

Summit Adult Vaccination Recommendations Review (SAVRR) Council
Meeting Summary
August 11, 2026

Opening announcements

- Bob Hopkins (Co-chair) welcomed SAVRR Council members and reviewed the Council's scope and objectives.

American Thoracic Society (ATS) welcomed to the Council

- Justin Ortiz and Tina Hartert

Updates on COVID-19 vaccine distribution by manufacturers

Pfizer- Vincenza Snow, Adam MacNeil, and Lisa Coen

- Reported on vaccine effectiveness of the 2025-2026 Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine.
- Anticipated formula and storage requirements for the 2026-2027 Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine were shared.
- Pfizer has comprehensive vaccine safety monitoring for each vaccination season.
- Implementation challenges:
 - Coverage and reimbursement- without a timely updated CDC/ACIP recommendation for COVID-19 vaccine, some payer coverage and reimbursement challenges may occur, particularly with commercial and Medicaid plans because an ACIP recommendation is needed to facilitate coverage with no cost sharing. Medicare Part B does not require an ACIP recommendation for 100% coverage, and VFC coverage for eligible children has been confirmed by CDC.
 - Pharmacy access- without an updated CDC/ACIP recommendation, some additional state measures may be needed to facilitate pharmacy access.
- FDA approval anticipated by late August; vaccine distribution to begin following approval.

Sanofi- Courtney Fahey and Amanda Cohn

- COVID-19 immunization implementation barriers:
 - Lack of belief/concern in the incidence and severity of COVID disease.
 - Politization of vaccine has polarized thinking.
 - Limited overall demand as vaccination rates continue to decline.
 - Administration is about 90% in pharmacy setting.
 - Among those willing, policy and recommendations remain confusing.
 - Concerns over presence/applicability of ACIP guidance challenging pharmacist participation.
 - Uncertainty about annual recommendation impacting pharmacists' authority to administer vaccines in about 13 states.
 - FDA label and medical society recommendations may not align.
- Nuvaxovid vaccine:

- Limited awareness of protein-based options among patients and providers.
- Knowledge gap among providers about attributes of protein-based options, including tolerability profile.
- Current shelf-life limitations (6 months) perceived as an operational hindrance.
- Co-administration with influenza has potential to improve coverage rates.
- Anticipate FDA approval of Nuvaxovid in the coming weeks.
- They are continuing to collect data on shelf-life extension for next season's product.

Moderna- April Cohen

- Planning for an annual strain update and expects to meet anticipated demand for COVID vaccines.
- Once FDA approval is received, vaccine distribution will begin.
- Reduced vaccination rates are Moderna's biggest concern.

Moderna presentation on 2026/27 distribution plans of new mRNA influenza vaccine and anticipated implementation challenges- Troy Fix

- mFLUSIVA has been approved by the FDA.
- Product attributes:
 - To be supplied as 10 single-dose, prefilled syringe cartons; each dose is 0.38 mL.
 - Storage between 2°-8°C. Do not freeze. May be stored between 8°-25°C for up to 12 hours after removal from refrigeration.
 - Initial shelf life is through February 2027; 12-month shelf life after that.
- 2026-2027 plans:
 - A limited volume will be made available for the 2026-2027 season.
 - ACIP recommendations play an important role in supporting vaccine implementation, reimbursement, and provider confidence.
- 2027-2028 plans:
 - Volume will be determined based on pre-books and customer contracts.
 - Will be made available to all customer segments.
 - ACIP recommendations will continue to play an important role.
- They are waiting on lot releases from the FDA, and product booking is occurring.
- Moderna has concerns about insurance coverage for those age 50-64 for this new product.

Discussion: Respiratory virus season vaccine implementation— Jane Zucker

- Insurance coverage concerns:
 - The council should consider inviting an America's Health Insurance Plan (AHIP) representative to the next call to discuss coverage issues.
 - Self-insured employer plans are outside of AHIP membership, so reaching out to the Business Group on Health may be worthwhile. Common Health Coalition offered to reach out to them.
- Pharmacies have been exploring additional pathways to make vaccine available in the absence of an ACIP recommendation. Earlier access to the VIP clinical guidance evidence

in future seasons would be helpful. Guidance on the timing of vaccine administration would also be helpful.

- A question was asked about health system purchase of flu and COVID vaccines. However, the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) does not have current health systems order data on flu and COVID vaccines.
- To address concerns raised, it was suggested that the council amend its implementation guidance to state that vaccines should be available at no cost to patients and with no barriers to where they can be accessed. The council will share proposed language.
- Member updates:
 - Vaccinate Your Family will present their respiratory toolkit during the September meeting.
 - Immunize.org will post standing order templates; currently based on medical society recommendations. They will include notes explaining differences between the ACIP recommendations and medical society recommendations.

Respiratory season update- Andrea Garcia (American Medical Association-AMA) and Kevin Griffis/Sherri Berger (Vaccine Integrity Project-VIP)

- Respiratory season evidence review is complete; they are working with medical societies to draft recommendations. Launch date planned for the first week of September. The evidence review will be published in a peer-reviewed journal.
- Launched [What's the Risk?](#) tool with Center for Unbiased Science & Health and will soon release a Q&A series.
- AMA is working on fall respiratory season communications:
 - Consolidated website of trusted resources from partner organizations under development.
 - Respiratory season town hall planned for the end of September.
 - Creative campaign to drive people to the site for resources and information being finalized.
 - Media tour planned to encourage people to be vaccinated this fall.

Next meeting

- September 8 from 1:00 – 2:30 pm ET