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Ohio Department of Health COVID-19 Vaccination Providers Workgroup

Conference Call January 20, 2021

OPA Representatives Don Bennett and Kathy Nameth

Lance Himes, ODH Senior Director provided an update on the roll out of the COVID-19 vaccines. Highlights of his presentation include

1. Every LTC facility has had the opportunity for the 1st dose. Next phase is to move to assisted living facilities
2. **Phase 1B begins** – Vaccinations in Phase 1B began on Tuesday, Jan. 19. Governor DeWine announced a tiered system for offering vaccinations to the estimated 2.2 million people who are eligible for the vaccine under this phase, beginning with those who are 80 or older, outlined below. When a new age group begins, vaccinations may not be complete for the previous age group. It will take a number of weeks to distribute all of the vaccine given the limited doses available.
3. Hospitals have been directed to stop administering first doses to 1A group and move on to 1B. Local Health Departments can continue to vaccinate 1A health care workers
 - a. Jan. 19, 2021 – Ohioans 80 years of age and older.
 - b. Jan. 25, 2021 – Ohioans 75 years of age and older; those with a developmental or intellectual disability **AND** one of the following conditions: cerebral palsy; spina bifida; severe congenital heart disease requiring hospitalization within the past year; severe type 1 diabetes requiring hospitalization within the past year; inherited metabolic disorders including phenylketonuria; severe neurological disorders including epilepsy, hydrocephaly, and microcephaly; severe genetic disorders including Down syndrome, fragile X syndrome, Prader-Willi syndrome, Turner syndrome, and muscular dystrophy; severe lung disease, including asthma requiring hospitalization within the past year, and cystic fibrosis; sickle cell anemia; and alpha and beta thalassemia; and solid organ transplant patients. If people believe they fit in this category, they should contact their local board of developmental disabilities, which will help coordinate vaccinations.
 - c. Feb. 1, 2021 – Ohioans 70 years of age and older; employees of K-12 schools that wish to remain or return to in-person or hybrid models.
 - d. Feb. 8, 2021 – Ohioans 65 years of age and older.
 - e. Feb. 15, 2021 – Ohioans with severe congenital, developmental, or early-onset, and inherited conditions listed above. If people believe they fit in this category, they should contact their local board of developmental disabilities, which will help coordinate vaccinations.

Enrolled providers are now up to over 2400 with 1148 pharmacies and 232 hospitals. A total of 732 providers received vaccine this week. This will expand when additional vaccine supplies are received. Total doses going out this week are 150,000. Allocation of vaccine doses from the Federal government is expected to be about the same for each of the next three weeks. A total of 19 independent pharmacies are receiving doses this week. ODH are looking to expand these numbers. **Enrollment is still open. Go to <https://ohid.ohio.gov> to enroll. You need to complete the training modules on the website. The website is updated regularly, so check frequently. There is a comprehensive checklist on the website to assist with your preparation to be able to administer the vaccines.**

4. The state launched an online search tool on Jan. 15 that shows providers throughout Ohio who have received shipments of COVID-19 vaccines for those currently being vaccinated in Phase 1B. As more vaccine providers receive shipments, they will be added to this page. Searchable by county or ZIP code. vaccine.coronavirus.ohio.gov
5. ODH is still working on a statewide scheduling system that they hope will be activated in early February.
6. The additional groups of 1C and 2 will be identified after guidance is received from the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and vaccine supplies are identified.
7. All vaccine must be administered the week it is received. If providers do not administer all doses each week, future allocations may be decreased. Providers are expected to offer evening and weekend hours. All vaccinations should be entered into ImpactSIIS within 24 hours. Providers must have a communication plan to inform the public how to schedule an appointment, e.g., web based or phone. Some form of identification with a date of birth should be used to verify eligibility based upon age.
8. It is still appropriate to vaccinate the vaccinators but no more than 5% of the weekly allocation should be used for his purpose.
9. Enrolled providers must have a cold storage and security plan in place. Correct vaccine storage temperatures must be maintained at all times. ODH has a temperature recording available and it needs to be used. Additional information is available at https://odh.ohio.gov/static/covid19/vaccine-providers/transporting_moderna_vaccine.pdf
Also the CDC has a very comprehensive reference for vaccine storage and handling: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/admin/storage/toolkit/storage-handling-toolkit.pdf>
All staff is expected to be educated on proper vaccine storage and security.
10. The ODH site at www.coronavirus.ohio.gov is intended for providers and consumers and is updated regularly.
11. Additional information is available in a separate document:
Ohio Vaccine Preparedness Office Weekly Update January 20, 2021