

COVID -19 VACCINE PROVIDER

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Highlights

5/28/2021

Policy

- Providers are encouraged to request the amount of vaccines they can administer by submitting a weekly survey request. DOH fulfilled most of the requests made by providers last week.
- Providers are now able to request Pfizer vaccines in two different sizes- a 450 dose tray and a 1,170 dose tray.
- Acting Secretary Alison Beam, on 5/26, amended the skilled nursing facilities COVID-19 case and death data reporting order transitioning from daily reporting requirements to weekly. The move is intended to improve data integrity reported by facilities and provide one comprehensive report on a weekly basis to reflect the impact of COVID-19 in these communities.

Data

- As of 5/27, 2021, a total of 10,385,967 doses has been administered in the jurisdiction of PA DOH. 4,589,247 individuals have been fully vaccinated whereas 1,589,315 individuals have been partially vaccinated against COVID.
- According to the CDC, as of Thursday morning, May 27, Pennsylvania has administered first doses of vaccine to 57.3 % of its eligible population, and the state ranks 9th among all 50 states for first doses administered by percentage of population.

Allocation

- The vaccine request survey will be live from 5/29 8 am to 6/2 12 pm to allow providers enough time to submit vaccine requests following a holiday weekend.
- Pulse check submission is not required on May 31st, Monday.

According to the CDC, provider should be aware of the following as Memorial Day is next Monday, May 31st.



- There will be no deliveries of Pfizer vaccine on May 31st.
- There will be no deliveries of J&J and Moderna vaccines on May 31st or June 1st for centralized distribution.

Education

[FDA's FAQs on Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine](#)

[Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers Administering Vaccine](#)

[CDC COVID-19 Vaccine Webinar Series](#)

[CDC's COVID Vaccine Provider Education and Training](#)

[CDC's COVID Vaccine Inventory Management Best Practices](#)

[CDC's COVID Vaccination Toolkit](#)

Every COVID-19 vaccine provider enrolled with PA DOH must sign a provider enrollment agreement. By signing the agreement, providers agree to store and handle the vaccine products as required by CDC's guidance on vaccine storage and handling. Therefore, providers will be responsible for vaccines shipped to their facility and ensuring they are received and stored appropriately. This is expected even when a vaccine shipment is delivered to a provider by error. Providers should never refuse a vaccine shipment. We expect that every vaccine provider understands the value of this precious cargo. Please remember that refusing a vaccine shipment means potentially unviable vaccines in most cases. Always be mindful that those vaccines could provide immunity to hundreds of eligible people and keep our community healthier and safer. Please be responsible and accountable.

Best Practice Refresher

Expiring Vaccines

Pfizer, Janssen and Moderna vaccines are set to expire sometimes during this month and over the course of June. To minimize the number of unused doses and manage expired doses correctly, CDC is encouraging providers to:

- Monitor expiration dates weekly, rotate stock as needed and follow a **“first in, first out” strategy to manage inventory**.
- Check posted manufacturer information as the expiration date gets closer for the most up to date expiration/extension information for vaccine lots.
- Remove expired vaccine from the storage unit immediately. **Do not give staff an opportunity to administer expired vaccine.**
- Dispose of the vaccine vial (with any remaining vaccine) and packaging as a medical waste according to the local and state regulations. **DO NOT return vaccine in the thermal shipping container.**



- Check your vaccine stock by visiting this link: [Home Page - COVID-19 VACCINE LOT NUMBER AND EXPIRATION DATES \(cdc.gov\)](#)
- Review the list of lot numbers below that are set to expire between May 22, 2021 and June 30, 2021
- Report expired vaccine
- Please promptly report any expired vaccine. This helps CDC accurately monitor the amount of vaccine in the field. Keep in mind that there are no negative consequences for reporting waste, and it will not negatively impact future allocations. CDC recognizes that unused expired vaccine is a normal part of any vaccination program, especially one of this scope and size.

Resources/References

- [Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit include COVID-19 vaccine addendum](#)
 - [Identification, Disposal, and Reporting of COVID-19 Vaccine Wastage](#)
 - [COVID-19 vaccine product web pages and storage and handling summaries](#)
 - [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Authorized in the United States](#)
- Lot Expiration Information (as of 05/25/21 for lots expiring through 6/13/21). For a complete list , please visit [Home Page - COVID-19 VACCINE LOT NUMBER AND EXPIRATION DATES \(cdc.gov\)](#)

J&J/Janssen		Moderna		Pfizer	
Lot Number	Expiration Date	Lot Number	Expiration Date	Lot Number	Expiration Date
1805025	5/25/2021	029A21A	5/22/2021	EL8982	5/31/2021
1802070	5/25/2021	025J20A	5/25/2021	EL9264	5/31/2021
1805029	5/25/2021	029K20A		EL3302	5/31/2021
1802068	5/25/2021	029K20-2A		EL9269	5/31/2021
1805020	5/25/2021	039K20-2A		EL9263	5/31/2021
1805022	5/25/2021	039K20A		EL9262	5/31/2021
1802072	5/25/2021	037K20A		EL9266	5/31/2021
1805018	5/25/2021	025L20A		EL9267	5/31/2021
1805031	5/26/2021	038K20A		EL9261	5/31/2021
		026L20A		EL9265	5/31/2021
		027L20A		EN5318	5/31/2021
				EL3247	5/31/2021
				EN9581	5/31/2021

COVID-19 Vaccine Labels

<p>Pfizer</p> <p>The expiration date is written on the vial.</p>	
<p>Moderna</p> <p>A QR code on the vial is scanned and a website provides the expiration date.</p>	
<p>J&J/Janssen</p> <p>Scan the QR code located on the outer carton, or call 1-800-565-4008, or go to www.vaxcheck.inj</p>	

Are You Ready for the Summer?

Vaccine Storage Temperature Reminders for Summer Clinics

Before you start your summer vaccination clinics, make sure you are following all guidance for maintaining COVID-19 vaccines at the proper temperatures!

Reminders!

Pfizer-BioNTech EUA

After the vaccine vial has been punctured or into a syringe, the vial should be held between 2° to 25°C (36° to 77°F). Vials should be discarded six hours after the first puncture. During storage, minimize exposure to room light, and avoid exposure to direct sunlight and ultraviolet light. Do not refreeze once thawed.

Moderna EUA

After the first dose has been withdrawn, the vial or pre-drawn syringe should be held between 2° to 25°C (36° to 77°F). Vials should be discarded 12 hours after the first puncture. Thawed vials can be handled in room light conditions. Do not refreeze once thawed.

Janssen EUA



Storage After First Puncture of the Vaccine Vial After the first dose has been withdrawn, hold the vial or pre-drawn syringe between 2° to 8°C (36° to 46°F) for up to six hours or at room temperature (maximally 25°C/77°F) for up to two hours. Discard the vial if vaccine is not used within these times.

NOTE: For Outdoor clinics- temperatures could exceed 25°C/77°F during the clinic day. Planning considerations should include measure to ensure both unpunctured and punctured vial/pre-drawn syringes are not exposed to temperatures above 25°C/77°F. Additional containers qualified to maintain the appropriate temperatures may be needed for both preparation and administration stations.

[Click HERE for the Quick Reference Guide Vaccine to Storage and Handling of COVID-19 Vaccine](#)

Vaccine Waste Disposal

“To reduce the risk of fake or counterfeit vaccines, dispose of vials and packaging as medical waste by placing vials in a sharps container and packaging in a red medical waste bag. If medical waste containers are in short supply, deface or safely crush packaging materials so they cannot be reintroduced or reproduced. After the products are sufficiently defaced or destroyed, dispose with regular waste.”

Visit [Regulated Medical and Chemotherapeutic Waste \(pa.gov\)](#) for detailed information and guidelines on medical waste.

Following are the best practices when it comes to disposing medical waste.

1. Vaccine Vials - Always collect all vaccine vials (used and discarded) and put them in one place, separating from other waste. An empty, full or vial with leftover vaccine should always be put in a sharps container to prevent injury from broken glasses as well as possible counterfeit.
2. Syringes- Always throw the used syringes in sharps container. Syringes fall under regulated medical waste. The sharps container used must have FDA market clearance.
3. Vial packaging – Please dispose of vial packages as regulated medical waste to reduce chances of improper use.
4. Keep all vaccine related wastes in a secure place until they are ready to be picked up by a licensed vendor for transportation to treatment and disposal area.
5. Please understand that approved medical waste vendors should be used for the disposal of medical waste including the sharps containers.
6. Using a state licensed medical waste vendor would be appropriate.

(Information on waste disposal derived from CDC, DEP, WHO and OSHA.)



pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Calendar of Upcoming Events

COVID- 19 Vaccine All Provider Call

Date: June 4th Time: 12 – 1 pm

Date: June 11th Time: 12 – 1 pm

Contact Us

For PA SIIS related inquiries

email: RA-DHPASIS@PA.GOV Phone: 1- 877-774-4748

For all other COVID-19 vaccine related inquiries

email: RA-DHCOVIDVAX@PA.GOV Phone:1-877-724-3258

Get Featured

[Community Corps](#) is a new initiative of HHS that is designed to increase COVID-19 vaccine confidence and reinforce prevention measures. This initiative is providing you an opportunity to share your great work on vaccination with a larger network. You now are able to share your story and best practices by emailing community corps at: COVIDCommunityCorps@hhs.gov.

Useful Links

[Vaccine Dashboard](#)

[Personnel Authorized to Administer COVID Vaccine in PA](#)

[Provider Resources and FAQs](#)