



Department  
of Health

# COVID-19 Vaccine

## What Nursing Homes Need to Know

12/10/20 – point-in-time document, subject to change

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# Welcome & Overview

The New York State COVID-19 Vaccination Program was developed to ensure the distribution and administration of a safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine to all residents of New York State who wish to receive it. The program was designed to provide flexibility based on the many unknowns at the time.

Today's presentation will provide a high level overview of the Nursing Home vaccination plan as we prepare to vaccinate approximate 90,000 nursing home residents and over 131,000 nursing home employees.



# Overview of CDC Pharmacy Partnership Program

# Pharmacy Partnership for LTC Program

- CDC contracted with CVS and Walgreens (and a few other pharmacies) to administer COVID-19 vaccine in long-term care facilities (LTCFs) nationwide
- Involves end-to-end management of COVID-19 vaccination process for LTCFs
- On-site vaccinations for all residents and staff not already vaccinated
- Fulfillment of reporting requirements

## LTC Pharmacy Partner responsibilities

At no cost to facilities, pharmacy partners will:

- Schedule and coordinate on-site clinic date(s) directly with each facility.
- Order vaccines and associated supplies (e.g., syringes, needles, personal protective equipment).
- Ensure cold chain management for vaccine.
- Provide on-site administration of vaccine.
- Report required vaccination data to the local, state/territorial, and federal jurisdictions within 72 hours of administering each dose.
- Adhere to all applicable Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS) COVID-19 testing requirements for LTCF staff.

# Vaccination at Nursing Homes

The Pharmacy Partner will make 3 visits to the facility:

- Visit 1: Administer 1<sup>st</sup> dose to group 1
- Visit 2: Administer 2<sup>nd</sup> dose to group 1  
Administer 1<sup>st</sup> dose to group 2
- Visit 3: Administer 2<sup>nd</sup> dose to group 2
- Group 1 = all residents present, clinically eligible and consented and approx. 1/3 of staff
- Group 2 = new residents, returning residents that were not on site visit 1, newly eligible/consented that were not as of visit 1



## Vaccination needs after the Pharmacy Partnership Program

- **Residents that were discharged after the first dose should be scheduled to return to the facility to receive their second dose.**
- There may be staff or residents not vaccinated during the 3-visit pharmacy partnership program. This will include approx. 2/3 staff not vaccinated and new admissions.
- Guidance for these vaccinations is under development. Options for vaccinating these individuals may include:
  - Staff may be vaccinated at a regional hub partner site
  - NYSDOH may arrange with the local health department to vaccinate on-site at the facility
  - NYSDOH may arrange with a pharmacy provider (enrolled in the NYSDOH COVID-19 Vaccination Program) to vaccinate on-site at the facility
  - NYSDOH may also open commercial pharmacy sites as potential administration sites for staff.



# CDC COVID-19 Prioritization

## ACIP Phase 1a Prioritization Recommendations

- The CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted on December 1, 2020 to recommend that when a COVID-19 vaccine is authorized by FDA and recommended by ACIP, vaccination in the initial phase of the COVID-19 vaccination program (Phase 1a) should be offered to both 1) healthcare personnel\* and 2) residents of long-term care facilities\*\*

\*The ACIP defined healthcare personnel as paid and unpaid persons serving in health care settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients or infectious materials.

\*\*The ACIP defined long-term care facility residents as adults who reside in facilities that provide a variety of services, including medical and personal care, to persons who are unable to live independently.

# Expected Timeline of COVID-19 Vaccine Approval and Recommendations

- **Friday, November 20, 2020:** Pfizer files EUA package to the FDA
- **Monday, November 30, 2020:** Moderna files EUA package to the FDA.
- **Thursday, December 10, 2020:** Public meeting of the VRBPAC regarding Pfizer's EUA submission
- **Friday, December 11, 2020 – Monday, December 14, 2020:** Window for EUA authorization and Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations on Pfizer's vaccine
- **Tuesday, December 15, 2020 (Tentative):** Possible first deliveries of COVID-19 vaccine in New York
- **Thursday, December 17, 2020:** Public meeting of the VRBPAC regarding Moderna's vaccine
- **Friday, December 18 – Monday, December 22, 2020:** Window for EUA authorization and ACIP recommendations on Moderna's vaccine
- **Monday, December 21, 2020** Possible first facility based vaccination clinic