

August 23, 2022

From: Kansas Department of Health and Environment – Division of Public Health

To: COVID-19 Vaccine Providers

RE: KDHE Follows CDC Recommendations for Primary Series of Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine in Adolescents Ages 12-17 Years

On Monday, August 22, 2022, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Director Rochelle P. Walensky, M.D., M.P.H., signed a decision memo that Novavax's COVID-19 Vaccine be used as another primary series option for adolescents ages 12 through 17. This recommendation follows the August 19, 2022 U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) emergency use authorization (EUA) for use of the vaccine for this age group.

Novavax's COVID-19 vaccine, which is available now, is an important tool in the pandemic and provides a more familiar type of COVID-19 vaccine technology for adolescents. Having multiple types of vaccines offers more options and flexibility for the public, jurisdictions, and vaccine providers.

Novavax's COVID-19 vaccine packages harmless proteins of the COVID-19 virus alongside another ingredient called an adjuvant that helps the immune system respond to the virus in the future. Vaccines—like the Novavax COVID-19 vaccine—that use protein subunit technology have been used for more than 30 years in the United States, beginning with the first licensed hepatitis B vaccine. Other protein subunit vaccines used in the United States today include those to protect against influenza and whooping cough (acellular pertussis).

Dosage and Interval Information:

The Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine, Adjuvanted is administered intramuscularly as a primary series of two doses (0.5 mL each) 3-8 weeks apart in individuals 12 years of age and older. For immunocompromised individuals, the primary series consists of two doses (0.5 mL each) 3 weeks apart. Currently, a booster dose using any COVID-19 vaccine is not authorized for individuals who received a Novavax primary series.

Please review the [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Approved or Authorized in the United States](#) for the most up-to-date guidance. This document was updated on August 22, 2022 and includes the new guidance for administration and considerations of use of Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine.

[Novavax HCP Fact Sheet 08192022 \(fda.gov\)](#)

Providers who have questions may contact the Kansas Immunization Program at kdhe.vaccine@ks.gov.