

# COVID -19 VACCINE PROVIDER

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

4/2/2021

### Highlights

#### Policy

- Effective March 31st, the Department of Health (DOH) in Conjunction with the COVID Task Force announced special initiative targeted to specific population. This initiative includes law enforcement, firefighters, grocery store workers and food & agriculture workers. Anyone who is employed or is a volunteer in these industries is eligible to obtain COVID-19 vaccine at any enrolled providers.
- The remaining population of phase 1B will be eligible to schedule vaccine appointment starting April 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Everyone who falls under phase 1C, will be eligible to schedule vaccine appointment starting April 12<sup>th</sup>.
- On April 19<sup>th</sup>, eligibility will open for everyone over age 16 that would like to receive vaccine.

#### Data

- Vaccination wise, as of April 1, 2021, vaccine providers have administered a total 5,309,424 vaccine doses across PA. A total of 1,874,693 people is fully vaccinated, and 1,682,499 people are partially vaccinated against COVID-19.
- COVID-19 vaccination data is now publicly available through the commonwealth's [OpenData](#) platform.
- Vaccine provider map is revamped and incorporated to google maps to ensure all enrolled providers have information publicly available for those currently eligible to be vaccinated. This map will be continually updated as more locations receive vaccine

#### Education

- CDC has added the following materials in its provider education catalog:
  - [COVID-19 Vaccine Quick Reference Guide for Healthcare Professionals](#)
  - [Interim Clinical Considerations Summary](#)
  - [Vaccine Administration Errors and Deviations Table](#)
  - [COVID provider webinar series](#)

## Best Practice Refresher-Vaccine Storage

<b>Description</b>	<b>Pfizer</b>	<b>Moderna</b>	<b>Janssen</b>
Storage of vaccine shipment	Ultracold- freezer Thermal Shipper Refrigerator	Freezer Refrigerator	Refrigerator
Storage temperature between	-80°C to -60°C (-112°F to -76°F) until expiry date	-25° to -15°C (-13° to -5°F) until expiry date	2°C to 8°C (36°F to 46°F) until expiry date
Maximum storage time in freezer	Up to 6 months in the original package away from light	Up to 6 months in original package away from light	N/A (Not stored in freezer)
Dry ice needed for shipping?	Yes	No	No
Store below -40° C (-40° F)	Yes	No	No
Maximum days for storage in refrigerator after removing from freezer and before puncturing the vial.	Up to 5 days prior to first use.	Up to 30 days prior to first use.	Until the expiry date
Storage temperature of unpunctured vials	-25°C and -15°C (-13°F and 5°F) for up to 2 weeks  Stored between 2°- 8 °C (36 – 46 ° F) for up to 5 days.	Stored between 2°- 8°C (36 – 46 ° F) up to 30 days	Stored between 2°- 8 °C for up to expiry date
Refreeze unpunctured vials after thawing?	No	No	No
Storage of punctured vials in Refrigerator	Stored between 2°- 25°C (36°- 77°F) for up to 6 hours after first dose is withdrawn.	Stored between 2°- 25°C (36° -77°F) for up to 6 hours after first dose is withdrawn.	Stored between 2°- 25°C (36°- 77°F) for up to 6 hours after first dose is withdrawn.
Refreeze punctured vials?	No	No	No

Fig: Storage of Pfizer, Moderna and Janssen COVID-19 vaccines (CDC, 2021)

## Reporting Deficient Equipment

Providers are encouraged to report any issues with syringes and needles that come in their ancillary kit through federal allocations. The steps to report are as follows:

1. Directly report faulty equipment to McKesson by calling their customer service.

**McKesson Customer Service**

**Phone #: 833-272-6634**

**Email: [SNSSupport@McKesson.com](mailto:SNSSupport@McKesson.com)**

2. Report the deficiencies to the state health department or leaderships at your facility who may then contact the Operation Regional Liaison Officer. This is to ensure that trends in problem equipment is identified.

3. Any error of injury during vaccine administration attributed to deficient equipment should be reported into VAERS: <https://vaers.hhs.gov/reportevent.html>

4. Providers are encouraged to fill out FDA [form 3500](#) if there is more than one deficiency in the kit because syringes and needles both are classified as medical devices.

\*\*It's helpful for the provider to have pictures, lot number, order number, date ordered, and date received when filing the report.

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

**Date: Friday April 2**

Event: All provider Call

Time :12-1 pm

**Date: Friday April 9**

Title: All provider Call

Time :12 -1 pm

This call will include an Educational follow up and Q&A by a Representative of Moderna