

# Preparing Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for administration

## DILUTION

**COVID-19**  
**VACCINATION**



**Vaccine is fragile: DO NOT SHAKE**

1.

### Prepare workstation and materials

- Single use alcohol 70% swabs x 2
- Alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR)
- 21 Gauge needle
- 3mL syringe
- 0.9% sodium chloride 0.9% 10mL ampoule
- Pen (for labelling)
- Yellow clinical waste bin
- Red zip-lock bags labelled for 'DO NOT USE STOCK'

Clean surface of workstation and perform hand hygiene with ABHR. Check expiry date of labelled container of vaccine vial & sodium chloride 0.9% ampoule.

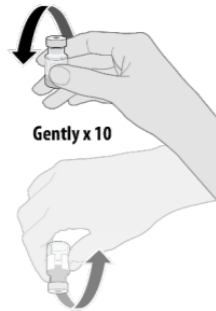
It is important that only one vial is removed from labelled container at a time when preparing vaccine.

*Perform visual check of the suspension and check for contamination.*

*DO NOT USE expired vials – place expired vials in RED zip-lock bag labelled “DO NOT USE STOCK” and put in refrigerator – alert Vaccination Site Coordinator to contact Vaccine Operation Centre.*

2.

### Gently invert vial



Once the vaccine is at room temperature, assign a 2 hour room temperature expiry.

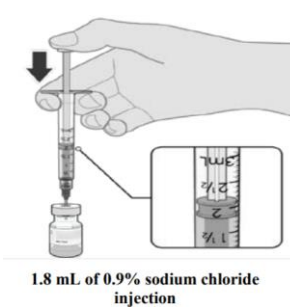
Gently invert vial 10 times. **Do not shake the vial.**

The vaccine is white to off-white in colour and may contain opaque particles

*DO NOT USE if vial is shaken or discoloured – place vial in RED zip-lock bag labelled “DO NOT USE STOCK”*

3.

### Inject diluent



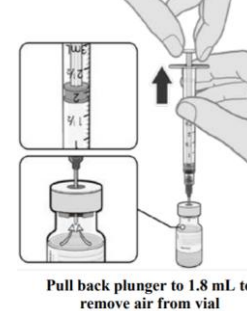
Remove plastic cap and use a single use alcohol 70% swab to clean vial stopper. Use another swab to wipe top and shoulders of 0.9% sodium chloride ampoule. Allow to dry.

Use a 21-gauge needle to draw up 1.8mL of sodium chloride 0.9% into a 3 mL syringe. Discard remainder of sodium chloride 0.9% ampoule.

Puncture the **centre** of the sterilised vial stopper/bung and slowly inject 1.8mL of sodium chloride 0.9% into the vaccine vial

4.

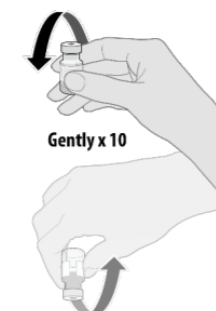
### Equalise vial pressure



Equalise the vial pressure before removing the needle from the vial stopper by withdrawing 1.8 mL of air into the empty diluent syringe.

5.

### Gently invert vial



Gently invert the diluted vaccine 10 times.

**Do not shake the vial.**

The diluted vaccine will be off-white in colour, with no particles.

*DO NOT USE if vial is shaken, discoloured, or contains particles – place vial in Red zip-lock bag labelled “DO NOT USE STOCK”*

6.

### Label diluted vial with expiry



Write the date and time (use 24h clock, e.g. 17:00) of post dilution expiry on the vial label in the “DISCARD” section.


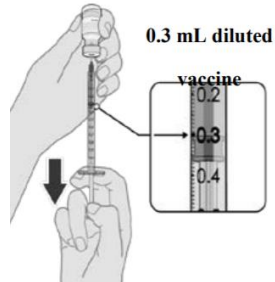
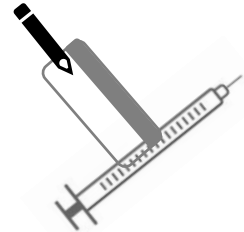
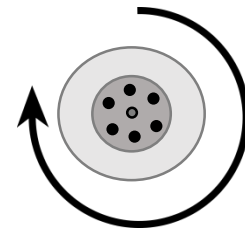
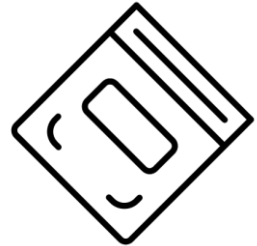
The expiry is **6 hours from the point of dilution**, but it is preferable to use immediately.

*Place any wasted vials, e.g. expired, in the RED zip-lock bag labelled “DO NOT USE STOCK”*

# Preparing Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for administration

## DRAWING UP INTO SYRINGE

**Vaccine is fragile: DO NOT SHAKE**

7. Prepare workstation and materials	8. Cleanse diluted vaccine vial	9. Draw up dose	10. Prepare the syringe	11. Withdraw additional doses	12. Discard used vial
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single use alcohol 70% swabs x 7</li> <li>23 Gauge x 25mm needle x 7</li> <li>1mL syringe x7</li> <li>Diluted vial</li> <li>Pen (for labelling)</li> <li>Yellow clinical waste bin</li> <li>Red zip-lock bags labelled for 'DO NOT USE STOCK'</li> </ul>					
<p>Check the assigned handwritten post dilution expiry on the label of the vaccine vial has not been exceeded.</p> <p>Carefully perform visual check of solution and check for contamination.</p> <p><b>Do not shake the vial.</b></p> <p><i>DO NOT USE if vial is expired, discoloured, or contains particles – place vial in Red zip-lock bag labelled "DO NOT USE STOCK".</i></p> <p><i>Place in refrigerator and alert the Vaccination Site Coordinator to contact Vaccine Operation Centre.</i></p>	<p>Use a single use alcohol 70% swab to clean vial stopper. Allow to dry.</p> <p>Using aseptic technique, draw back 0.3mL of air into an empty 1mL syringe with 23G x 25mm needle.</p> <p><b>*NOTE:</b> 23G x 38mm needles may be required for morbidly obese patients and 25G x 16mm needles for low body weight vaccine recipients</p>	<p>Puncture the vial stopper/bung of the diluted vaccine vial, equalising pressure by injecting air into the vial.</p> <p>Draw up 0.3mL of the diluted vaccine.</p> <p>Adjust to remove air bubbles <u>with the needle still in the vial</u> to avoid loss of diluted vaccine.</p> <p><b>Do not shake or tap syringe.</b></p> <p>Check volume withdrawn is 0.3mL and then remove needle from vial.</p>	<p>If not immediately administering the dose, cap the needle using the needle recapping device or using the one hand scoop technique, label syringe and place in container for administration.</p> <p>Details required on the label:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Batch Number</li> <li>Dilution Date and Time</li> <li>Expiry Date and Time</li> <li>Initial of person preparing dose</li> <li>Initial of person providing second check</li> </ul>	<p>Repeat steps 7-10 for each additional dose.</p> <p>A total of five to seven doses may be prepared from each diluted vaccine vial.</p> <p>Each time the vial stopper is punctured, this must be in a different location to previous points of puncture on the stopper. Work in a clockwise manner around the stopper for each dose withdrawal.</p>	<p>Attempt to draw up 0.3mL for a sixth and possible seventh dose. If the amount of vaccine remaining in the vial is less than 0.3mL, return the remaining vaccine into the vial.</p> <p><b>Do not use vaccine from multiple vials to make up a dose.</b></p> <p>Once all possible doses have been removed place vials in designated red zip-lock bag labelled "DO NOT USE STOCK".</p>