2019 Novel Coronavirus Pandemic Vaccination for Industry

Ken Sharp, Division Administrator
Bethany Kintigh, RN, BSN
Don Callaghan, Bureau Chief
Rebecca Curtiss, Bureau Chief

January, 2021

Iowa Department of Public Health
Division of Acute Disease Prevention Emergency Response/Environmental Health
Bureau of Immunization and Tuberculosis

IDPH IOWA Department of PUBLIC HEALTH

IOWA IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM

Purpose

Provide the most current information regarding the allocation, distribution and administration of COVID-19 vaccines in the State of Iowa

Key Terms

CDC – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

IDAC – Infectious Disease Advisory Council

IRIS – Immunization Registry & Information System

LPH – Local Public Health Agency of the county board of health

POD – Point of Distribution for vaccine or other medications at the local level

National Vaccine Distribution

- COVID-19 vaccine will be allocated by CDC and Operation Warp Speed to Iowa based on population size and target populations.
- Iowa healthcare providers who intend to provide COVID-19 vaccine will complete a COVID-19 Pandemic Vaccine Provider Agreement.
- All health care providers that choose to complete a COVID-19 Pandemic Vaccine Provider Agreement to administer vaccine, must enroll in IRIS to be eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccine.

COVID-19 Pandemic Vaccine Provider Agreement

- IDPH is utilizing a REDCap survey to document provider acceptance of the terms to serve as a COVID-19 vaccine provider.
- Each vaccine provider agreement requires a medical director.
- Each vaccine provider must have the capability to appropriately store and maintain vaccine.

COVID-19 Pandemic Vaccine Provider Agreement

- Industrial Occupational Health Facilities that meet the agreement requirements are eligible to enroll and complete a COVID-19 vaccine provider agreement.
- Health care providers and organizations who enroll in IRIS and complete the COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Agreement are not obligated to provide COVID-19 vaccines.
- In addition, enrollment in IRIS and completing the COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Agreement does not guarantee the receipt of pandemic vaccines.

COVID-19 Pandemic Vaccine Provider Agreement Enrollment

Vaccine provider enrollment information can be found at the following links:

- https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus/Vaccine/Information-for-Vaccine-Providers
- https://redcap.idph.state.ia.us/surveys/?s=PCT38E9TKW

Iowa COVID-19 Vaccine Allocation Process to Vaccine Providers

- Electronic allocation to IDPH from federal partners through the electronic registry
- Based on priority populations and according to the current phase, IDPH determines dose allocation per pro rata by county, doses in local inventory and local storage capacity
- IDPH makes electronic allocations to local public health

Iowa COVID-19 Vaccine Allocation Process to Vaccine Providers

- Local public health then allocate doses to themselves to administer or to vaccine providers that have completed a vaccine provider agreement to receive direct distribution of doses and may:
  - Allocate to LPH (Self)-for open or closed points of distribution (PODS) according to priority populations.
  - Allocate to Hospitals/clinics-for closed PODS for priority populations-HCW.
  - Allocate to other community or industrial vaccine providers for priority populations.

COVID-19 Points of Dispensing (PODS)

- Points of dispensing (POD) are community locations at which local agencies dispense and administer medical countermeasures (MCMs) to the public such as vaccines.
- Local public health will likely be using two types of PODs, open and closed.
  - Open PODs are typically located at public locations to dispense or administer MCMs to the public.
  - Closed PODs are sites staffed and managed by organizations and agencies (both public and private) to dispense MCMs only to their own populations while continuing operations during a public health emergency, such as at an industrial or business setting.
  - Open and closed PODs can and should be used simultaneously.

Pfizer Vaccine

Pfizer:

- 2-dose series 21 days apart.
- Administration of 2nd dose within 4-day grace period (e.g., day 17-21) considered valid.
- If >21 days since 1st dose, 2nd dose should be administered at earliest opportunity (but no doses need to be repeated).
- Both doses are necessary for protection; efficacy of a single dose has not been systematically evaluated.
- Vials must be kept frozen between -80°C to -60°C (-112°F to -76°F) and protected from light until ready to use.
- https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus/Vaccine/Information-for-Vaccine-Providers

Moderna Vaccine

Moderna:

- 2-dose series administered intramuscularly 28 days apart
- Administration of 2nd dose within 4-day grace period (e.g., day 24-28) considered valid
  - Both doses are necessary for protection; efficacy of a single dose has not been systematically evaluated
- The Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine multiple-dose vials are stored frozen between -25° to -15°C (-13° to 5°F)
  - https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus/Vaccine/Information-for-Vaccine-Providers

Ancillary Supplies

- COVID-19 vaccine and ancillary supplies will be procured and distributed by the federal government at no cost to Iowa health care providers.

- Ancillary Supplies 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 sharps containers, gloves or bandages.

Priority Groups

- Public demand for COVID-19 vaccination will likely continue to be high, especially while supply is limited and there is severe disease in the community.

- Decisions on priority groups will be based on vaccine supply, pandemic severity and impact, and the potential for disruption of community critical infrastructure.

Priority Groups

- Prioritization of populations have been considered by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the National Academy of Medicine.
  - Critical workforce - provides health care and maintains essential functions of society.
  - Staff and residents in long-term care and assisted living facilities.
  - IDPH has convened a team of appointed external and internal subject matter experts, known collectively as the Infectious Disease Advisory Council (IDAC) to consider and implement the ACIP recommendations.

Infectious Disease Advisory Council (IDAC)

- IDAC is assisting the IDPH Director and Medical Director in developing COVID-19 vaccine distribution guidance and prioritization of populations for early in the vaccination response when vaccine supply is limited, as outlined in the State of Iowa COVID-19 Vaccination Strategy.
- IDAC is comprised of clinical and ethical expertise from across the state, including university leadership, infectious disease specialists, local public health agencies, key provider associations that represent vulnerable populations, and IDPH and other state agency representatives.
- IDAC is developing recommendations for vaccine prioritization within the critical populations of healthcare personnel, critical infrastructure workers, and people at increased risk for severe COVID-19 illness and develop priority subset groups that promote public health and enable social and economic activity.

Infectious Disease Advisory Council (IDAC)

**Phase 1A is currently the only eligible population for COVID-19 vaccine.

Phase 1A populations(December 18, 2020):

- Healthcare personnel (HCP) with direct patient contact and thus who are unable to telework, including those who work in inpatient, outpatient, or community settings, who provide services to patients or patient's family members, or who handle infectious materials.
- Health care personnel are defined as paid and unpaid persons serving in health care settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients or infectious materials.
- HCP working in residential care or long-term care facilities.
- Skilled nursing facility residents.

Infectious Disease Advisory Council (IDAC)

Phase 1A additional considerations for prioritization of health care personnel:

- HCPs who have the highest risk of exposure to COVID-19 and the highest risk of complications from COVID-19 should receive priority consideration.
- To further evaluate HCP risk to prioritize receipt of COVID-19 vaccine, facilities should take into account the risk of exposure, the frequency of exposure, the immediacy of exposure, and the duration of exposure to COVID-19 patients.
- When determining HCP eligibility, facilities should consider the full spectrum of staff who have exposure to COVID-19 patients and are therefore important for maintaining continued patient care.
  - This should be inclusive of paid and unpaid persons serving in healthcare settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients or infectious materials.

Pharmacy Partnership for LTC Program

- ***Pharmacies began vaccinating SNF/ALF (residents and staff) on 12/28/2020 - will take 3 - 4 weeks to administer first dose of vaccine***
  - CVS
  - Walgreens
  - Community Pharmacy
- Iowa will use Pfizer vaccine for the program
- **LTC-Pharmacy Partnership will cover LTC/ALF residents and staff.**

Infectious Disease Advisory Council (IDAC)

Phase 1B:

ACIP guidance for Phase 1B & 1C is summarized as follows:

Phase 1B: Frontline essential workers (non–health care workers) and persons aged ≥75 years are recommended to receive vaccine in Phase 1B of the COVID-19 vaccination program.

Phase 1C: Persons aged 65–74 years, persons aged 16–64 years with medical conditions that increase the risk for severe COVID-19, and essential workers not previously included in Phase 1A or 1B.

Infectious Disease Advisory Council (IDAC)

- Phase 1B & 1C are NOT FINALIZED for Iowa.
- The Iowa Infectious Disease Advisory Council (IDAC) has reviewed the priority population recommendations of Phase 1B & 1C identified in the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) guidance issued December 20, 2020.
- IDAC meets weekly and is expected to finalize recommendations for 1B & 1C the week of January 11, 2020.
- Activation of 1B is likely several weeks away.
- Upon activation of Phase 1B, then followed by 1C, IDAC supports the continuation of vaccination efforts for individuals included in Phase 1A.
- Meeting minutes and final recommendations are posted to the IDPH website at:

  https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus/IDAC

As a business in Iowa, what can I do now?

- First, remain patient. Vaccine supplies remain low and local public health is working to ensure our health care providers have access to the vaccine so we have a stable health care system. It will likely take several months to reach everyone in Phase 1B and 1C.
- Second, if you have an employee health program, consider having your employee health program enroll as a vaccine provider (if you qualify).
- Third, continue to monitor the Iowa Department of Public Health COVID-19 vaccine web page for updated information, and additional resources.
- Fourth, monitor information from your local public health agency for updates on accessing vaccine at the local level. Please refrain from calling local public health right now, they are very busy and are working on plans to reach your populations.
- Prepare information as to the type of work and the number of essential workers within your company. Local public health may need this information to assist in vaccinating your workforce.

When & Where can I expect to get my vaccine?

- The work you do will impact when your essential work force will be prioritized for vaccine. Please monitor and review the IDAC recommendations when they are finalized. Vaccinating Phase 1B and 1C will likely take several months.
- Vaccine supply will be a main factor in determining when vaccine is accessible for the Phase 1B and 1C populations. Exact timelines and quantities are not yet known. As soon as more details are available that will allow public health to more accurately predict timelines, information will be shared with the public.
- Typical ways to receive a vaccine when your workforce is eligible includes:
  - Large employers offering closed POD vaccine clinics for only their employees.
  - Local public health offering POD vaccine clinics for the eligible populations.
  - Employer and LPH coordinating with a third party vaccine provider (such as a local pharmacy or health care provider) to offer vaccine to the eligible population.

Thank you

For more information please contact:

Bethany.Kintigh@idph.iowa.gov
Donald.Callaghan@idph.iowa.gov

The Iowa Department of Public Health, Immunization Program
Lucas State Office Building
321 E. 12th Street, Des Moines IA 50319-0075

Telephone: 1-800-831-6293
Visit: www.idph.iowa.gov/immtb/immunization

Iowa Department of Public Health
Division of Acute Disease Prevention Emergency Response/Environmental Health
Bureau of Immunization and Tuberculosis