

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases



COVID-19 Vaccine Policy and Next Steps

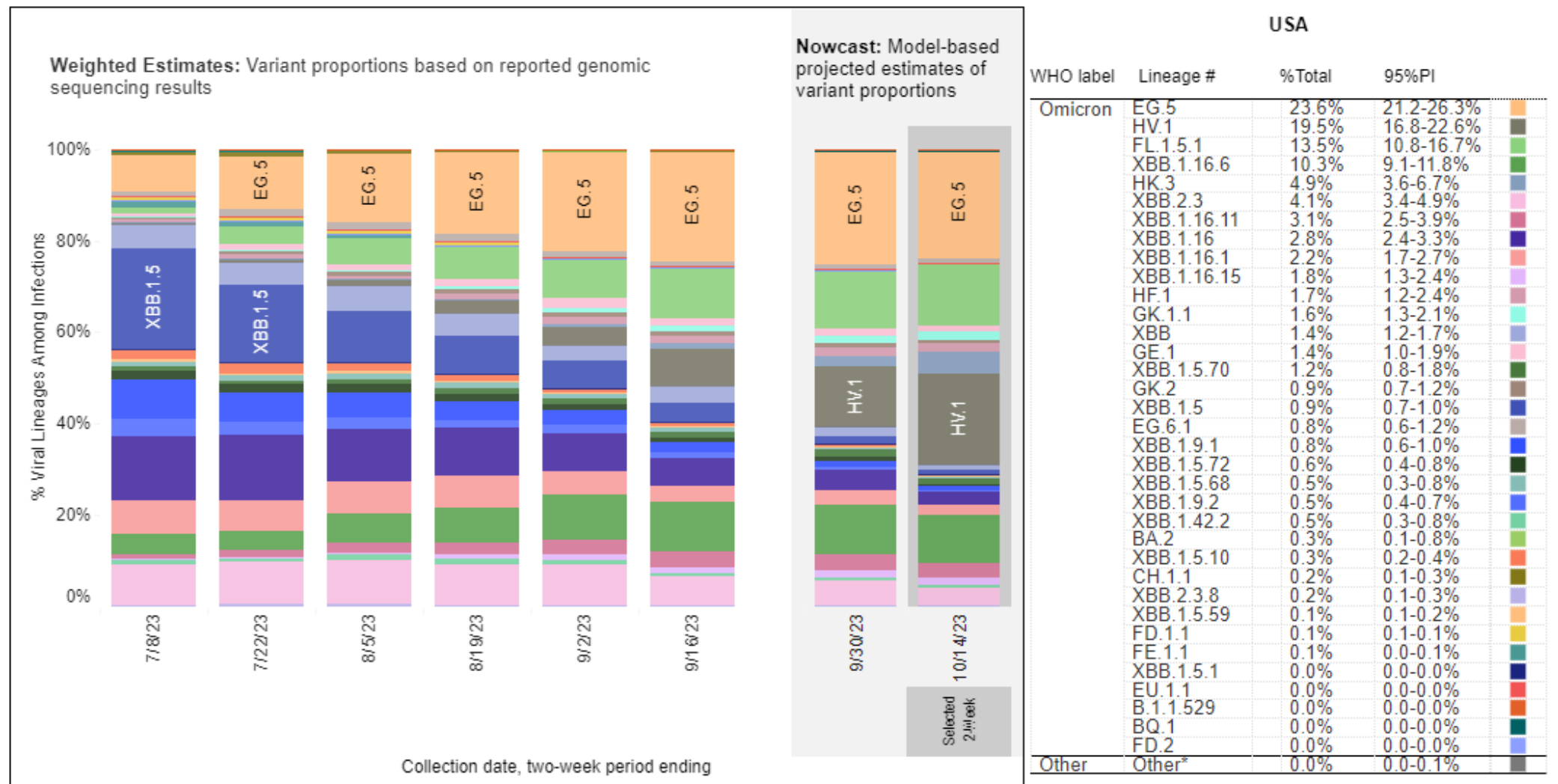
October 26, 2023

Megan Wallace, DrPH, MPH

COVID-19 Epidemiology

The background of the slide features a pattern of overlapping hexagons. The hexagons are rendered in various shades of blue and purple, creating a layered, geometric effect. Some hexagons are solid, while others are outlined, and they vary in opacity, giving the overall design a sense of depth and complexity.

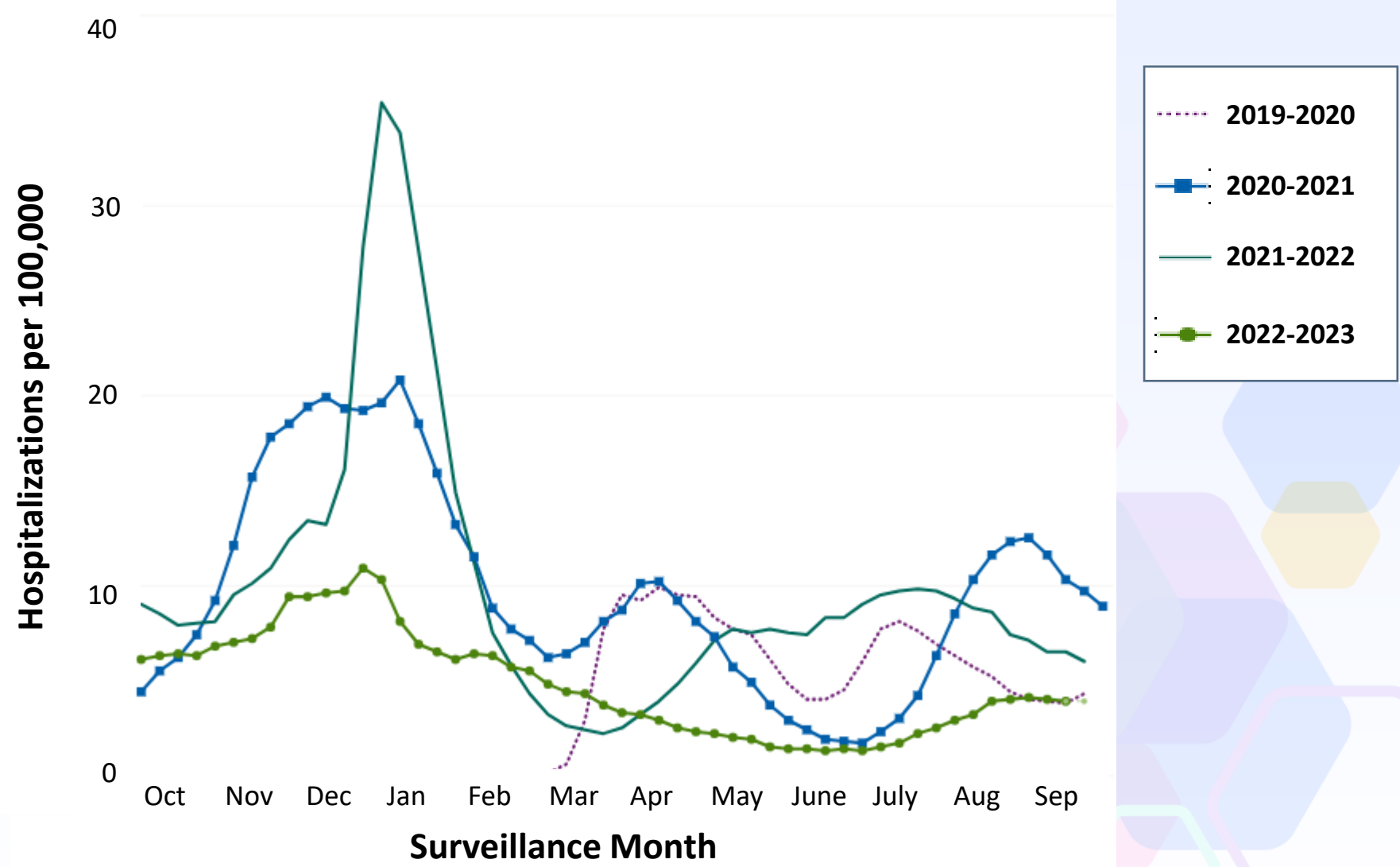
Trends in weighted variant proportion estimates and Nowcast – United States, June 25 – October 14, 2023



PI=Prediction Interval

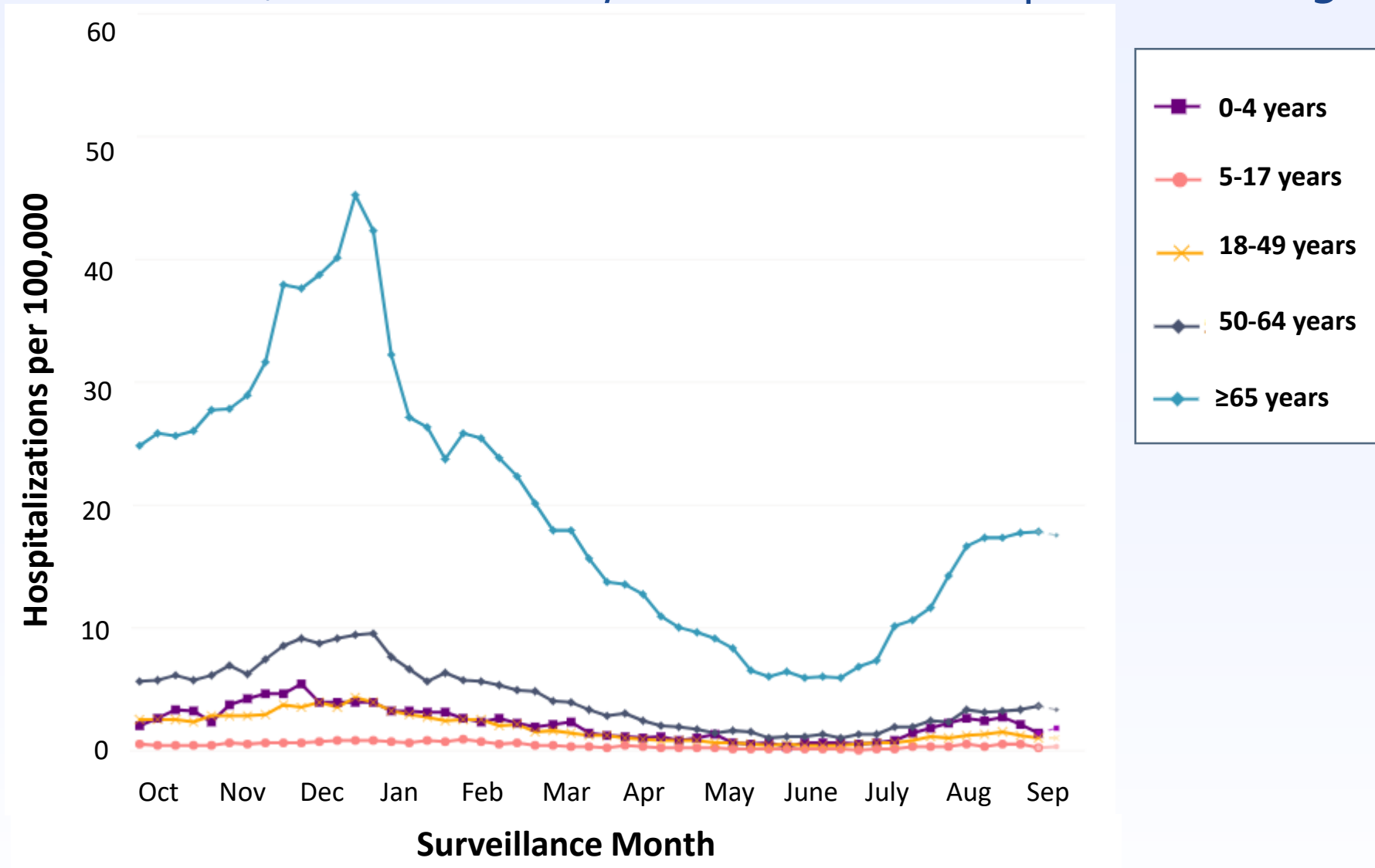
Source: <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#variant-proportions>

Weekly population-based rates of COVID-19-associated hospitalizations by season – COVID-NET, United States, March 2020–September 2023



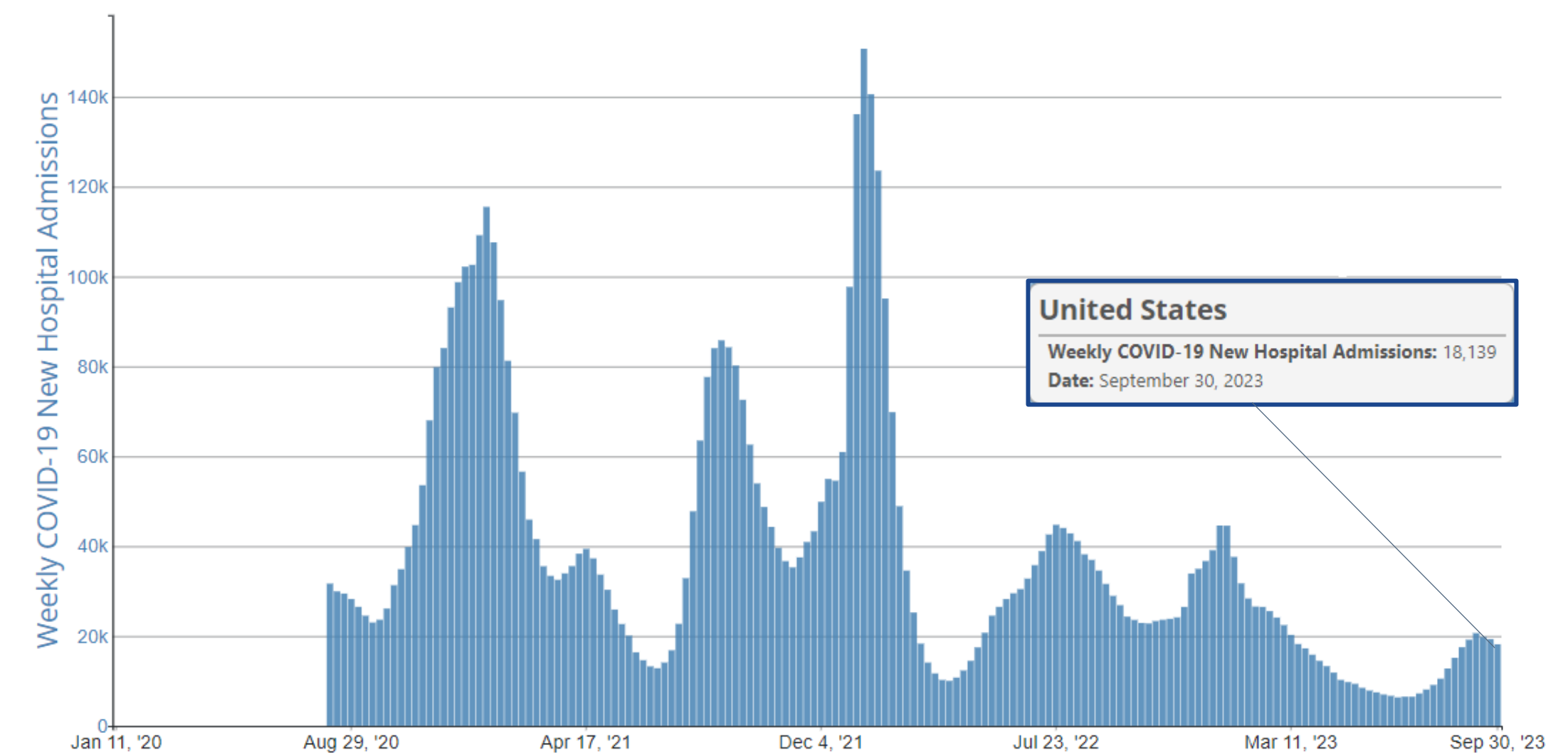
Source: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Hospitalization Surveillance Network (COVID-NET); <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/covidnetdashboard/de/powerbi/dashboard.html>. Accessed October 16, 2023.

Weekly population-based rates of COVID-19-associated hospitalizations by age group – COVID-NET, United States, October 2022–September 2023



Source: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Hospitalization Surveillance Network (COVID-NET); <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/covidnetdashboard/de/powerbi/dashboard.html>. Accessed October 16, 2023.

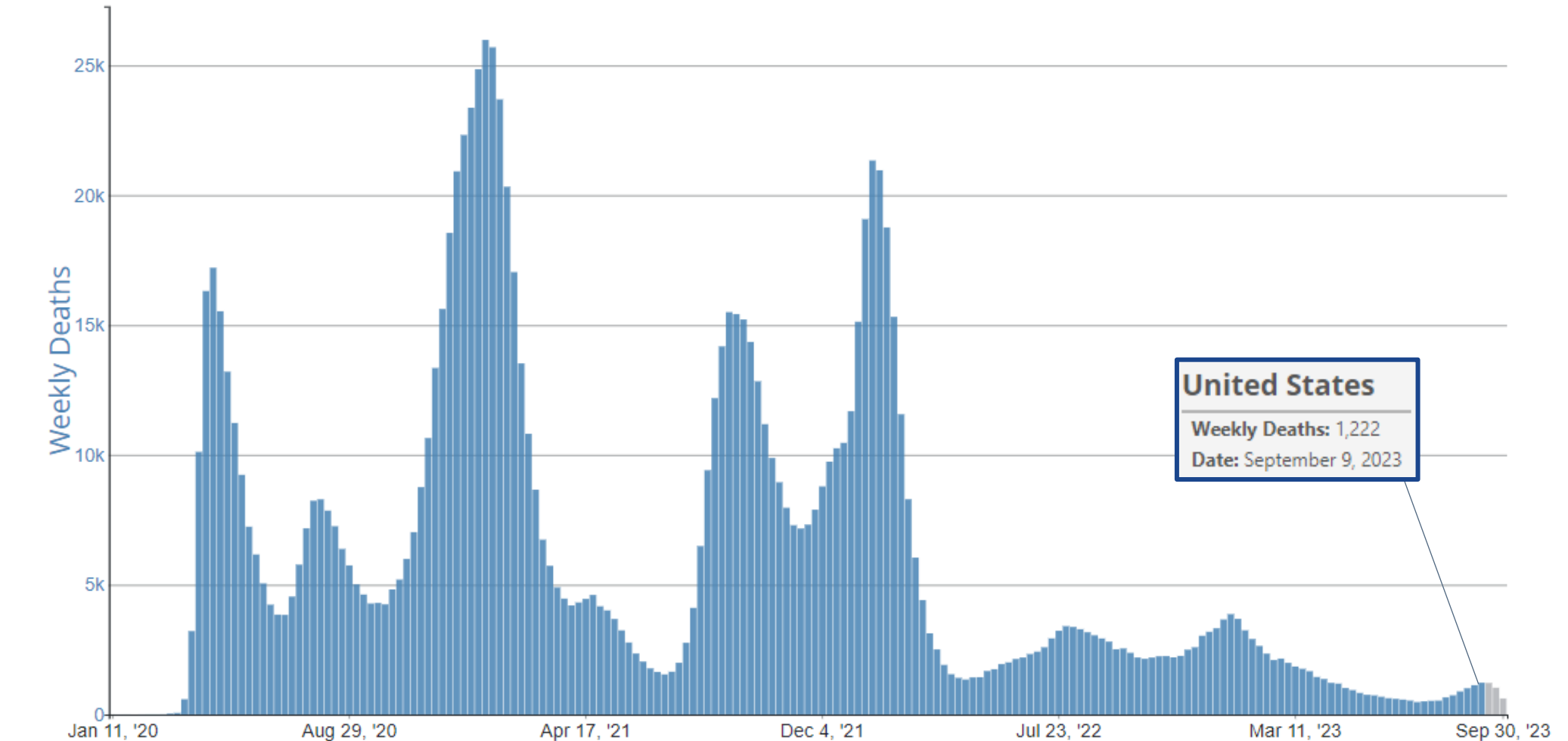
Weekly COVID-19 new hospital admissions – National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN), United States, August 2020 – September 2023



Source: COVID-19-associated hospitalization data reported to CDC’s National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN).

https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#trends_weeklyhospitaladmissions_select_00

Weekly provisional COVID-19 deaths – National Vital Statistics System (NVSS), United States January 2020 – September 2023



Source: Provisional Deaths from the CDC’s National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) National Vital Statistics System (NVSS). https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#trends_weeklydeaths_weeklydeathrateaa_00
Data during recent periods are incomplete because of the lag in time between when a death occurs and when a death certificate is completed, submitted to NCHS, and processed for reporting. This delay can range from 1 week to 8 weeks or more, depending on the jurisdiction. The most recent 3 weeks of mortality counts are shaded grey because NVSS reporting is <95% during this period.

COVID-19 Vaccine Policy

The background of the slide features a pattern of overlapping hexagons in various shades of blue and purple, creating a molecular or crystalline aesthetic. The hexagons vary in opacity and color, with some appearing as solid shapes and others as outlines.

COVID-19 Vaccine Policy

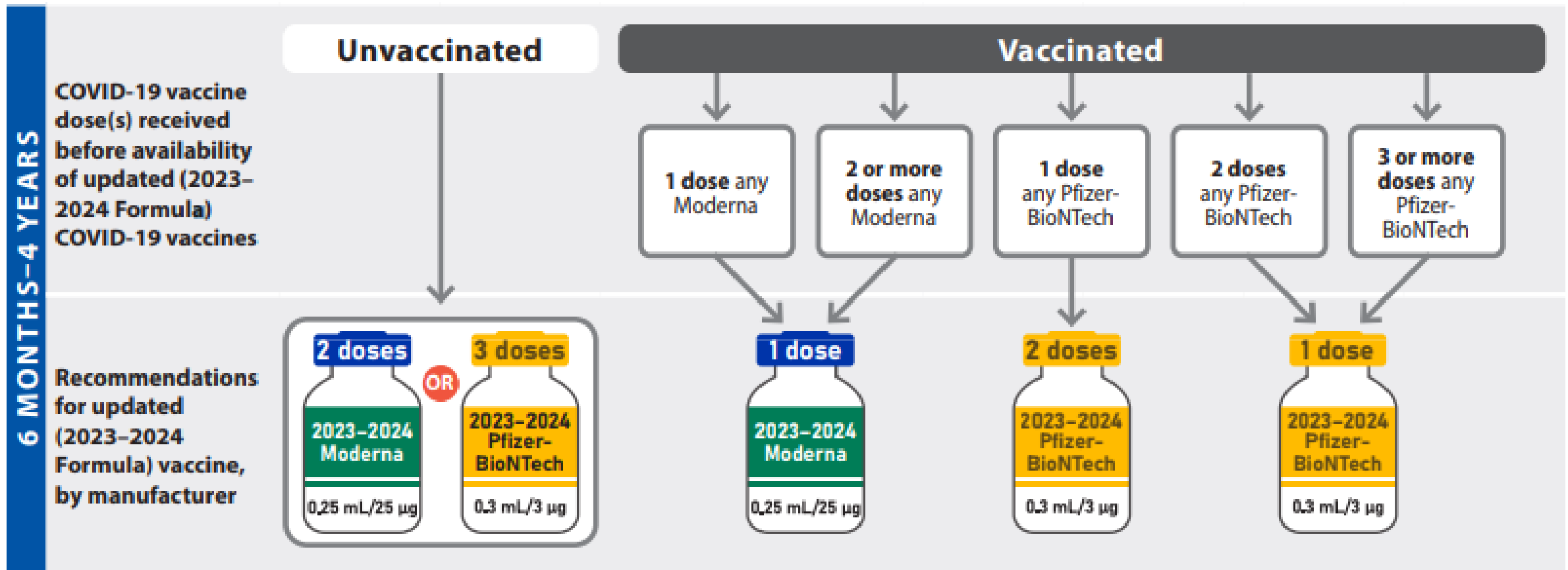
- ACIP met September 12, 2023 to review the available evidence for updated COVID-19 vaccines (monovalent, XBB.1.5 component)
- ACIP recommended updated COVID-19 vaccines as authorized under EUA or approved by BLA in persons aged ≥ 6 months
 - Moderna COVID-19 vaccine in persons ≥ 6 months
 - Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine in persons ≥ 6 months
 - Novavax COVID-19 vaccine in persons ≥ 12 years
- **All anticipated updated (2023–2024 Formula) vaccines are now authorized or approved**

Recommendations for children aged 6 months – 4 years without immunocompromise

Doses recommended:

- Initial series of 2 Moderna vaccine doses OR 3 Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine doses
 - **Including at least 1 dose of 2023–2024 COVID-19 vaccine**
-
- All doses should be homologous (i.e., from the same manufacturer)
 - All Moderna doses in ages 6 months – 11 years are now 25 µcg

Recommended 2023–2024 COVID-19 mRNA vaccines for people who are NOT immunocompromised, aged 6 months–4 years*†



*For information about administration intervals and children who transition from age 4 years to age 5 years, see Table 1 in the [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

† COVID-19 vaccination history refers to previous receipt of doses of Original monovalent mRNA or bivalent mRNA vaccine or a combination of the two; for people ages 12 years and older, Original monovalent Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine doses, alone or in combination with any mRNA vaccine doses; and for people ages 18 years and older, Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine doses, alone or in combination with any mRNA or Original monovalent Novavax vaccine doses.

Prior Version of Interim Clinical Considerations on Interchangeability of COVID-19 vaccines

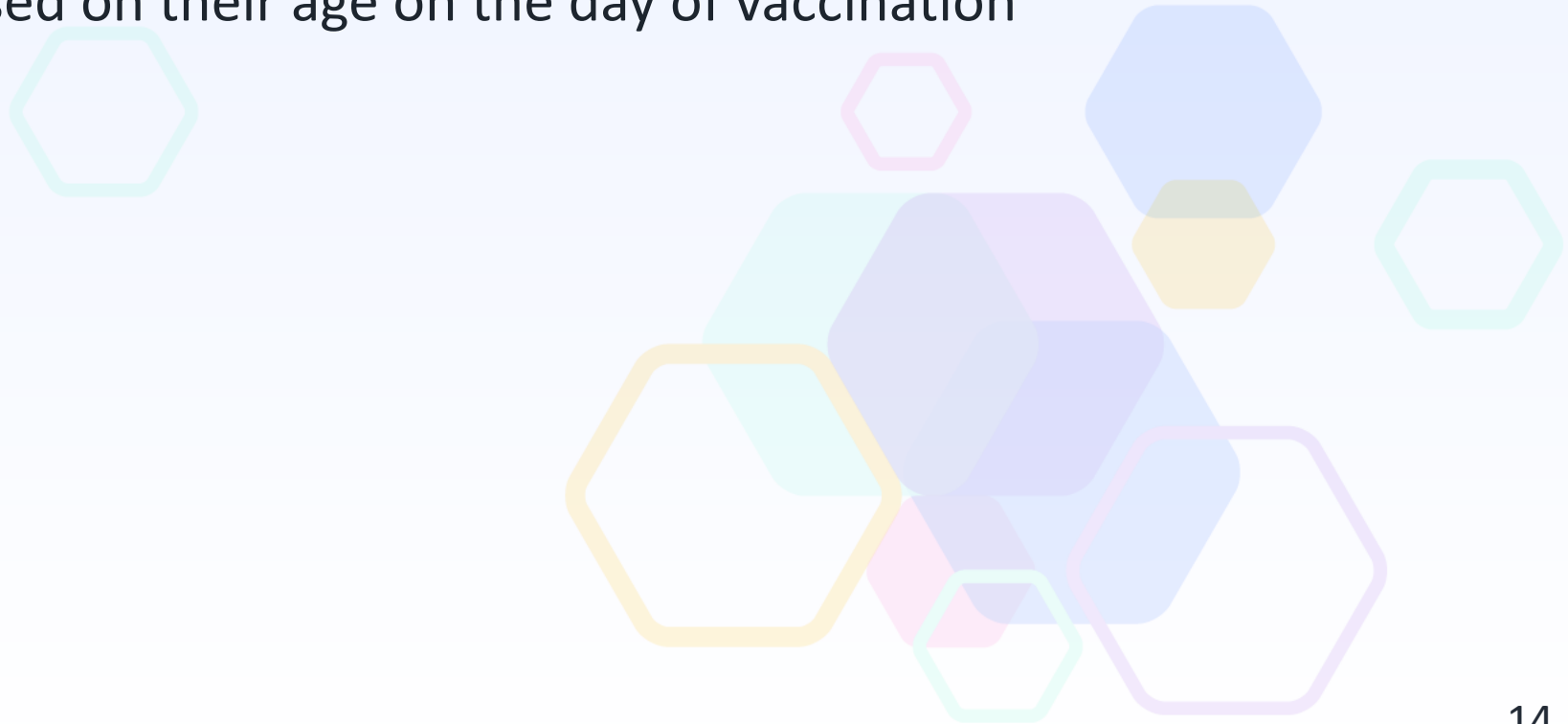
- **Exceptional situations:** In the following **exceptional situations**, a different age-appropriate COVID-19 vaccine may be administered:
 - Same vaccine not available
 - Previous dose unknown
 - Person would otherwise not complete the vaccination series
 - Person starts but unable to complete a vaccination series with the same COVID-19 vaccine due to a contraindication
- A Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) report is not indicated for these **exceptional situations**.

Updated Version of Interim Clinical Considerations on Interchangeability of COVID-19 vaccines

- COVID-19 vaccine doses from the same manufacturer should be administered whenever recommended. In the following **circumstances**, an age-appropriate COVID-19 vaccine from a different manufacturer may be administered:
 - Same vaccine not available **at the vaccination site at the time of the clinic visit**
 - Previous dose unknown
 - Person would otherwise not **receive a recommended vaccine dose**
 - Person starts but unable to complete a vaccination series with the same COVID-19 vaccine due to a contraindication
- A Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) report is not indicated **in these circumstances**.

Additional Updates to Interim Clinical Considerations

- Updated guidance for children who transition during the initial COVID-19 vaccination series from age 4 years to age 5 years and children who are moderately or severely immunocompromised and transition from age 11 years to age 12 years to receive the age-appropriate dosage based on their age on the day of vaccination



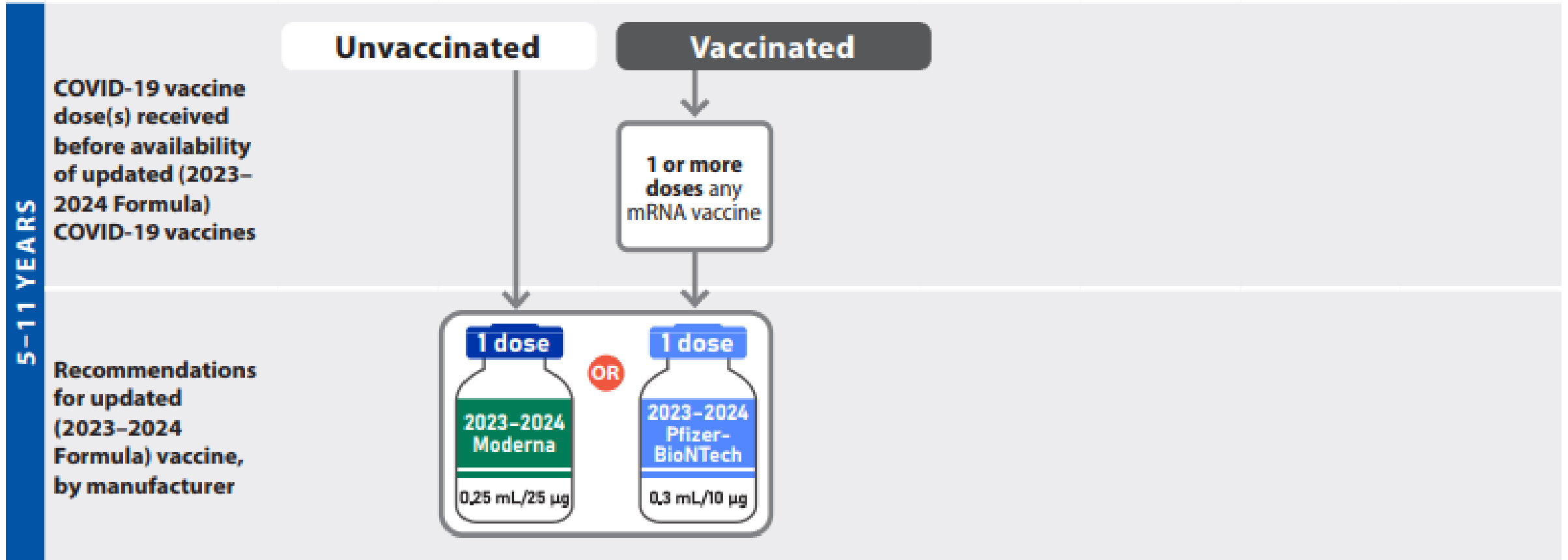
Recommendations for people aged 5 years and older without immunocompromise

Doses recommended:

- **1 dose of 2023–2024 COVID-19 vaccine**

- mRNA COVID-19 vaccines authorized or approved for ages ≥ 6 months and Novavax COVID-19 vaccine authorized for ages ≥ 12 years
- Unvaccinated persons receiving Novavax COVID-19 should complete a 2-dose initial series
- New harmonized age cutoff for recommendations for young children for Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines resulting in simplified recommendations for 5-year-olds
- All Moderna doses in ages 6 months – 11 years are now 25 μcg
- 2023–2024 COVID-19 vaccine dose is recommended at least 2 months after receipt of the last COVID-19 vaccine dose

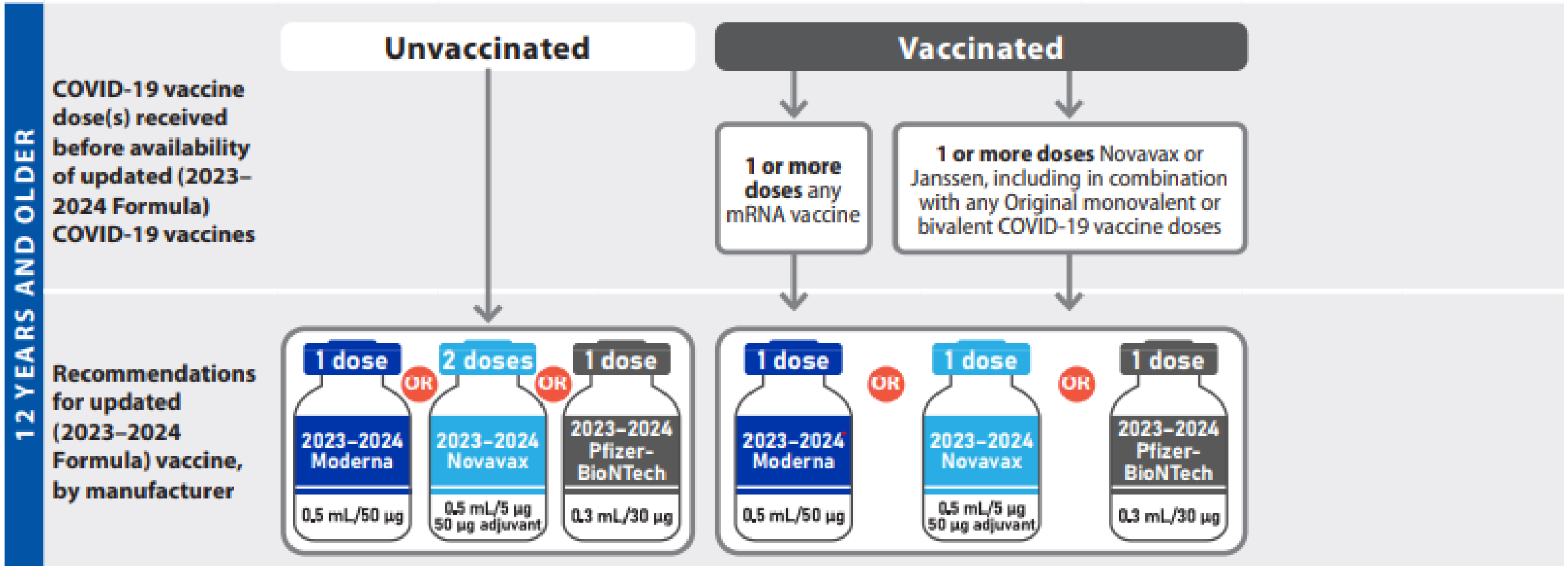
Recommended 2023–2024 COVID-19 mRNA vaccines for people who are NOT immunocompromised, aged 5–11 years*†



*For information about administration intervals and children who transition from age 4 years to age 5 years, see Table 1 in the [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

† COVID-19 vaccination history refers to previous receipt of doses of Original monovalent mRNA or bivalent mRNA vaccine or a combination of the two; for people ages 12 years and older, Original monovalent Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine doses, alone or in combination with any mRNA vaccine doses; and for people ages 18 years and older, Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine doses, alone or in combination with any mRNA or Original monovalent Novavax vaccine doses.

Recommended COVID-19 vaccination schedule for people who are NOT moderately or severely immunocompromised, aged ≥ 12 years^{*†}



*For information about administration intervals and children who transition from age 4 years to age 5 years, see Table 1 in the [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

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Recommendations for people aged ≥ 6 months who are moderately or severely immunocompromised

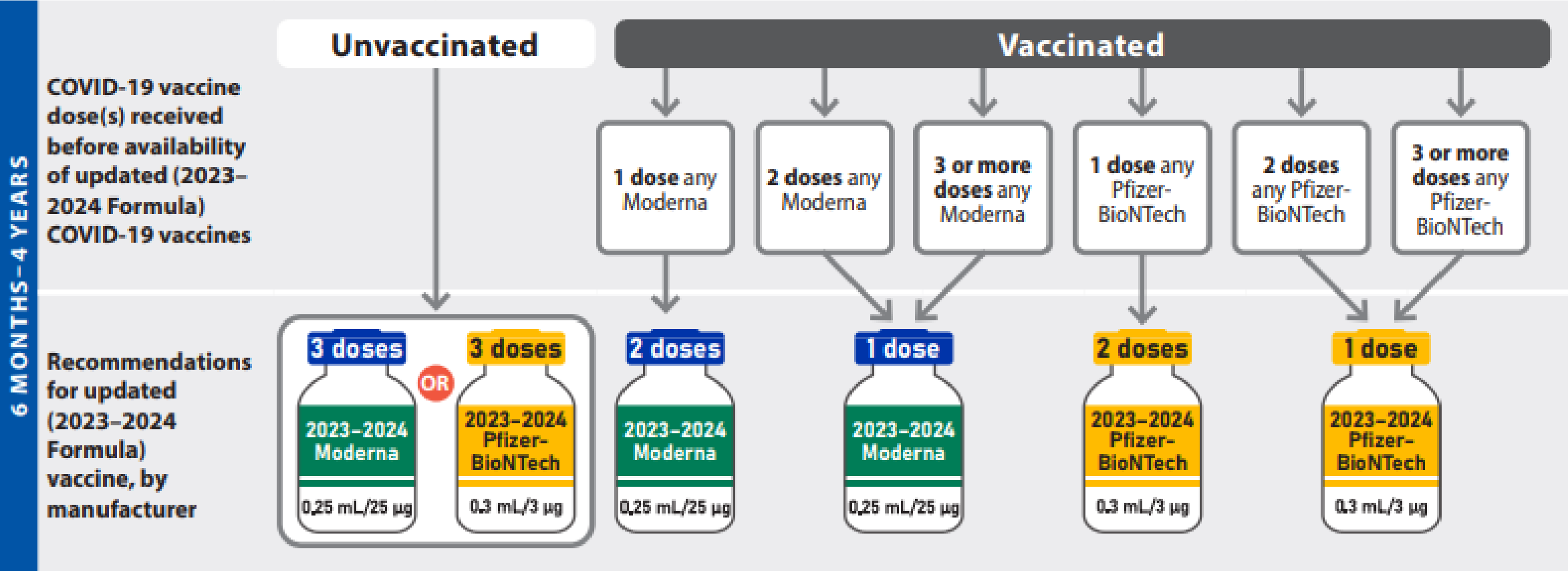
Doses recommended:

- Initial COVID-19 vaccine series*
- **At least 1 2023–2024 COVID-19 vaccine dose**
- May receive 1 or more additional 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine doses**

*Series of 3 homologous mRNA COVID-19 vaccine doses or 2 homologous Novavax COVID-19 vaccine doses at time of initial vaccination. This could also include a history of receipt of 1 or more doses of Novavax or Janssen, including in combination with mRNA vaccine dose(s).

**Further additional dose(s) may be administered, informed by the clinical judgement of a healthcare provider and personal preference and circumstances. Further additional doses should be administered at least 2 months after the last 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine dose.

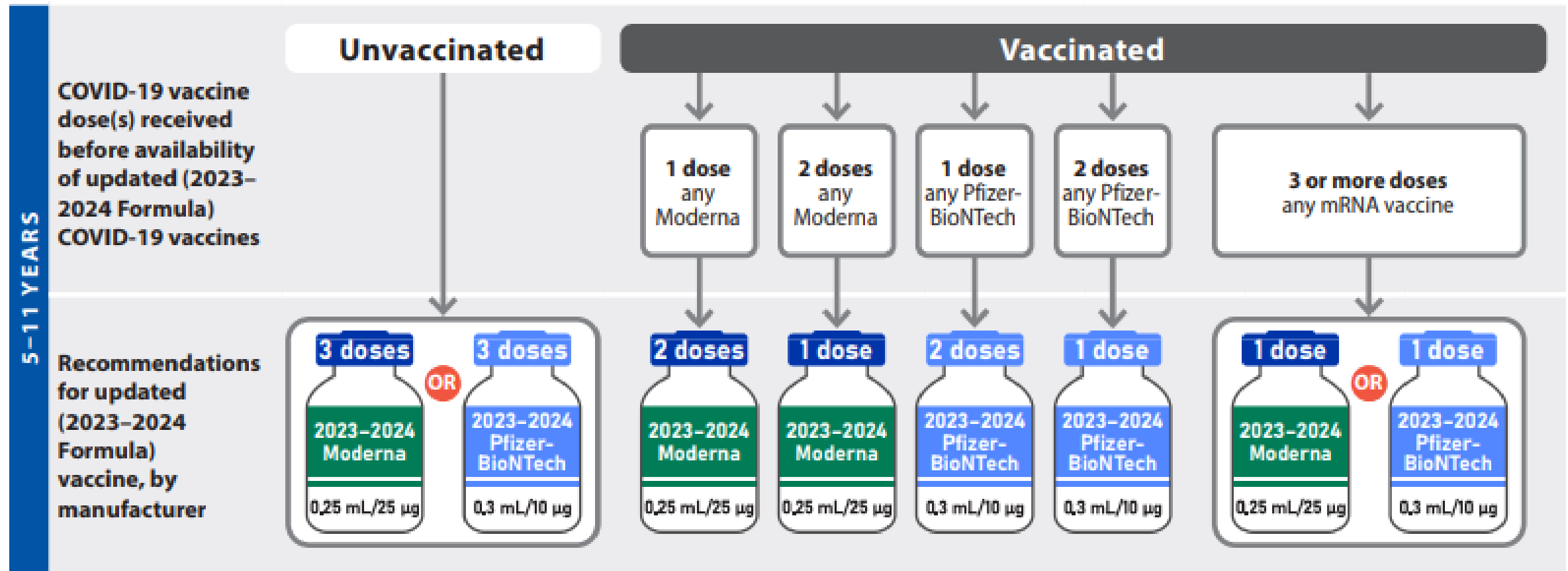
Recommended 2023–2024 COVID-19 vaccines for people who ARE moderately or severely immunocompromised, aged 6 months–4 years*†



* For information about administration intervals and children who transition from age 4 years to age 5 years or age 11 years to age 12 years during an mRNA vaccination series, and administration of additional dose(s), see Table 2 in the [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

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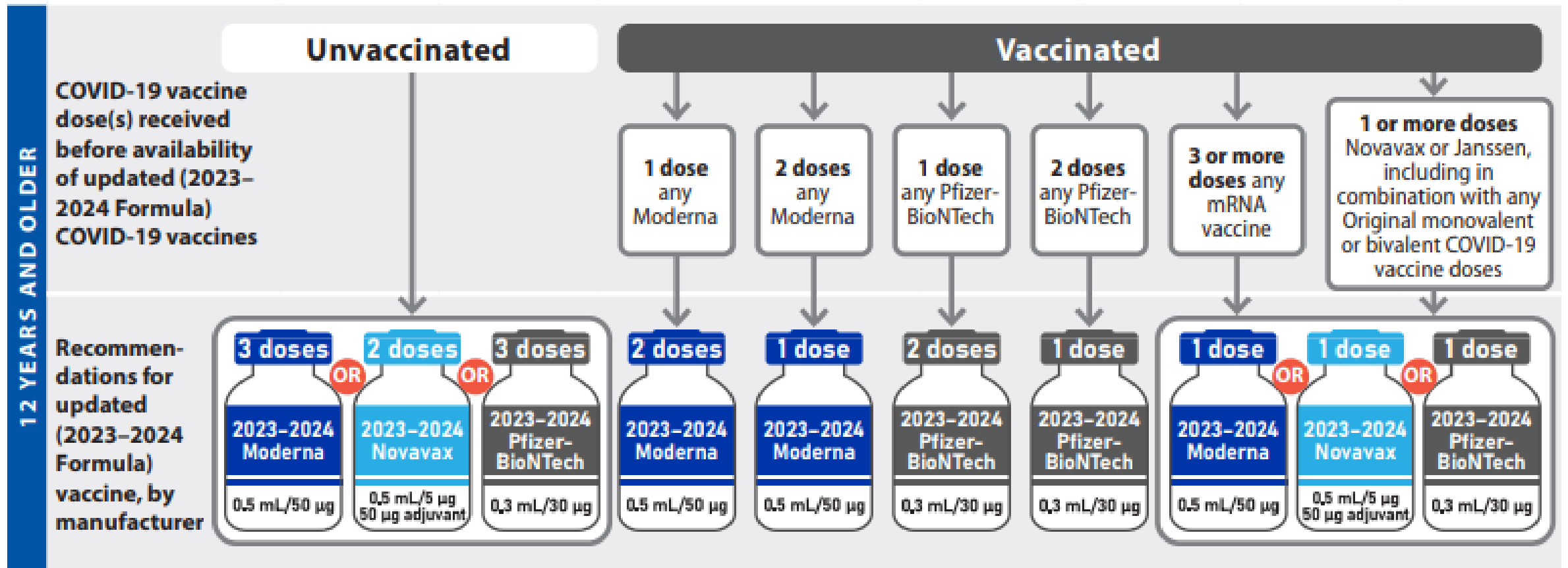
Recommended 2023–2024 COVID-19 vaccines for people who ARE moderately or severely immunocompromised, aged 5–11 years*†



* For information about administration intervals and children who transition from age 4 years to age 5 years or age 11 years to age 12 years during an mRNA vaccination series, and administration of additional dose(s), see Table 2 in the [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

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Recommended COVID-19 vaccination schedule for people who ARE moderately or severely immunocompromised, aged ≥12 years^{*†}

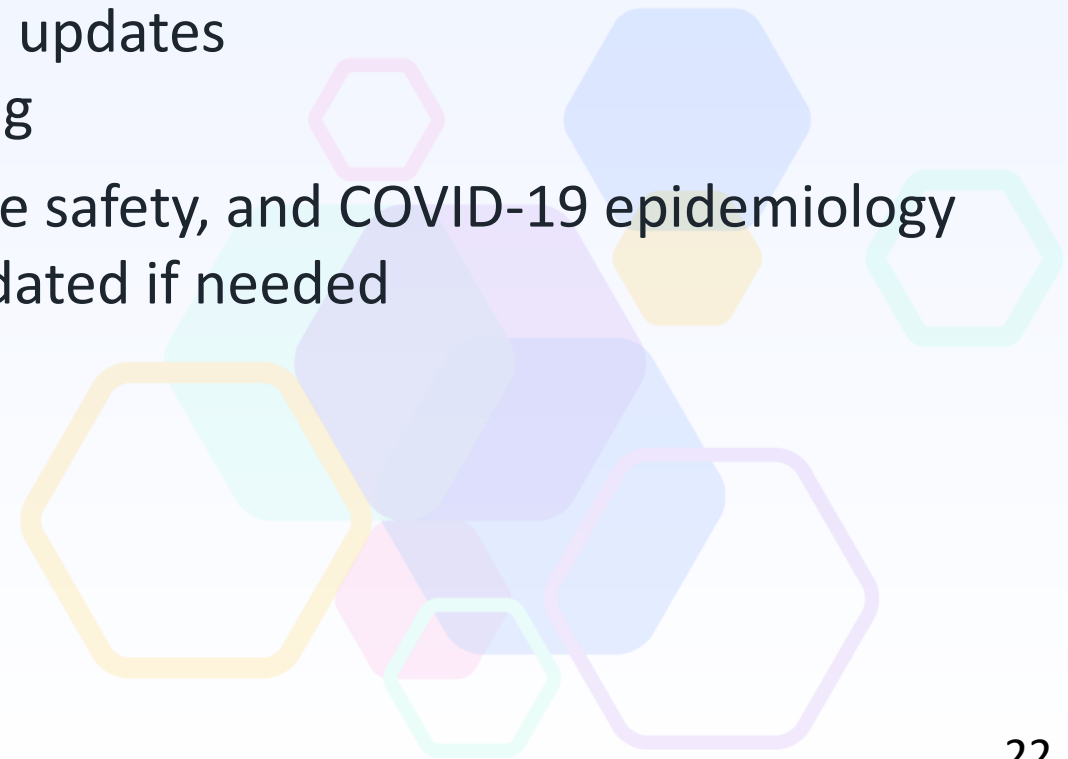


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Upcoming COVID-19 policy discussions

- Consideration of additional COVID-19 vaccine doses in older adults
 - Anticipated for February 2024 ACIP meeting
 - Policy discussion will occur prior to individuals reaching 6 months since their last dose
- Preparations for future COVID-19 vaccine formula updates
 - Discussions will begin at June 2024 ACIP meeting
- Continue to monitor vaccine effectiveness, vaccine safety, and COVID-19 epidemiology
 - COVID-19 vaccine recommendations can be updated if needed



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- Coronavirus and other Respiratory Viruses Division
- National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases



For more information, contact CDC
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