



## COVID-19 Vaccine

### Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

**\*\*Information contained in this document is from the CDC and state departments of health. Links provided at bottom of page. \*\***

#### Definitions (For the Purpose of this Document)

**CDC:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**LTCF:** Long-term Care Facilities

**ALF:** Assisted Living Facilities

**PC:** Personal Care

**ACIP:** Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices

**1. Question: When will the COVID-19 vaccine be available?**

**Answer:** The availability of a safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine depends upon the outcomes of the phase 3 clinical trials that are currently underway. The CDC is expecting the first supply becoming available before the end of 2020. When a vaccine is authorized or approved in the United States, there may not be enough doses available for all adults. Supplies will increase over time, and all adults should be able to get vaccinated later in 2021 per the CDC.

**2. Question: What has Morning Pointe done to plan for the distribution of the COVID-19 vaccines?**

**Answer:** CDC is partnering with CVS and Walgreens to offer on-site COVID-19 vaccination services for residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities once vaccination is recommended for them. Morning Pointe registered all of our communities with this program.

**3. Question: What is the benefit in communities using this program? How does it work?**

**Answer:** The Pharmacy Partnership for Long-term Care (LTC, including; assisted-living and personal care homes) Program provides end-to-end management of the COVID-19 vaccination process, including cold chain management, on-site vaccinations, and fulfillment of reporting requirements, to facilitate safe vaccination of this patient population, while reducing burden on LTC and assisted-living facilities and jurisdictional health departments. The services will be available in rural areas that may not have easily accessible pharmacies. LTCF staff who have not received COVID-19 vaccine can also be vaccinated as part of the program.

As part of this program, which is free of charge to facilities, the pharmacy will:

- Coordinate consenting residents/designees, providing vaccine information;
- Schedule and coordinate on-site clinic date(s) directly with each facility. Three visits over approximately two months will likely be needed to administer both doses of vaccine and vaccinate any new residents and staff.
- 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.

**4. Question: How many shots of COVID-19 vaccine will be needed?**

**Answer:** All but one of the COVID-19 vaccines currently in phase 3 clinical trials in the United States need two shots to be effective. The other COVID-19 vaccine uses one shot.

**5. Question: If I have already had COVID-19 and recovered, do I still need to get vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine when it is available?**

**Answer:** 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 Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices makes recommendations to CDC on how to best use COVID-19 vaccines, CDC cannot comment on whether people who had COVID-19 should get a COVID-19 vaccine.

**6. Question: What age groups can receive the vaccine?**

**Answer:** The vaccine initially will only be approved for people ages 18 and older, as it has not been studied yet in young children or pregnant women. Studies have shown that the vaccine is effective for those older than 65.

**7. Question: How long do I have to wait between receiving the Flu vaccine and COVID-19 vaccine?**

**Answer:** Since the vaccines that are currently in phase 3 clinical trials are not live virus vaccines, it is likely that these vaccines can be administered in conjunction with, or in proximity to, other vaccines, but the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) will release its recommendations prior to the vaccines being released for use.

For more information, please see below links:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html>

<https://www.tn.gov/health/cedep/ncov/covid-19-vaccine-information.html>

<https://govstatus.egov.com/ky-covid-vaccine>

<https://dph.georgia.gov/covid-vaccine>

<https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/>

<https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19/vaccine.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/meetings/index.html>