



Pascua Yaqui Tribe Health Services Division

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For Immediate Release- December 13, 2021

Public Health Alert: Pfizer-BioNTech Vaccine Fact Sheet



Introduction: The Tribe has been given the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine to administer at no cost. The Pfizer-BioNTech (COMIRNATY) received U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval on August 23, 2021, for individuals 16 years of age and older.

- The CDC recommends the Pfizer vaccine be given in two doses to individuals who are 12 years and older as a two-dose primary series and a 3rd primary series dose to individuals 12 yrs. of age and older who have been determined to have certain kinds of immunocompromise.
- The CDC also recommends a **single booster** shot for those who have completed a primary series with Pfizer-BioNTech or COMIRNATY vaccine at least six months after completion of a primary series to individuals 16 years of age and older.

Mechanism of Action: The Pfizer vaccine uses mRNA containing materials from the virus that causes COVID-19, which then gives your cells instructions for how to make a harmless protein that is unique to the virus. After your cells make copies of the protein, they destroy the genetic material from the vaccine. Your body will remember how to fight the virus that causes COVID-19 if you become infected in the future.

Primary Vaccination: The Vaccine is two shots to the arm muscle given 21 days apart.

Booster Dose: The CDC also recommends a single **booster shot** for those who have completed a primary series with the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine at least six months after completion of a primary series to individuals **16 years of age and older**.

A single booster dose shot of Pfizer-BioNTech can also be given to individuals 18 years of age and older who have completed primary vaccination with a different authorized COVID-19 vaccine.

Side Effects: In a small number of cases, people have reported some side effects. Side effects mean that your body is building protection. The side effects feel like the flu and might even affect your ability to do daily activities, but they should go away in 1 to 2 days. The side effects are felt more after the second dose. Pain, fatigue, chills, headache, and muscle pain were the most commonly reported symptoms.

Effectiveness: The Pfizer vaccine efficacy has been found to be 95% effective.

Pfizer and the Pandemic: Until most people are vaccinated you still need to continue to use a mask, stay at least 6 feet away from others, avoid crowds, and wash your hands often.

Vaccine Administration Location: The PYT Nursing Dept. will be administering the vaccine at the Pascua Yaqui Health & Social Services Family Center, 4567 W. Tetakusim Rd., Tucson, Arizona 85746.

For any questions, please contact Pascua Yaqui Community Health Nursing at 520-879-6119 or Dr. Renteria may be available at: Adalberto.Renteria@pascuayaqui-nsn.gov

Nau te vo'oho'one allae'ewamta vetchivo

Together on the Journey to Health