Protecting Ohio’s long-term care residents remains a top priority of vaccination efforts

February 18, 2021 • Webinar
The safety of COVID-19 vaccines is a top priority. The U.S. vaccine safety system ensures that all vaccines are as safe as possible.
Two doses are needed. A second shot 3 weeks after your first shot is needed to get the most protection the vaccine has to offer.
Healthcare personnel and long-term care residents are first. CDC recommends that initial supplies of COVID-19 vaccine be offered to healthcare personnel and long-term care residents.
4. There is currently a limited supply of COVID-19 vaccine. Supply will increase in the weeks and months to come.

5. After COVID-19 vaccination, you may have some side effects. This is a normal sign that your body is building protection.

6. Cost is not an obstacle to getting vaccinated against COVID-19. Vaccine doses purchased with U.S. taxpayer dollars will be given to the American people at no cost.
Many vaccines are still being developed and tested.

Vaccines are one of many important tools to help us stop this pandemic.
Ursel J. McElroy
Director

Fostering sound public policy, research, and initiatives that benefit older Ohioans.
Panelists
COVID-19 Vaccine Maintenance Program

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Agenda
COVID-19 Vaccine Maintenance Program

• Overview
• Allocation and Distribution
• Planning and Provider Expectations
• Administration and Safety
• Data Reporting
• Other Considerations
Vaccination Goals
COVID-19 Vaccine Maintenance Program

• Save lives and slow the spread

• Protect Ohio’s most vulnerable individuals

• Provide COVID-19 maintenance vaccines for Ohio’s nursing homes and assisted living facilities
Ohio’s Vaccination Program – A Phased Approach

**GOALS**
Save lives and slow the spread of the virus.

**In the early vaccination phase, supply will be limited.** The speed at which Ohio will move through the phases is largely dependent upon the number of vaccine doses available.

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**PHASE 1**
Supply Limited
Vaccine is available in limited supply for specific critical populations. Ohio will focus on vaccinating those most at risk, as well essential healthcare workers and personnel caring for COVID-19 patients. Vaccines will not yet be available for all Ohioans.

**PHASE 2**
Supply Increasing
Vaccine is increasing and available for other specific critical populations who choose to be vaccinated. Vaccines will not yet be available for all Ohioans.

**PHASE 3 - 4**
Widely Available
Once the vaccine is widely available, Ohio will continue to strategically vaccinate Ohioans if they choose. During these phases, vaccines will begin to be available to all Ohioans.

As supply increases, COVID-19 vaccines will be available to all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated.

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Mike DeWine
Governor of Ohio

Ohio Department of Health

coronavirus.ohio.gov
Ohio’s Vaccination Program – A Phased Approach

During Phase 1 vaccine supply will be limited. Vaccine administration will be focused on reaching critical groups.

PHASE 1A

- Health care workers and personnel, who are routinely involved in the care of COVID-19 patients
- Residents and staff at nursing homes
- Residents and staff at assisted living facilities
- Patients and staff at state psychiatric hospitals
- People with intellectual disabilities and those with mental illness, who live in group homes or centers and staff at those locations
- Residents and staff at our Ohio veterans homes
- EMS responders

All available vaccines will be administered to those who choose to receive it.
Expectations
COVID-19 Vaccine Maintenance Program

Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program

• CDC partnered with select pharmacies to provide COVID-19 vaccination services for residents and staff of nursing homes and assisted living facilities at no cost

• End-to-end management of the process, including cold-chain management, on-site vaccinations, and fulfillment of reporting requirements

  • Absolute Pharmacy
  • CVS
  • Pharmscript
  • Walgreens
Available Plans
Federal Retail Pharmacy Program
COVID-19 Vaccine Maintenance Program

Facilities can receive COVID-19 vaccine from a long-term care pharmacy that is enrolled as a COVID-19 vaccine provider through the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program for COVID-19 Vaccination.

— Exclusive to pharmacies participating in the federal program
— Limited vaccine allocations from federal government
— Direct coordination between facility and participating pharmacy
Plan 1: Pharmacy Administered
COVID-19 Vaccine Maintenance Program

Facilities can receive COVID-19 vaccine from a long-term care pharmacy that is enrolled as a COVID-19 vaccine provider with their state or territory.

— Available to long-term care pharmacies enrolled as a COVID-19 vaccine provider
— Ongoing vaccine allocations from state government
— Direct coordination between facility and participating pharmacy
Plan 1: Pharmacy Administered
COVID-19 Vaccine Maintenance Program

Requirements
- Participating facility completed monthly enrollment survey
- Participating pharmacy enrolled as an Ohio COVID-19 vaccine provider
Plan 2: Joint Administered
COVID-19 Vaccine Maintenance Program

Facilities can receive COVID-19 vaccine from a long-term care pharmacy that is enrolled as a COVID-19 vaccine provider with their state or territory. The pharmacy provider could subcontract staff and, through this process, could use facility staff for vaccine administration.

— Available to long-term care pharmacies enrolled as a COVID-19 vaccine provider
— Ongoing vaccine allocations from state government
— Direct coordination between facility and participating pharmacy
Plan 2: Joint Administered
COVID-19 Vaccine Maintenance Program

Requirements
- Participating facility completed monthly enrollment survey
- Participating facility enrolled as an Ohio COVID-19 vaccine provider
- Participating pharmacy enrolled as an Ohio COVID-19 vaccine provider
Plan 3: Facility Administered*
COVID-19 Vaccine Maintenance Program

Facilities can receive COVID-19 vaccine by enrolling directly with their state or territory as a COVID-19 vaccine provider.

- Available to facilities enrolled as a COVID-19 vaccine provider
- Ongoing vaccine allocations from state government
- Direct coordination between facility and state

*May be available on a case by case basis
Proposed Plan 3: Facility Administered*

COVID-19 Vaccine Maintenance Program

Requirements

- Participating facility completed monthly enrollment survey
- Participating facility enrolled as an Ohio COVID-19 vaccine provider

*May be available on a case by case basis
Allocation and Distribution

Jonathon George
Data Analyst
State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy
Allocation and Distribution
COVID-19 Vaccine Maintenance Program

Who will receive allocations?

• Allocation of Moderna vaccine will be shipped to long-term care pharmacies enrolled as an Ohio vaccine provider
• Not all long-term care pharmacies will be allocated vaccine initially
• More pharmacies will be added as more vaccine becomes available
• Considerations include:
  • Access
  • Throughput
  • Cold-chain management
  • Storage
  • Reporting
Allocation and Distribution
COVID-19 Vaccine Maintenance Program

How will doses be allocated?

• Scheduling and number of doses based on need, efficiency, and minimal waste
• Routinized, not on demand
• Dedicated allocation based on reported census of residents and staff
• Minimum allocation to a participating pharmacy is 100
Allocation and Distribution
COVID-19 Vaccine Maintenance Program

When will allocations begin?

• Begin processing orders the week of February 22\textsuperscript{nd}
• Allocations will occur on a rolling basis according to facility’s monthly enrollment
Planning and Provider Expectations
Planning and Expectations
COVID-19 Vaccine Maintenance Program

• While participation in the state-supported vaccine program is optional, it is expected that every facility will establish a process for routinely vaccinating new residents, new staff, and those choosing to be vaccinated
  • Federal program
  • State program
  • Local provider

• Facilities will prioritize resident vaccinations

• Facilities will establish a waitlist in the event of unplanned overage
Program Enrollment Survey

- Survey opens February 18th and closes 11:59 PM on February 23rd
- Indicate your choice on vaccine plan option
- Opportunities to enroll are available on a monthly basis only
- Facility needs to identify a vaccine point of contact

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VaccineMaintenanceProgram
Program Enrollment Survey

Enrolled facilities will use the COVID-19 Vaccine Maintenance Program Portal to communicate vaccine census and scheduling.
Administration and Safety
To ensure safe delivery and minimize chances for exposure during vaccination visits, administrators should implement the following:

- Prior to and upon arrival, screen individuals for symptoms and/or contact with anyone with confirmed or probable COVID-19. Immediately isolate symptomatic or potentially exposed individuals.
- Limit entry to people who are not pivotal to the visit.
- Install barriers, such as clear plastic sneeze guards, to limit physical contact upon entry.
- Require face coverings for people older than 2 years.
- Provide hand sanitizer stations to assist with adherence to proper hand hygiene.
- Post signage designating 6-foot distances to allow for adequate social distancing.
National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases

**Vaccine Administration:**
**COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment**

**Face mask**
- **Recommended:** All healthcare providers (N95 masks not recommended)

**Eye protection**
- **Recommended:** Areas of moderate/substantial community transmission
- **Optional:** Areas of minimal/no community transmission unless otherwise indicated as a part of standard precautions

**Gloves**
- **Recommended:** Intranasal or oral vaccines
- **Optional:** Intramuscular or subcutaneous vaccines
Supplies needed

• While severe reactions are rare, all vaccination providers should have appropriate medications and equipment, such as the following, at all COVID-19 vaccination sites:
  • Epinephrine.
  • Antihistamines.
  • Stethoscopes.
  • Blood pressure cuffs.
  • Timing devices to check pulse.

Observation standards

• The process involves an observation period of 15 to 30 minutes.
• People who have had severe allergic reactions or any type of immediate allergic reaction to a vaccine or injectable therapy should be monitored for at least 30 minutes.
• If a patient has had a severe allergic reaction in the past, it is recommended that they get vaccinated at a facility that can treat an allergic reaction.
How to report adverse events

Adverse events that occur in a recipient after receipt of COVID-19 vaccine should be reported to the Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS).

Healthcare providers are required by law to report:

- Certain adverse events that occur within a specified time period.
- An adverse event listed by the vaccine manufacturer as a contraindication to further doses of the vaccine.
- Additional details are available by calling 800-822-7967 or at https://vaers.hhs.gov/faq.html.
**V-safe** is a smartphone-based tool that vaccine recipients can opt to use. It uses text messaging and web surveys to provide personalized health check-ins after a COVID-19 vaccination.

Through **v-safe**, patients can tell the CDC if they have any side effects after getting the COVID-19 vaccine.

**V-safe** also will remind patients to get the second COVID-19 vaccine dose when it is due.
What to know about second doses

Depending on manufacturer, a second dose of the same vaccine is to be administered 21 or 28 days after first dose.

• Pfizer-BioNTech – 21 days.
• Moderna – 28 days.

The first and second dose are the same product (given twice).

Do not hold back vaccine for second doses. You will be allocated additional vaccine in time for second-dose administration.

Doses given up to four days early do not need to be repeated. There is a second-dose grace period of four days BEFORE the 21- or 28-day mark.

Administering vaccine any time after the due date is acceptable. Doses will not need to be repeated.
Second dose reminders for patients

Ensure patients are scheduled for their second doses before they leave their first-dose appointments.

Provide each patient a reminder card with the second-dose date along with their vaccine record card indicating manufacturer and lot number.

Make a reminder call and send text or email alerts.

Provide each patient information on who to contact if they experience an adverse reaction or emergency.

Provide each patient information on the CDC v-safe app for reporting side effects.
What to know about extra doses

Pfizer-BioNTech
- Vaccinators may withdraw more than 5 doses from a single 5-dose vial (perhaps 6 or 7 doses). Ancillary kits for Pfizer vaccine will provide enough supplies to allow for six doses from each vial.
- Further remaining liquid that does not constitute a full dose CANNOT be pooled from multiple vials to create one dose (0.3mL).

Moderna
- Vaccinators may withdraw more than 10 doses from a single 10-dose vial (perhaps 11 doses). Some providers also report, depending on the syringes used, that they are only able to draw up 9 doses.
- Use any extra vaccine that can easily be drawn into a syringe (0.5 mL).
- Extra vaccine fluid from more than one vial CANNOT be combined to produce extra doses.

Vaccine to discard
- These vaccines do not contain preservative. If the amount of vaccine remaining in the vial cannot provide a full dose, the vial and its contents should be discarded.
If vaccine supply remains after a clinic, for example, providing that vaccine quickly to eligible vaccine recipients is the primary goal.

Be prepared, and create a back-up plan for what you would do if you ever have extra doses, following ODH guidance.

If you must administer vaccine to non-priority populations to avoid waste, you must:

• Report it in ImpactSIIS within 24 hours.
• Target population/occupation data does NOT need to be reported for vaccinated individuals who are not in a current phase priority population.
• Include vaccinated individuals in plans for administering second doses.

If vaccine remains unused, such as at the end of a vaccination clinic, no vaccine should ever be wasted.
Next Steps
Next Steps
COVID-19 Vaccine Maintenance Program

• Complete the program enrollment survey no later than February 23 for initial allocations

• Confirm vaccine provider status of your preferred long-term care pharmacy

• Submit the COVID-19 Vaccination Provider Program application, if applicable
Resources
COVID-19 Vaccine Maintenance Program

• For all program questions and inquiries contact:
  • COVIDTesting@age.ohio.gov

• For questions regarding vaccine provider enrollment contact:
  • COVIDVaccine@odh.ohio.gov

• For program resources, please visit:
  • aging.ohio.gov/COVIDvaccine