

# MIIC Forecaster Tool

## MIIC USER GUIDANCE TRAINING RESOURCE

This guide helps Minnesota Immunization Information Connection (MIIC) users better understand the forecaster tool and common situations for its use.

### What is the MIIC forecaster?

MIIC provides a clinical decision support tool that forecasts the client's vaccination needs. The tool aims to forecast routine immunizations needed based on the client's current age and vaccination history in MIIC.

The forecaster consists of schedules for each vaccine group. Vaccines that protect against the same disease for the same age group are categorized into vaccine groups. There may be multiple schedules per group depending on recommendations. These schedules determine what is displayed in a client immunization record, including, dose in series, validity, forecasted dates for next dose, and series completion status.

### Catch-up schedules

Some childhood vaccination series have catch-up schedules that provide guidance for clients who fall behind on the regular routinely recommended immunizations. In some cases, a client may need fewer doses or doses with different intervals compared to the routine vaccination schedule.

The MIIC forecaster is set up to take catch-up schedules into account. While the forecaster can account for the catch-up schedules because they are based on age, it cannot handle recommendations for certain high-risk groups or populations as MIIC does not accept non-immunization medical information.

### Combination vaccines

Combination vaccines are a great opportunity to provide multiple vaccines in a single shot. However, combination vaccine schedules can be harder to forecast, especially when more than one combination vaccine is used to complete a vaccination series for a child or when used as part of catch-up vaccination schedules.

### Vaccine administered outside the United States

Vaccinations administered outside the U.S. can be entered into MIIC, but MIIC doesn't validate doses of products that are not (and never were) licensed in the U.S. Having a complete immunization history in MIIC is important even if the doses were given outside the U.S. Learn how to enter doses into MIIC by visiting [MIIC User Guidance and Training Resources \(www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/miic/train/index.html\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/miic/train/index.html) and **Entering information**.

These include but are not limited to:

- Non-U.S. Covid-19 vaccines.
- Non-U.S. influenza vaccines.
- Non-U.S. vaccines given routinely in other countries (may not have brand information).
- Non-U.S. combination vaccine (may have to be entered by component).
  - For example, if a client received a combination vaccine in another country that dose would have to be entered into MIIC as separate doses (i.e. a combination vaccine with diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, and polio would be entered not as the U.S. vaccine Kinrix, but as DTaP and polio separately).

### When to use the unspecified vaccine option

MIIC allows for organizations to enter many non-U.S. vaccines, for those not accounted for organizations would select the unspecified vaccine option after selecting the appropriate vaccine group. Refer to [MIIC User Guidance and Training](http://www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/miic/train/index.html)

[www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/miic/train/index.html](http://www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/miic/train/index.html)) and **Entering information** to learn more about adding immunization to MIIC.

## High risk or off label use of a vaccine

The goal of MIIC is to forecast for routine recommendations. There may be reasons to vaccinate a patient outside of those recommendations. For example, people at high-risk for disease may to be vaccinated on a different schedule. MIIC is not always able to properly validate the doses administered outside of routine recommendations.

## Tradename specific forecasting

For some vaccine series, the vaccine tradename may impact the recommended schedule. For example, in some cases clients must finish the series with the same vaccine product they started with (ex: Trumenba). For other series, the product used may affect the number of doses and recommended intervals (ex: Pediarix).

MIIC is usually able to take these tradename specific scenarios into account, based on the first dose in a group added to MIIC. If you come across an error, please reach out to the MIIC help desk for further assistance.

## Frequently asked questions

### What does NOT VALID mean on my client's record?

A dose on a client's record could be **NOT VALID** for many reasons. When logged into MIIC you can select the date of the vaccine marked not valid. This will pull up a separate window with the specific schedule for that dose as well as an explanation of its status. For more information refer to [Interpreting a MIIC Vaccination Record](http://www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/miic/train/interpret.pdf) ([www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/miic/train/interpret.pdf](http://www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/miic/train/interpret.pdf)). For additional assistance email the MIIC help desk at [health.miichelp@state.mn.us](mailto:health.miichelp@state.mn.us) with the MIIC record ID.

### What do the four dates displayed in the forecaster mean?

The four dates refer to:

1. **Earliest date:** The earliest date that the client could receive the vaccination.
2. **Recommended date:** The date that is recommended for the client to receive the vaccination.
3. **Overdue date:** The date that the vaccination will be overdue.
4. **Latest date:** The latest date that would be appropriate for the client to receive the vaccination.

### Can a vaccine be given a couple days before or after the date recommended?

The MIIC forecaster allows for a four-day grace period. This means the dose will not be marked invalid if given during that grace period. Providers and clinicians should not purposefully schedule vaccines within this period. The grace period is only there to account for errors.

## MIIC help

For assistance with the MIIC forecaster resource, contact the MIIC Help Desk at [health.miichelp@state.mn.us](mailto:health.miichelp@state.mn.us).

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To obtain this information in a different format, email [health.miichelp@state.mn.us](mailto:health.miichelp@state.mn.us).