory and creating additional strategies to minimize vaccine wastage, including increased use of walk-in clinics.

Additional language for taking points if needed

- As access to COVID-19 vaccine increases, it is important for providers to not miss any opportunity to vaccinate every eligible person who presents at vaccine clinics.
- We recognize that as we continue to create more opportunities to vaccinate more people, it may increase the likelihood of leaving unused doses in a vial.
 - While we want to continue to follow best practices to use every dose possible, we do not want that to be at the expense of missing an opportunity to vaccinate every eligible person when they are ready to get vaccinated.