

COVID-19 Vaccine Information Brief

September 1, 2020

COVID-19 Vaccine Information Resources

- **COVID-19 Vaccine Call Center** - The Department is establishing a COVID-19 Vaccine Call Center. The call center will use the existing Immunization Program phone number and include an option for health care providers to ask COVID-19 vaccine questions.
 - **COVID-19 Vaccine Email** - IDPH is setting up a COVID-19 Vaccine Email to respond specifically to questions regarding COVID-19 vaccine.
 - **COVID-19 Vaccine Frequently Asked Questions** - IDPH is preparing and will distribute COVID-19 Vaccine Frequently Asked Questions documents for both health care providers and the public.
 - The COVID-19 Vaccine Frequently Asked Questions for the public will be shared with 211 and will be the basis to respond to caller questions.
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COVID-19 Vaccine Assumptions

- **Vaccine Planning Scenarios** - See the COVID-19 Vaccination Scenarios - Phase 1, Q4 2020. This document provides planning assumptions for two vaccines anticipated to be part of the Phase 1 vaccination campaign. Information provided includes distribution, storage, handling, administration and additional considerations for these vaccines. (Document in the HAN Library)
- **Vaccine Storage and Handling** - Health care providers should consider requirements for vaccine storage and handling of COVID-19 vaccines to include locations to secure dry ice and facilities capable of storing ultra cold vaccines. These facilities may include universities with research labs and large health systems who conduct clinical trials.
- **Temperature Monitoring Devices** - Health care providers should consider the need to obtain additional temperature monitoring devices (data loggers) capable of measuring ultra colder temperature ranges.
- **Ancillary Supplies** - Information regarding Ancillary Supplies has been revised to include the following items: needles, syringes, alcohol prep pads, COVID-19 vaccination record cards for each recipient, surgical masks and face shields. Ancillary supplies will *not* include gloves, bandages or sharps containers.
 - Manufacturers of products included in the ancillary supply kits are unknown at this time. Health care providers with special requirements or who prefer specific vaccine administration supplies should consider obtaining these supplies now.

- **Emergency Use Authorization (EUA)** - Initial doses of COVID-19 vaccine may be authorized for use under an EUA issued by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), based upon available safety and efficacy data. Vaccine will be provided free of charge, but administration fees may not be reimbursable while a vaccine product is administered under an EUA.
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Pandemic Planning

- **Mass Vaccination Plans** - LPHAs should review Mass Vaccination Plans including Points of Dispensing Sites (PODS). Consideration should include both open and closed PODS.
 - **IRIS Enrollment** - IRIS will be used for Vaccine Allocation and Distribution of COVID-19 vaccine. The program continues to enroll health care providers in IRIS. IRIS Program staff will begin providing information to counties/LPHAs to include the providers enrolled in IRIS. This information will be posted on the Health Alert Network (HAN).
 - **COVID-19 Vaccination Program Provider Agreement** - To receive and administer COVID-19 vaccine and ancillary supplies, vaccination providers must enroll in the United States Government (USG) COVID-19 vaccination program by signing and agreeing to conditions outlined in the COVID-19 Vaccination Program Provider Agreement. As part of the agreement, health care providers will also need to include the provider type and setting, patient population (i.e., number and type of patients served), refrigerated/frozen/ultra-cold temperature storage capacity, and logistical information for receiving COVID-19 vaccine shipments.
 - **Vaccine Reminder/Recall** - Health care providers should consider methods to conduct Vaccine Reminder/Recall to communicate with patients about the need for vaccination and the need to return for the second dose in the vaccine series. Reminder/recall activities may include auto dialers or mailings (postcards or letters).
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Priority Groups

- The federal government will issue guidance on groups to prioritize for initial COVID-19 vaccination; populations for initial COVID-19 vaccination. Identify and estimate sizes of critical populations, with focus on first available doses of vaccine for these populations:
 - Critical workforce that provides health care and maintains essential functions of society (<https://www.cisa.gov/identifying-critical-infrastructure-during-covid-19>)
 - Staff and residents in long-term care and assisted living facilities
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Vaccine Administration Documentation

- IDPH will be required to timely report COVID-19 vaccine administration to CDC. The need for accurate, rapid data on will be greater than ever. CDC is developing and gathering feedback on data elements required for vaccine administration but have not shared information with State Health Departments. This information will be necessary to determine how the administration of COVID-19 vaccine will be documented either through IRIS or the CDC developed Vaccine Administration Management System (VAMS). VAMS is a web-based system which can support vaccination operations and data collection/tracking to meet COVID-19 vaccination requirements. A final decision about the use of VAMS vs. IRIS will be forthcoming. Information regarding VAMS can be found on the HAN.