



# COVID-19 VACCINATION REVIEW

December 3, 2020

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# PFIZER VACCINE

- Ultra-cold chain storage (-70 C)
- Can be stored in shipping container
  - Dry ice must be replenished within 24 hours and every 5 days thereafter.
  - Container can only be opened twice per day
  - Container weighs 70-80 pounds.
- Refrigerator stable for 5 days
- Minimum ordering increments of 1,000 doses
- 2 doses 21 days apart
- Requires diluent and on-site mixing
- Efficacy estimate: 95%



# MODERNA VACCINE

- Frozen storage (-25 C to -15 C)
- Refrigerator stable for 7 days (submitting for 30)
- Minimum ordering increments of 100 doses
- 2 doses 28 days apart
- No diluent or on-site mixing
- Early efficacy estimate: 94%



# COVID-19 VACCINE TIMELINE

- FDA VRBPAC meeting scheduled for December 10 to review Pfizer vaccine.
  - First Allocation of Pfizer vaccine Week of December 13<sup>th</sup>
    - 6,825 Pfizer doses for North Dakota
- FDA VRBPAC meeting scheduled for December 17 to review Moderna vaccine.
  - First Allocation of Moderna vaccine Week of December 20<sup>th</sup>
    - 13,000 Moderna doses for North Dakota

# HEALTH CARE WORKER PRIORITIES

- Phase 1A: Paid and unpaid people serving in healthcare settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients or infectious materials and are unable to work from home and long-term care residents.
- ND HCW estimates: 68,864
  - Referral hospitals: 22,300
- ND LTC resident estimates: 11,500

# PRIORITIZATION WITHIN PHASE 1A

- Phase 1a has been broken into Tiers.
- Tier 1a: Frontline workers at Referral Hospitals, Critical Access Hospitals, Local Public Health Units,
- Tier 1b: Long term care residents and staff
- Draft Prioritization Scheme for Phase 1a

# LTC VACCINATION OF STAFF

Because LTC residents were recently moved to phase 1a the federal pharmacy program will now include staff vaccination. If your facility enrolled to receive vaccine from CVS or Thrifty White they will provide staff vaccine.

Local Partners who have enrolled directly with the state (local pharmacies, Local Public Health, private clinics, Long Term Cares) will also receive vaccine to vaccinate staff and residents.

# ON GOING VACCINATION FOR NEW STAFF AND RESIDENTS?

- Facilities will need to plan for ongoing vaccination of new staff and residents. Facilities may want to consider:
  - Working with their existing pharmacy partner
  - Working with an existing clinic partner
  - Purchasing a freezer, enrolling with the NDDoH, and storing some doses of Moderna for future use.



# WHEN CAN WE EXPECT VACCINE TO BE ALLOCATED TO LTC VACCINATION PARTNERS?

- Vaccine for LTC vaccination should be expected in late December.

# WHEN CAN WE OFFICIAL CONSENT FROM RESIDENTS/STAFF?

- Official consent can not be obtained until the EUA fact sheet is available upon EUA approval of the vaccine. NDDoH is recommending that facilities survey staff/residents and have a plan on who attends to receive the vaccine when approved. This will speed up the official consent process.

# WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING CONSENT FROM RESIDENTS AND STAFF?

- If enrolled in Federal Pharmacy Partnership those pharmacies will provide end to end service. This includes providing consent forms. LTC will likely be responsible to distribute those forms.
- If enrolled with state provider that process will need to be worked out between the LTC and vaccinator.

# HOW DOES STATE DISTRIBUTION WORK?

- To decrease wastage and to best use very limited supplies, facilities who will be receiving allocations of COVID-19 vaccine will be emailed and given 24 hours to respond to whether or not they are able to use their full potential allocation.
- If the facility wants the allocation, their vaccine will be ordered, if they are not able to safely store the number of doses, are having a lower uptake of vaccine, or don't yet need more doses their allocation will be given to another facility who is more in need.
- This process may delay vaccine orders by one day but will reduce wastage of vaccine that goes unused due to uptake being less than anticipated
- There will be weekly allocations

# HOW DOES FEDERAL DISTRIBUTION WORK?

- Doses will be withheld from the state allocation until enough doses are built up to “turn on” the federal program (50% of vaccine needed)
- Federal partners will have 2 weeks to reach out to facilities to schedule a clinic, obtain consent etc..

# WHAT ARE THE CONTRAINDICATIONS AND PRECAUTIONS FOR THE COVID-19 VACCINES?

- At this time, the vaccine manufacturers, the FDA, and ACIP have not determined contraindications and precautions to COVID-19 vaccination. These will be determined before the vaccine becomes available to the public.

WE ARE HEARING THERE CAN BE SIDE EFFECTS AND THAT WE SHOULDN'T VACCINATE ALL OUR EMPLOYEES AT ONE TIME, LEAVING 3 DAYS BETWEEN VACCINATIONS OF GROUPS OF EMPLOYEES (IN CASE EMPLOYEES DON'T FEEL WELL AND CAN'T WORK). WHAT DOES THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH RECOMMEND?

- Most side effects are fatigue, headache, and sore arm.
- Facilities can consider staggering staff vaccination.
  - Logistically for LTCs, this may not be possible.
  - With the federal pharmacy program this might mean vaccinating half of your staff on the first visit and giving the second dose and other half of the first doses on the second visit.
  - Facilities should coordinate with their vaccinator (state and federal) to work out details.

WE ARE HEARING THAT THE VACCINES COULD ARRIVE BY 3<sup>RD</sup> WEEK IN DECEMBER. IF THERE ARE SIDE EFFECTS, WHO WILL TAKE THE VACCINE PRIOR TO CHRISTMAS? NO ONE WANTS TO BE SICK DURING CHRISTMAS.

- Facilities will need to work with their vaccinator to plan clinic dates. A few important things to remember:
  - Moderna vaccine can be held for up to 30 days in the fridge.
  - Pfizer vaccine can be held at ultra-cold chain for up to 6 months.



# WHAT IF SOMEONE IS SICK AFTER RECEIVING THE VACCINE? HOW LONG DO THEY NEED TO BE OUT OF WORK?

- CDC is currently developing guidance on this. As soon as it is available, we will send it out.

# SHOULD INDIVIDUALS WHO PREVIOUSLY HAD COVID BE VACCINATED?

- There is not enough information currently available to say if or for how long after infection someone is protected from getting COVID-19 again; this is called natural immunity. Early evidence suggests natural immunity from COVID-19 may not last very long, but more studies are needed to better understand this. **Until we have a vaccine available and the ACIP makes recommendations to CDC on how to best use COVID-19 vaccines, the NDDoH cannot comment on whether people who had COVID-19 should get a COVID-19 vaccine.**

# DO WE KNOW IF THERE IS ANY IMMUNITY AFTER JUST THE FIRST DOSE OF VACCINE?

- Immunity after one dose was not formally studied during the clinical trial process. For the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines two doses are required to complete the series and ensure immunity.

# WILL FACILITIES HAVE TO DO ANY REPORTING OF DOSES?

- Skilled nursing facilities may have to report doses administered to NHSN. More information is forthcoming.



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