Maine Providers May Immediately Vaccinate Youth Ages 12 to 15 Following Expanded FDA Authorization of Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine May 10, 2021

Following the FDA's expanded authorization of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine, Maine providers may immediately begin vaccinating youth ages 12 to 15 with the verbal or written <u>consent</u> of parents or guardians.

Maine's immunization strategy is to vaccinate people as quickly and equitably as possible. As noted in the May 5 <u>guidance</u>, all Maine Immunization Program (MIP) providers who are able to offer the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine at their locations are encouraged to support this effort to immunize youth ages 12-17 in order to ensure widespread geographic availability.

The initial approach to vaccinating adolescents 12-15 years old is to connect them with COVID-19 vaccine providers. After that, Maine will move forward with a systematic approach to ensure equity and access in all parts of the state.

Providers are asked to notify Maine CDC Director of Vaccine Communications Lindsay Hammes via email at lindsay.hammes@maine.gov if you plan to administer vaccines to youth ages 12 and older. This will be noted on the public list of Maine vaccination sites.