

What LTCF Administrators Want to Know

FAST FACTS VACCINATION READY

Q. I missed the deadline to enroll in the first phase of the LTC program. Am I still able to enroll?

A: Facility and community sign-ups for the Pharmacy Partnership for Long-term Care Program ended November 6, 2020. No additional facilities/communities can be accepted at this time. Facilities / Communities will need to work directly with their state or local health departments to determine the best way to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

Q. When should I expect to have my first clinic?

A: As the vaccines are released at the state level, each facility/ community will be contacted by their local vaccine lead to schedule their clinics. This may have already begun in some states and contact should be received by the beginning of 2021.

Q. How many clinics will my facility be guaranteed?

A: Walgreens has a contractual agreement to do three clinics.

Q. How far apart will each clinic take place?

A: The Pfizer/BioNTech vaccines are recommended to be given 21 days apart and the Moderna's vaccines are recommended to be given 28 days apart.

CDC Guidance: Second doses administered within a grace period of ≤ 4 days from the recommended date for the second dose are considered valid; however, doses administered earlier do not need to be repeated. The second dose should be administered as close to the recommended interval as possible. However, there is no maximum interval between the first and second dose for either vaccine.

***Pfizer it is not recommended to give second dose sooner than 17 days with 21 days being ideal*

***Moderna it is not recommended to give second dose sooner than 24 days with 28 days being ideal*

Q. Do I have to do any reporting or charting for my residents who received the vaccine?

A: The pharmacy that administers the vaccine will be accountable to manage all reporting needs as part of the Pharmacy Partnership for Long-term Care Program, but it is highly recommended the LTCFs should chart residents who have received the vaccine.

Q. What is the V-Safe program?

A: The v-safe program was developed by the CDC as a way for healthcare providers to share any side effects after a COVID-19 vaccine was administered. This information will help the CDC monitor the safety of the COVID-19 vaccines in near real time, and if any serious health problems are reported, they can be quickly investigated by CDC's medical experts and scientist.

The v-safe programs was developed for Health Care workers only and not for Residents.

Q. How are ADEs reported for residents?

A: Adverse Drug Events (ADEs) for residents should be reported through VAERS, the standard process for reporting adverse events. The participating pharmacies or the LTCFs are able to manage the ADE process.

Q. How do we get in contact with our pharmacy POC if we have questions at any time in the process?

A: At the time of clinic set up, a Walgreens HCA will be provided to support the LTCFs during the clinic process. Please be sure to request contact information to ensure efficiency and ease of access.

Q. If my state only elected for Part A, what does that mean for Assisted Living or Community Living Communities?

A: Each state has elected for Part A, Part A & Part B at different times, or Part A&B together. This activation does change on a regular basis. If your state elected for Part A at the time of clinic set ups, that means they have prioritized SNFs and those will be administered first. Assisted Living Communities will be prioritized when Part B is elected for that state, and the pharmacy HCA will reach out to set up those clinics when activated.

Q. What are the common side effects of receiving the vaccine?

A: The most common reported symptoms are fever, fatigue, headache, chills, myalgia (muscle pain), and arthralgia (joint pain). The usually are mild to moderate and typically subside in 1-2 days. Reported symptoms are most common after the second dose.

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Q. *My facility is in a remote location, should that impact our ability to get the vaccine quickly and efficiently through the Walgreens channel?*

A: Walgreens has over 9,000 stores nationwide with 88% of US Population within 10 miles of a store. Facility location should not have any direct impact to receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. PharMerica will also support the Walgreens clinics as needed as inoculators in locations that are more remote to ensure access to the COVID-19 vaccine for all facilities.

Q. *What supplies do I need available for the clinic vs. what Federal pharmacy partner is bringing*

A: Walgreens will have all emergency needs and kits available at each clinic. Walgreens does not supply oxygen, so each facility or community will need to have those on site if necessary. Walgreens' team members are trained to respond to immunization issues based on approved protocols including but not limited to using emergency services and CPR.

Q. *What space do I need to have available for the clinic set up?*

A: To properly administer vaccines, Walgreens is asking for a clean, safe and private room for each clinic. The room needs to be of sufficient size to allow for a reception table with a garbage can, at least one chair for support staff, a table and two chairs for the immunizer and participant and several additional chairs for participants. Non-fabric chairs are preferred as they will allow for proper disinfecting procedures. It will help to ensure the space selected for the immunization clinic is **well-ventilated** and provides ample space for residents and employees to practice safe social-distancing (at least 6 feet) while waiting to receive their immunization, and for the 15-minute observation period after each immunization.

Q. *I heard that clinics may be multi-day, what does that mean?*

A: The clinics could occur in two consecutive days depending upon the volume of residents and staff that are looking to review the vaccine. This will be discussed at the time of clinic set up.