



Department of Health

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D.
Commissioner

LISA J. PINO, M.A., J.D.
Executive Deputy Commissioner

December 23, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) has learned that COVID-19 vaccine providers have consistently been able to withdraw more than 10 doses from one vial of the Moderna vaccine. Vials have yielded 11 doses in some cases.

The NYSDOH is providing the following guidance after consulting with the FDA:

- Vaccinators may withdraw more than 10 doses from a single 10-dose vial.
- **Extra vaccine fluid from more than one vial CANNOT be combined to produce extra doses.** This is particularly important since the vaccine does not contain preservatives.
- Use any extra vaccine that can easily be drawn up into a syringe to meet the 0.5 ml dose requirement. This could be 11 doses.
- Enter all vaccines given into NYSIIS, including any additional vaccines given.
- Inventory as shown and managed in NYSIIS may have to be modified, per the attached guidance.

This guidance applies to the Moderna vaccine only.

Thank you for your hard work as vaccinators and recipients of COVID-19 vaccines.

Sincerely,

Howard A. Zucker, M.D., J.D.
Commissioner