Package leaflet: Information for the user

Comirnaty concentrate for dispersion for injection
COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine (nucleoside modified)

▼This medicine is subject to additional monitoring. This will allow quick identification of new safety information. You can help by reporting any side effects you may get. See the end of section 4 for how to report side effects.

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you receive this vaccine because it contains important information for you.
- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

What is in this leaflet

1. What Comirnaty is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you receive Comirnaty
3. How Comirnaty is given
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Comirnaty
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. What Comirnaty is and what it is used for

Comirnaty is a vaccine used for preventing COVID-19 caused by SARS-CoV-2 virus.
Comirnaty is given to adults and adolescents from 12 years of age and older.

The vaccine causes the immune system (the body's natural defences) to produce antibodies and blood cells that work against the virus, so giving protection against COVID-19.
As Comirnaty does not contain the virus to produce immunity, it cannot give you COVID-19.

2. What you need to know before you receive Comirnaty

Comirnaty should not be given
- if you are allergic to the active substance or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6)

Warnings and precautions
Talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse before you are given the vaccine if:
- you have ever had a severe allergic reaction or breathing problems after any other vaccine injection or after you were given Comirnaty in the past.
- you are feeling nervous about the vaccination process or have ever fainted following any needle injection.
- you have a severe illness or infection with high fever. However, you can have your vaccination if you have a mild fever or upper airway infection like a cold.
- you have a bleeding problem, you bruise easily or you use a medicine to prevent blood-clots.
- you have a weakened immune system, because of a disease such as HIV infection or a medicine such as corticosteroid that affects your immune system.

Very rare cases of myocarditis (inflammation of the heart muscle) and pericarditis (inflammation of the lining outside the heart) have been reported after vaccination with Comirnaty. The cases have primarily occurred within two weeks following vaccination, more often after the second vaccination, and more often occurred in younger men. Following vaccination, you should be alert to signs of myocarditis and pericarditis, such as breathlessness, palpitations and chest pain, and seek immediate medical attention should these occur.

As with any vaccine, the 2-dose vaccination course of Comirnaty may not fully protect all those who receive it and it is not known how long you will be protected.

Children
Comirnaty is not recommended for children aged under 12 years.

Other medicines and Comirnaty
Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are using, have recently used or might use any other medicines or have recently received any other vaccine.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding
If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before you receive this vaccine.

Driving and using machines
Some of the effects of vaccination mentioned in section 4 (Possible side effects) may temporarily affect your ability to drive or use machines. Wait until these effects have worn off before you drive or use machines.

Comirnaty contains potassium and sodium
This vaccine contains less than 1 mmol potassium (39 mg) per dose, that is to say essentially 'potassium-free'.

This vaccine contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per dose, that is to say essentially 'sodium-free'.

3. How Comirnaty is given

Comirnaty is given after dilution as an injection of 0.3 mL into a muscle of your upper arm.

You will receive 2 injections.
It is recommended to receive the second dose of the same vaccine 3 weeks after the first dose to complete the vaccination course.

If you have any further questions on the use of Comirnaty, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.

4. Possible side effects

Like all vaccines, Comirnaty can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Very common side effects: may affect more than 1 in 10 people
- injection site: pain, swelling
- tiredness
- headache
- muscle pain
- chills
- joint pain
- diarrhoea
- fever

Some of these side effects were slightly more frequent in adolescents 12 to 15 years than in adults.

Common side effects: may affect up to 1 in 10 people
- injection site redness
- nausea
- vomiting

Uncommon side effects: may affect up to 1 in 100 people
- enlarged lymph nodes
- feeling unwell
- arm pain
- insomnia

- injection site itching
- allergic reactions such as rash or itching

Rare side effects: may affect up to 1 in 1,000 people
- temporary one sided facial drooping
- allergic reactions such as hives or swelling of the face

Not known (cannot be estimated from the available data)
- severe allergic reaction
- inflammation of the heart muscle (myocarditis) or inflammation of the lining outside the heart (pericarditis) which can result in breathlessness, palpitations or chest pain
- extensive swelling of the vaccinated limb
- swelling of the face (swelling of the face may occur in patients who have had facial cosmetic injections)

Reporting of side effects
If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet.
If you are concerned about a side-effect it can be reported directly via the Coronavirus Yellow Card reporting site https://coronavirus-yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk/ or search for MHRA Yellow Card in the Google Play or Apple App Store. When completing a report please include the vaccine brand and batch/Lot number if available. By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5. How to store Comirnaty

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.
The following information about storage, expiry and use and handling is intended for healthcare professionals.
Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the carton and label after EXP. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Store in freezer at -90 °C to -60 °C. Within the 6 months shelf-life unopened vials may be stored and transported at -25 °C to -15 °C for a single period of up to 2 weeks and can be returned to -90 °C to -60 °C.
Store in the original package in order to protect from light.

Transfers of frozen vials stored at ultra-low temperature (< -60 °C)
- Closed-lid vial trays containing 195 vials removed from ultra-low temperature frozen storage (< -60 °C) may be at temperatures up to 25 °C for up to 5 minutes.
- Open-lid vial trays, or vial trays containing less than 195 vials, removed from ultra-low temperature frozen storage (< -60 °C) may be at temperatures up to 25 °C for up to 3 minutes.
- After vial trays are returned to frozen storage following temperature exposure up to 25 °C, they must remain in frozen storage for at least 2 hours before they can be removed again.

Transfers of frozen vials stored at -25 °C to -15 °C
- Closed-lid vial trays containing 195 vials removed from frozen storage (-25 °C to -15 °C) may be at temperatures up to 25 °C for up to 3 minutes.
- Open-lid vial trays, or vial trays containing less than 195 vials, removed from frozen storage (-25 °C to -15 °C) may be at temperatures up to 25 °C for up to 1 minute.

Once a vial is removed from the vial tray, it should be thawed for use.

After thawing, the vaccine should be diluted and used immediately. However, in-use stability data have demonstrated that once removed from freezer, the undiluted vaccine can be stored for up to 1 month at 2 °C to 8 °C. Within the 1-month shelf-life at 2 °C to 8 °C, up to 12 hours may be used for transportation. Prior to use, the unopened vaccine can be stored for up to 2 hours at temperatures up to 30 °C.

After dilution, store and transport the vaccine at 2 °C to 30 °C and use within 6 hours. Discard any unused vaccine.

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Once removed from the freezer and diluted, the vials should be marked with the new discard date and time. Once thawed, the vaccine cannot be re-frozen.

Do not use this vaccine if you notice particulates in the dilution or discolouration.
Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

What Comirnaty contains

- The active substance is COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine. After dilution, the vial contains 6 doses of 0.3 mL with 30 micrograms mRNA each.
- The other ingredients are:
  - ((4-hydroxybutyl)azanediyl)bis(hexane-6,1-diyl)bis(2-hexyldecanoate) (ALC-0315)
  - 2-[(polyethylene glycol)-2000]-N,N-ditetradecylacetamide (ALC-0159)
  - 1,2-Distearoyl-sn-glycero-3-phosphocholine (DSPC)
  - cholesterol
  - potassium chloride
  - potassium dihydrogen phosphate
  - sodium chloride
  - disodium phosphate dihydrate
  - sucrose
  - water for injections

What Comirnaty looks like and contents of the pack
The vaccine is a white to off-white dispersion (pH: 6.9 - 7.9) provided in a multidose vial of 6 doses in a 2 mL clear vial (type I glass), with a rubber stopper and a flip-off plastic cap with aluminium seal.
Pack size: 195 vials

Marketing Authorisation Holder
BioNTech Manufacturing GmbH
An der Goldgrube 12
55131 Mainz
Germany
Phone: +49 6131 9084-0
Fax: +49 6131 9084-2121
service@biontech.de

Manufacturer(s)
BioNTech Manufacturing GmbH
Kupferbergterrasse 17 - 19
55116 Mainz
Germany

Pfizer Manufacturing Belgium NV
Rijksweg 12
2870 Puurs
Belgium

For any information about this medicine, please contact: Medical Information, Pfizer Ltd, Walton Oaks, Dorking Road, Tadworth, Surrey, KT20 7NS. Telephone 01304 616161.

This leaflet was last revised in 08/2021.

This medicinal product has been authorised under a so-called 'conditional approval' scheme. This means that further evidence on this medicinal product is awaited. New information on this medicinal product will be reviewed at least every year and this leaflet will be updated as necessary.

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