



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

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Date: January 8, 2021

To: All Nursing Facilities
All Assisted Living Facilities
All Residential Care Facilities
All Adult Foster Homes



From: Jack Honey, Administrator
Safety, Oversight and Quality Unit,
Office of Aging and People with Disabilities

RE: COVID-19 vaccine implementation update and request for facilities to encourage and include associated staff in vaccine clinics

COVID-19 vaccination clinics for long-term care facility staff and residents are underway in Oregon as part of the federal **Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program**. Implementation began in December with nursing facilities and is being expanded this week to other facility types.

Roll out to other long-term care settings this week includes assisted living and residential care facilities as well as adult foster homes, collectively referred to as 'facilities' for the purpose of this Alert.

This provider alert will:

- Clarify that facilities are encouraged to promote COVID-19 vaccinations for both staff and associated staff at on-site vaccination clinics coordinated by the facility's or adult foster home's designated vaccine clinic pharmacy partner.
- Recap and provide updated information about the vaccination roll out and related resources.
- Provide instructions for long-term care facilities and adult foster homes that **DID NOT** register with the Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care

Program so that they know what to do to be included in the vaccination roll out.

Associated staff who may be invited to access vaccine clinics in long-term care facilities:

All long-term care facilities are encouraged to include associated staff in on-site vaccination clinics.

Specifically, this means that facilities should reach out to their contracted therapy, consultants, hospice and home health agencies as well as other contracted and associated nursing and support staff to provide an opportunity for them to participate in the facility's vaccination clinics.

Eligible associated staff are paid and unpaid persons serving in health care settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to residents or infectious materials, including body substances (e.g., blood, tissue and specific body fluids); contaminated medical supplies, devices and equipment; contaminated environmental surfaces; or contaminated air. This includes, but is not limited to, emergency medical service (EMS) personnel, nurses, nursing assistants, hospice and home health care personnel, physicians, technicians, therapists, phlebotomists, pharmacists, students and trainees, contractual staff not employed by the health care facility, and persons not directly involved in resident care but who could be exposed to infectious agents that can be transmitted in the health care setting (e.g., clerical, dietary, environmental services, laundry, security, engineering and facilities management, administrative, billing and volunteer personnel including individuals representing the Oregon Long-Term Care Ombudsman).

Facilities should:

- Inform associated staff that they may receive a vaccine at the facility's vaccination clinic and the dates and schedule for the vaccination clinics;
- Provide associated staff the name of the pharmacy that will be holding the clinic.
- Provide associated staff with a deadline by which they must inform the facility of the number of individuals choosing to be vaccinated at the clinic so that the facility may include this in their count of individuals to be vaccinated at the clinics.

Associated staff may also contact their Local Public Health Authority to determine other vaccine clinic options.

Facilities are not responsible for providing or coordinating any of the required pre-clinic paperwork and consent forms. The Oregon Health Authority, the participating pharmacy or other sources will have disclosure information about the vaccination, the program requirements, and consent forms available for contracted and associated staff to access.

- CVS/Omnicare: www.omnicare.com/covid-19-vaccine-resource
- Walgreens: www.walgreens.com/topic/findcare/long-term-care-facility-covid-vaccine.jsp#faq
- Consonus: www.consonushealth.com/covid-19-pharmacy-updates/

Vaccination roll out schedule for long-term care settings:

COVID-19 vaccinations for long-term care facility staff and residents are being implemented through the [Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program](#) which includes Walgreens, CVS and Consonus.

Last year, ODHS and OHA had notified long-term care facilities in Oregon that they needed to register with the program. Registered facilities are being contacted directly by Walgreens, CVS or Consonus with information on when and how vaccination clinics will be set up at their facilities. Communication about next steps is being shared as the pharmacy partners determine their clinic schedule.

Clinics held at long-term care campuses with multiple facility types, including supported senior housing that is not licensed by ODHS, may provide vaccines to all residents and staff and associated staff included on the campus regardless of facility type. This includes, but is not limited to, independent living and retirement living buildings.

Facilities already registered in the Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program do not need to participate in other regional vaccine clinics set up by Local Public Health Authorities.

Contact information and resources for facilities and adult foster homes that DID and DID NOT register:

ODHS and OHA had notified long-term care facilities that they needed to register with the Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program program. Registered facilities are being contacted by Walgreens, CVS or Consonus with information on when and how vaccination clinics will be set up at their facilities. Communication about next steps is being shared as the pharmacy partners determine their schedule.

Facilities that **DID** register and have questions should reach out to their pharmacy partner:

- CVS/Omnicare: CovidVaccineClinicsLTcf@CVSHealth.com
- Walgreens: immunizeLTC@walgreens.com
- Consonus Healthcare: [www.consonushealth.com /contact-us/](http://www.consonushealth.com/contact-us/)

Pharmacy partners have also made information available online at the following links:

- CVS/Omnicare: www.omnicare.com/covid-19-vaccine-resource
- Walgreens: www.walgreens.com/topic/findcare/long-term-care-facility-covid-vaccine.jsp#faq
- Consonus: www.consonushealth.com/covid-19-pharmacy-updates/

Oregon facilities and adult foster homes that **DID NOT** register with the federal program last year, should sign up with the state using [this link](#).

Other resources:

- December 23 Provider Alert and FAQ: [Update on COVID-19 Vaccine Roll-out Plan for Long-term care facilities](#)
- A general Covid-19 vaccine [FAQ about the roll out plan](#)
- [OHA COVID-19 Vaccine Provider toolkit](#)
- Information about the [Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program](#)
- All COVID-19 vaccine-related questions may be addressed to covid19.vaccine@dhsoha.state.or.us