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Ohio Department of Health COVID-19 Vaccination Providers Workgroup

Conference Call January 13, 2021

OPA Representatives Don Bennett and Kathy Nameth

This was the fifth conference call in what will be a regular weekly occurrence.

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

1. The 1A group vaccinations continue with an emphasis on health care workers who have high risk exposure. We are beginning a transition to 1B beginning the week of January 18. Starting with those 80 years and older, a new priority age group is expected each following week in 5 year increments.

- Age 75+ (week of Jan. 25).
- Age 70+ (week of Feb. 1).
- Age 65+ (week of Feb. 8).

2. First and second doses for group 1A should continue as new groups are added. One focus is to vaccinate those 65 and older because 87% of deaths in Ohio have been in this age group.

3. Also in group 1B is teachers and other adults in schools K-12. This starts February 1 and includes janitors, food service, bus drivers, paid coaches, and other adults. The school must commit to full in class or hybrid education. Schools are now being surveyed to see if they already have immunization partners.

4. Also in 1B are individuals with severe congenital, developmental, or early onset medical disorders will be eligible starting January 25.

5. 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.

6. The provider pool continues to expand. There are over 2000 enrollees including 820 pharmacies. Not all providers will receive vaccine initially. **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.**

7. Vaccine will be allocated by county based upon population and number of identified enrolled providers. The ODH is notified of the Federal supplies coming on Tuesday of each week. Allocations will be determined weekly with all counties receiving at least 100 doses. The ODH Vaccine Ordering Management System (VOMS) can be used to identify what supplies are coming. Providers should use their ImpactSIIS username and password to access VOMS.

8. All vaccine must be administered the week it is received. If providers do not administered 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 with 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.

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.