

COVID-19 Vaccination Healthcare Personnel and Long-Term Care Facility Residents

www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/vacc-specific/covid-19/clinical-considerations.html

Background

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends that when a COVID-19 vaccine is authorized by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and recommended by ACIP, vaccination in the initial phase of the COVID-19 vaccination program (Phase 1a) should be offered to both 1) health care personnel (HCP) and 2) residents of long term care facilities (LTCF). These considerations will be updated as additional information becomes available.

Healthcare Personnel

-include all paid and unpaid persons serving in healthcare settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients or infectious materials.

***Healthcare personnel (HCP)** refers to all paid and unpaid persons serving in healthcare settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients 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. These **HCP may include**, but are not limited to, emergency medical service personnel, nurses, nursing assistants, physicians, technicians, therapists, phlebotomists, pharmacists, students and trainees, **contractual staff not employed by the health care facility**, and persons (e.g., clerical, **dietary**, environmental services, laundry, security, maintenance, engineering and facilities management, administrative, billing, and volunteer personnel) **not directly involved in patient care but potentially exposed to infectious agents that can be transmitted among from HCP and patients**. For this update, HCP does not include dental healthcare personnel, autopsy personnel, and laboratory personnel, as recommendations to address occupational infection prevention and control (IPC) services for these personnel are posted elsewhere.*

Long-Term Care Facility Residents

LTCFs provide a spectrum of medical and non-medical services to frail or older adults unable to reside independently in the community. These include:

- Skilled nursing facilities: facility engaged primarily in providing skilled nursing care and rehabilitation services for residents who require care because of injury, disability, or illness.
- Assisted living facilities: facility providing help with activities of daily living. Residents often live in their own room or apartment within a building or group of buildings.

Sub-Prioritization of LTCF Residents for COVID-19 Vaccination

ACIP recommends that LTCF residents be prioritized in the earliest phase of COVID-19 vaccination. However, in settings where the initial vaccine supply is insufficient to vaccinate residents of all LTCFs, sub-prioritization of vaccine doses may be necessary. Considerations for sub-prioritization include:

- Skilled nursing facilities should be prioritized among LTCFs as they provide care to the most medically vulnerable residents.
- After skilled nursing facilities, consider broadening to other facilities, including:
 - Assisted living facilities
 - Intermediate care facilities for individuals with developmental disabilities
 - Residential care facilities
 - State Veterans Homes

State COVID-19 Vaccination Plans are available for some specific states but check with your local State Department of Health for more up-to-date information.

Texas: www.dshs.texas.gov/immunize/covid19/COVID_Vaccine_Principles_HCW_Definition.pdf

Nebraska: <http://dhhs.ne.gov/Documents/COVID-19-Vaccination-Plan.pdf>

Arkansas: www.healthy.arkansas.gov/images/uploads/pdf/Arkansas_Interim_Draft_COVID-19_Vaccination_Plan_10-16-20.pdf

Mississippi: www.msdh.state.ms.us/msdhsite/_static/14,0,71,975.html