



2674 Federated Blvd., Columbus, OH 43235 • Phone: (614) 389-3236 • Fax: (614) 389-4582

Ohio Department of Health COVID-19 Vaccination Providers Workgroup

Conference Call December 30, 2020

OPA Representatives Don Bennett and Kathy Nameth

This was the fourth conference call in what will be a regular weekly occurrence.

Lance Himes, ODH Senior Director provided an update on the roll out of the COVID-19 vaccines. Highlights of his presentation include

1. The 1A group vaccinations continue with an emphasis on health care workers who have high risk exposure, e.g., direct care hospital staff and urgent care providers seeing symptomatic COVID patients. Not every health care provider is in 1A.
2. The LTC vaccination process continues. Ohio has a relatively high number of LTC facilities (900+) and assisted living facilities (700+) compared to many states. **Those LTC facilities that did not sign up for the Federal program should contact their local health departments to coordinate vaccinations. The second phase will include assisted living facilities and other congregate living communities.**
3. For the week starting January 4, 2021, Ohio is expecting another 69,500 doses of the Moderna vaccine. Expected Pfizer vaccine doses include 70,200 initial doses and another 98,475 second doses. Not all local health departments are receiving vaccine at the same time. Local health departments have control over how they roll out the vaccine supplies.
4. The details of group 1B were shared. This group will include additional health care providers, adults in school buildings with K through 12 students (with a goal of opening schools March 1 if the school wants to go live) and those 65 years and older. About 87% of Ohio's deaths have been in this age group. Although ACIP guidelines recommended those 75 years and older, Ohio decided to go with the lower age because of health disparities in some ethnic and racial groups who do not usually live to 75. The focus is on equity of distribution. There are approximately 1.8 million to 2 million in this age group. We are not sure how many of this age group will have been vaccinated in the LTC and assisted living groups. Also in 1B are individuals with severe congenital or developmental disorders. 1B vaccinations are expected to start in min January.
5. The coronavirus vaccine administration dashboard has been launched at the website coronavirus.ohio.gov. The expectation is that administered doses will be posted to IMPACTSIIS within 24 hours. The dashboard will pull information from IMPACTSIIS and track vaccinations started, vaccinations completed including by county and include other demographics.
6. The number of enrolled vaccine providers continues to grow and includes 435 pharmacies. **Enrollment is still open. Go to <https://ohid.ohio.gov> to enroll. You need to complete the training modules on the website. The website is updated regularly, so check frequently. There is a comprehensive checklist on the website to assist with your preparation to be able to administer the vaccines. ODH confirmed that you do not need to have a freezer that can maintain the extremely low temperatures for vaccine storage. If you completed the registration and have not heard back after one week, contact ODH. You also need to sign up for the state immunization registry, ImpactSIIS if you are not already enrolled.**
7. Enrolled vaccine providers will receive vaccine from local health departments. Because of local staffing, technology and other available resources, there is not a standardized method of coordinating the vaccine

distribution. Some are taking information over the phone and some have a website registration process.

Check with your local health department.

8. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has granted Ohio a waiver to engage the Ohio National Guard to help with vaccinations. Only those Guard members who are licensed health care providers will be able to administer vaccines, e.g., physicians, nurses, pharmacists, Pas, etc. The mechanics of how this will be activated are still being formulated. The Guard members will only be administering the vaccine and will not have access to Protected Health Information (PHI) systems.