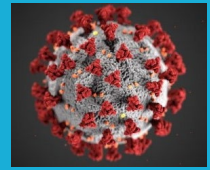


# Alaska INTERIM COVID-19 VACCINATION PLAN



## Executive Summary

October 26, 2020

### Introduction

Since January 2020, Alaskan partners from local, state, tribal, and federal organizations have addressed the COVID-19 pandemic with increased resourcefulness and improved resilience. Creative solutions developed in conjunction with our partners will be utilized during vaccine distribution and administration. The State of Alaska COVID-19 Vaccination Plan includes: a phased approach to vaccine distribution, critical populations, provider recruitment and enrollment, vaccine storage and handling, vaccination second-dose reminders, vaccination program communication, vaccine safety monitoring, and vaccination program monitoring.

### COVID-19 Vaccination Planning Sections:

#### Section 3: Phased Approach to COVID-19 Vaccination

- During Phase 1, the majority of vaccine administration will occur through closed Points of Dispensing (PODs) to ensure maximum vaccination throughput while maintaining infection control procedures. Pharmacists will assist by vaccinating within pharmacies and health systems, providing vaccines in designated POD locations, and conducting mobile vaccination.
- During Phase 2, vaccination efforts will expand beyond the Phase 1 population groups. Alaska plans to administer vaccine through commercial and private sector partners, and public health sites.
- During Phase 3, Alaska will ensure equitable access to vaccination services by partnering with commercial and private entities.

#### Section 4: Critical Populations

Alaska will use Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) guidance and data sets from the State of Alaska, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, Alaska Pharmacists Association, and the Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association to identify critical populations. Vaccination planning with critical population organizations, critical infrastructure partners, and industry groups is ongoing. The Alaska Immunization Program will continuously monitor COVID-19 vaccine uptake and coverage in critical populations to enhance outreach to populations with low vaccination uptake or coverage.

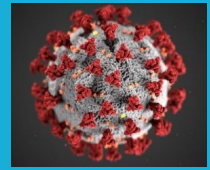
#### Section 5: COVID-19 Vaccination Provider Recruitment and Enrollment

The Alaska Immunization Program will distribute provider enrollment information through medical associations, the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program, and the Alaska Vaccine Assessment Program (AVAP). Alaska Immunization Program staff will verify provider licenses on the [Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Professional Licensure](#) website to ensure that providers are credentialed with active, valid licenses to possess and administer vaccine.

#### Section 8: COVID-19 Vaccine Storage and Handling

Providers must comply with CDC requirements for COVID-19 Vaccine management, including storing and handling COVID-19 vaccine under proper conditions, maintaining cold chain conditions, maintaining chain of custody in accordance with manufacturer and CDC guidance, complying with Alaska's immunization program guidance for dealing with temperature excursions, monitoring and complying with COVID-19 Vaccine expiration dates, and preserving COVID-19 Vaccine management records as required by federal and Alaska requirements.

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Provider vaccine storage, handling capacity, and locations will be assessed during provider enrollment. Once capabilities are assessed, redistribution plans will either be based off the current Tribal Health Organizations' VFC redistribution process or addressed on a case-by-case basis if outside of the Tribal Health Organization.

In order to minimize vaccine wastage, Alaska will monitor supply and transfers of refrigerated vaccine products. Cold chain and ultra-cold vaccine storage capabilities will be assessed by the Alaska Immunization Program during provider enrollment.

## Section 10: COVID-19 Vaccination Second-Dose Reminders

The Reminder/Recall module in VacTrAK, Alaska's Immunization Information System, will be used to generate the list of names and email addresses/phone numbers for COVID-19 vaccine recipients requiring a second dose. Reminder texts can also be sent via PrepMod.

## Section 12: COVID-19 Vaccination Program Communication

Communications will be accurate, credible, coordinated, consistent, and timely during the COVID-19 vaccine development phase, and distribution phases I, II, and III. The Vaccine Communication/Education Team will ensure that messages are tailored to Alaskan populations, focus on critical populations, and comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The Vaccine Communication/ Education Team along with state, local and Tribal partners will communicate to all Alaskans during each vaccination phase.

## Section 14: COVID-19 Vaccine Safety Monitoring

Enrolled COVID-19 vaccination providers will complete COVID-19 Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) training. Training will address adverse event reporting requirements following COVID-19 vaccinations.

## Section 15: COVID-19 Vaccination Program Monitoring

The Alaska Immunization Program will monitor the COVID-19 Vaccination Program by comparing the provider enrollment master data file with the VFC/AVAP enrolled providers' and non-traditional providers' lists. Additional monitoring will occur by identifying and mapping provider locations.

The Alaska Immunization Program will assess doses administered weekly by provider type in VacTrAK to determine overall population access to vaccination services.

Enhancements to VacTrAK will be monitored through weekly calls between the vendor and Immunization Information Systems (IIS) Managers. PrepMod performance will be monitored by VacTrAK staff, Public Health Nursing staff, and select super users. Data reporting to the CDC will be monitored weekly by reviewing the reports in the Data Lake to VacTrAK/PrepMod reports.

## Additional Information

As new information about the vaccine emerges, Alaska will continue planning and working with critical partners to ensure that the COVID-19 vaccine is safely, efficiently, and equitably distributed across Alaska.