

# OHIO VACCINE PREPAREDNESS OFFICE WEEKLY UPDATE

## PANDEMIC VACCINE NEWS & UPDATES THIS WEEK

- **Second doses begin this week** – Second doses are beginning this week for Pfizer-BioNTech vaccines administered at the 10 pre-positioned hospitals and nursing and veterans homes in the federal pilot program, for those with first doses administered the week of December 14, 2020. Providers should expect regular shipments including the second doses approximately three weeks after the first dose for the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, and four weeks after the first dose for the Moderna vaccine. For additional information on second doses, please see [this provider guidance document](#).
- **FDA releases statement on changing dosing** – In a [thorough statement](#), the FDA said, “We have been following the discussions and news reports about reducing the number of doses, extending the length of time between doses, changing the dose (half-dose), or mixing and matching vaccines in order to immunize more people against COVID-19. These are all reasonable questions to consider and evaluate in clinical trials. However, at this time, suggesting changes to the FDA-authorized dosing or schedules of these vaccines is premature and not rooted solidly in the available evidence.” [Read more](#).
- **Data collection FAQ available now** – ODH has compiled a comprehensive document with questions and answers for [COVID-19 Data Reporting \(ImpactSIIS, CSV, HL7 and TP/O\)](#), including a chart of TP/O codes.
- **Moderna offering webinars for healthcare providers** - Moderna is offering free webinars for healthcare providers about the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine on [January 6 at 1 p.m.](#) and [January 14 at 11 a.m.](#)
- **Communications toolkit translations now available** – Translations of the [English COVID-19 Vaccine Communications Toolkit issued Dec. 20, 2020](#) are now available in the following languages. Additional updates to the toolkit are forthcoming.
  - [Nepali](#)
  - [Somali](#)
  - [Spanish \(United States\)](#)
- **Stay at home tonight order extended through Jan. 23, 2021** – The nightly curfew from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m., with exceptions, has been extended. [Read more here](#).
- **K-12 classroom quarantine guidance updated** – As Ohio moves toward Governor Mike DeWine’s goal of fully reopening K-12 schools to in-person learning by March 1, 2021, it is crucial that safety and prevention protocols continue to be followed in classrooms. As students gather, there will be times when a child or teacher may be exposed to a classmate or student who has COVID-19. This updated guidance, based on an [evaluation of K-12 school students](#), can help schools and local health departments work together to determine when it may be appropriate to have a potentially exposed individual quarantine at home. It will be the consultation between the school and the local health department that determines if quarantine is warranted. These guidelines, updated Dec. 30, 2020, are:
  - If a student or teacher is exposed **in the classroom setting** to someone with COVID-19, quarantine is not recommended for the exposed individual **as long as masking and other appropriate protocols were followed**.
  - Quarantine continues to be advised for anyone who is exposed in the classroom if protocols have not been followed (e.g., students or adults in the classroom did not properly wear masks).
  - Quarantine also continues to be advised for anyone exposed during extracurricular activities, including sports, regardless of masking or other protocols. Revised guidelines above only apply in classroom settings.
  - In all cases of potential exposure, consult with the local health department.
- **Moderna vaccine storage and handling guidance** – ODH has offered guidance on [Transporting Moderna Vaccine](#), which has complex qualities and requires strict adherence by providers to storage and handling guidelines. This information is vital for planning and preparing COVID-19 offsite vaccination clinics.

## RESOURCES

### HOW TO ENROLL

[Pandemic Vaccine Provider Enrollment Information](#)

### PROVIDER RESOURCES

[Pandemic Vaccine Provider Resource Page](#)  
[FAQ for Health Providers](#)

### PFIZER RESOURCES

[Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Fact Sheet for Providers](#)

[Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Fact Sheet for Patients](#)

### MODERNA RESOURCES

[EUA Fact Sheet for Vaccination Providers](#)

[EUA Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers](#)

[Additional Moderna Resources](#)

### VACCINE COMMUNICATIONS TOOLKIT

This [toolkit](#) will be expanded with additional resources but is being provided now to support your immediate needs.



## TALKING POINTS

The most trusted voices when it comes to information about COVID-19 are an individual's personal physician, medical experts, and emergency room doctors, followed by public health officials.

- Ohio is prepared to distribute **safe** and **effective** COVID-19 vaccines statewide. We have two clear goals: To save lives and slow the spread of the virus.
- The COVID-19 vaccine development process included several steps comparable with those used to develop earlier vaccines, such as the flu or measles vaccine. The FDA and independent medical experts have ensured that every detail of these vaccines are thoroughly and rigorously evaluated.
- Initially, there will be a limited number of vaccines available, and Ohio is committed to making the vaccine widely available, for those who want to receive it, as quickly as possible as shipments arrive.
- In the early stages of COVID-19 vaccine distribution, doses will be available in limited supply for specific critical populations as a part of phased approach. As supply increases, COVID-19 vaccines will be available to all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated.
- The vaccine has been shown to decrease the severity of illness in people who catch this virus. Having a significant portion of Ohioans vaccinated will help us prevent serious hospitalizations and death and will allow Ohioans to get closer to a sense of normalcy.
- Using all the tools available to help prevent the spread of the virus continues to be critical until a substantial number of Ohioans can be vaccinated. Continuing to wear masks and social distance will reduce your chance of being exposed to or spreading the virus. Proper prevention measures coupled with the vaccine will provide the best protection from COVID-19.
- An Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) authorizes use of an unapproved medical product, or unapproved use of an approved medical product, for use during a public health emergency if the benefits of its use outweigh any known or potential risks. Both Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna's COVID-19 vaccines have been granted EUA following rigorous review. In the past, EUAs have been issued for products, devices, and drugs related to Ebola, H1N1, Zika, and others. The EUAs are valid until the pandemic is over, the FDA revokes the EUAs, or the products are approved for traditional licensure by the FDA. The FDA closely monitors each vaccine for safety after the EUA is issued. Drug manufacturers are encouraged to obtain traditional FDA licensed vaccine approval as soon as possible.
- Side effects are minimal. The most common side effects include fatigue, headache, soreness or redness at the injection site, and muscle or joint pain, and should not prevent you from getting a vaccine that can prevent you from catching or spreading this deadly virus.

## RESOURCES FOR THE PUBLIC

[coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine)

[Ohio's Phased Approach](#)

[Phase 1A Vaccine Distribution Graphic](#) and [Fact Sheet](#)

[Phase 1B Distribution Graphic](#)

[COVID-19 Myths vs. Facts](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccines FAQ](#)



## CDC RESOURCES

[Communications Toolkit for Medical Centers, Clinics and Clinicians](#)

[Vaccinate with Confidence](#)

[Understanding How COVID-19 Vaccines Work](#)

[Understanding COVID-19 mRNA Vaccines](#)

[About V-Safe](#)

[Benefits of Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine](#)




[Who Gets Vaccinated First?](#)

[What to Expect at Your Vaccine Appointment](#)

[Ensuring Safety of Vaccines](#)

[Different Vaccines](#)

## SOCIAL MEDIA POST IDEAS

- In the early vaccination phase, supply will be limited. As the number of available doses increases, COVID-19 vaccines will be available to all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated. See more about Ohio's phased approach  Learn more  <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine> *[Suggested graphic: Ohio's Phased Approach]*
- Trust the FACTS: #COVID19 vaccines won't change your DNA, alter your genetic makeup, or implant you with a tracking chip. See more debunked myths at <https://bit.ly/OHVaccineMyths>.
- When you get a #COVID19 vaccine, you can expect pain and soreness in the arm where you got the shot. Other common side effects are fever, chills, headache, and tiredness. Learn more about what to expect in this video from the @CDCgov <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EILCpte7GSw>
- The Internet is filled with dangerous misinformation about #COVID19 vaccines, and it can be difficult to know what to trust. The best thing you can do is educate yourself about the vaccines with trustworthy information. Learn more  <https://bit.ly/OHVaccineMyths>
- FACT: #COVID19 vaccines weren't rushed and have been thoroughly vetted through a rigorous safety assessment involving independent medical professionals. See more myths vs. facts at <https://bit.ly/OHVaccineMyths>.