



150 YEARS
OF ADVANCING
PUBLIC
HEALTH

Massachusetts Department of Public Health

PUBLIC HEALTH COUNCIL

December 10, 2020

Please standby – the meeting will begin shortly

*Today's presentation is available on the mass.gov/dph website under
"Upcoming Events" by clicking on the December 10 Public Health
Council listing*



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Determination of Need:

Baystate Medical Center Request for Significant Change Amendment to previously approved Determination of Need Project #1-3B36



Massachusetts Department of Public Health

OVERVIEW OF THE MASSACHUSETTS COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAM (MCVP)

December 10, 2020

Kevin Cranston, MDiv, Assistant Commissioner and Director
Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences

Pejman Talebian, MA, MPH, Director, Immunization Division Bureau
of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences

Alison B. Cohen, Director of Communications

Latest Vaccine Update in MA

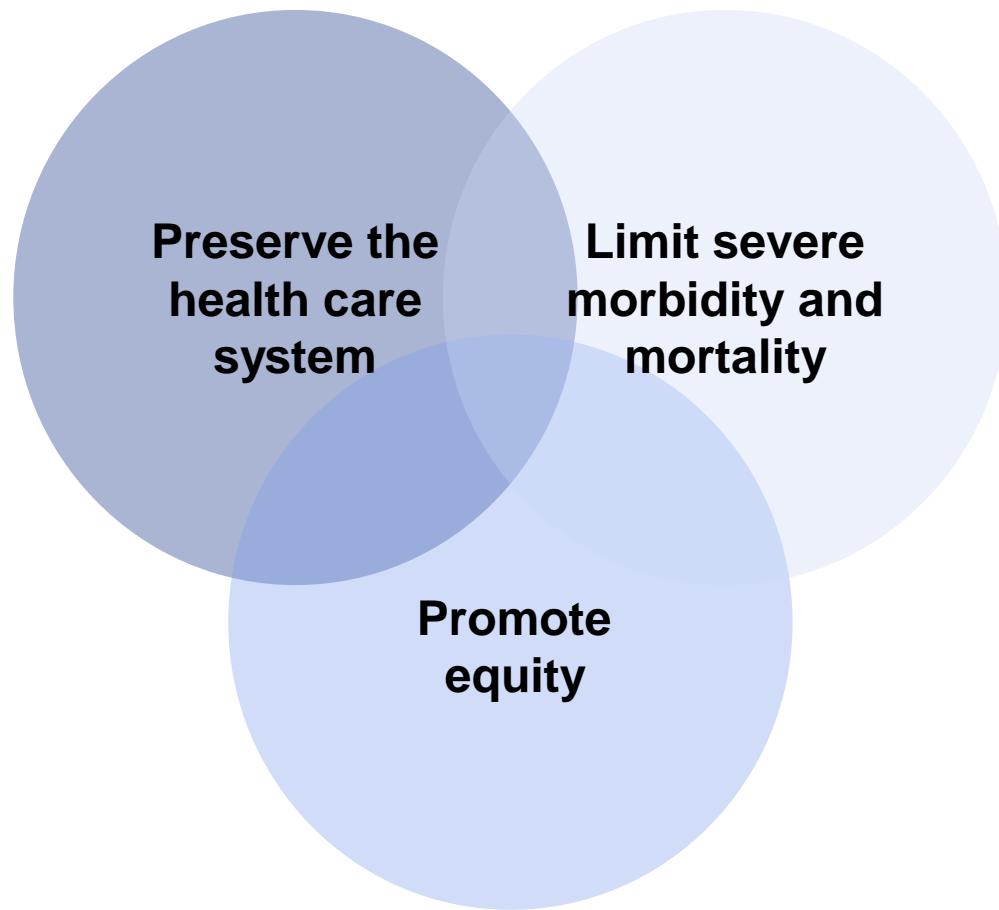
A COVID-19 Vaccination Program

- **CDC has indicated MA is expected to receive ~300k doses by the end of December:**
 - ~180k doses of Pfizer vaccine (60k ~Dec 15 + additional 120k by 12/31)
 - ~120k doses of Moderna vaccine (timing TBD, estimated to start Dec 22nd)
 - Both vaccines require two doses
 - Pfizer requires ultra-cold storage and comes shipments of 975 doses, Moderna requires traditional vaccine refrigeration/ freezing and comes in shipments of 100 doses
- **The U.S. Health and Human Services Operation Warp Speed initiative has said it will deliver 300 million doses of vaccine nationally by spring 2021**
- **DPH has been working on COVID-19 vaccination planning since early August**
 - DPH routinely distributes over 3 million doses of vaccines annually
 - Planning builds on existing Infectious Disease Emergency Response plan, pandemic planning exercises, and learnings from the COVID-19 response to date
 - Massachusetts is targeting vaccination of 80% of the population, initially over the age of 14
 - Each rollout phase will have different populations and different administration sites
 - Over the past decade, the Commonwealth has invested in the state-of-the-art Massachusetts Immunization Information System (MIIS), which serves as the state's vaccine registry, ordering system, and inventory system. DPH has enhanced MIIS to prepare for COVID-19 vaccine administration

Massachusetts COVID-19 Vaccine Advisory Group

- Vaccine prioritization reflects the recommendation of the [Vaccine Advisory Group](#), a group of leaders from healthcare, epidemiology, community organizing, local government, and others
 - The group developed their recommendations over ten working sessions in October and November
- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Dr. Paul Biddinger, Chair - Mass General Brigham▪ State Senator Cindy Friedman - Chairperson of the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing▪ State Representative Ronald Mariano – House Majority Leader▪ Mayor Daniel Rivera - City of Lawrence▪ Dr. Vincent Chiang - Boston Children's Hospital▪ Dr. Robert Finberg - University of Massachusetts Medical School▪ Dr. Simone Wildes - South Shore Hospital▪ Dr. Sharon Wright - Beth Israel Lahey Health▪ Dr. Asif Merchant - Mass Medical Society | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Dr. Barry Bloom - Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health▪ Dr. Marc Lipsitch - Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health▪ Dr. John Rocchio - CVS Health▪ Dr. David Twitchell - Boston Medical Center▪ Michael Curry, Esq. - Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers▪ Rev. Liz Walker - Roxbury Presbyterian Church▪ Wanda McClain - Brigham and Women's Hospital▪ Phoebe Walker - Franklin Regional Council of Governments |
|---|--|

Advisory Group recommendations reflect multiple priorities



The Advisory Group took a strong stance on equity:

- Prioritizes all COVID-facing individuals in healthcare settings, including food service and environmental (not just doctors and nurses) as well as home health workers
- 20% additional vaccine allocated to communities that have experienced disproportionate COVID burden and high social vulnerability

When can I get a **COVID-19** vaccine in MA?



PHASE ONE

In order of priority

- Clinical and non-clinical healthcare workers doing direct and COVID-facing care
- Long term care facilities, rest homes and assisted living facilities
- Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services
- Congregate care settings (including corrections and shelters)
- Home-based healthcare workers
- Healthcare workers doing non-COVID-facing care



PHASE TWO

In order of priority

- Individuals with 2+ comorbidities (high risk for COVID-19 complications)
- Early education, K-12, transit, grocery, utility, food and agriculture, sanitation, public works and public health workers
- Adults 65+
- Individuals with one comorbidity



PHASE THREE

Vaccine available to general public

December - February

Estimated timeframes

February - April

April - June

For more information on vaccine distribution visit [Mass.gov/COVIDvaccine](https://www.mass.gov/COVIDvaccine)



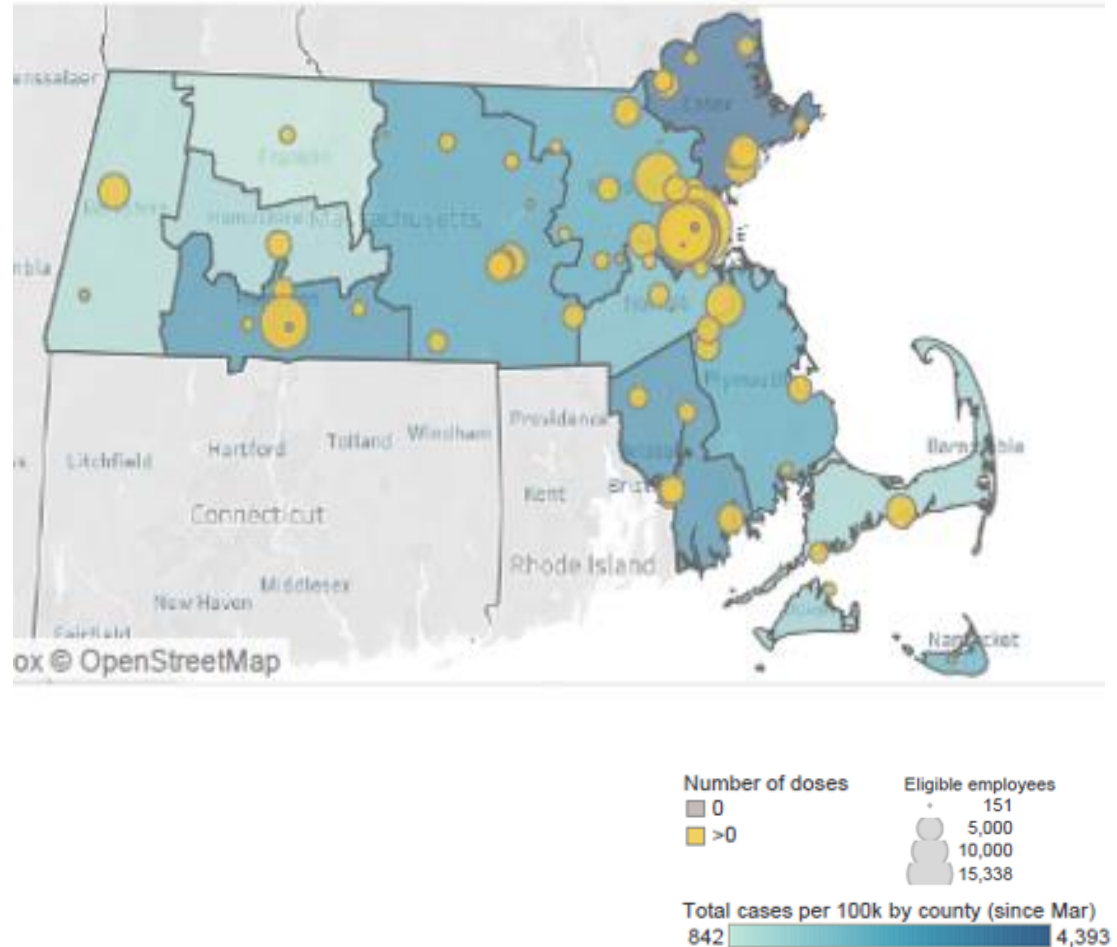
Where will the vaccine be administered?

- **Many medical professionals can administer the vaccine:** doctors, nurses, dentists, other licensed clinicians, pharmacists, pharmacy interns, pharmacy techs, paramedics, and certified medical assistants with supervision
- **Vaccination will ultimately be available at many healthcare sites:**
 - Hospitals
 - Community Health Centers
 - Private medical offices
 - Pharmacies (e.g., CVS, Walgreens, Walmart)
- **Mass vaccination sites** will be set up to account for the unprecedented scale of COVID-19 vaccination
- Individuals living and working in long term care will be vaccinated as part of the **Federal Pharmacy Partnership Program**
- Local Boards of Health will support community engagement

First shipment allocation, ~December 15th

- Pfizer vaccine must be allocated to hospitals that can maintain ultra cold chain storage
- Initial shipment of 60K doses ~Dec 15th has been allocated to eligible hospitals in proportion to eligible population
- Geographic equity has also been prioritized
- Some large hospitals will redistribute to their affiliated sites
- The State Public Health Laboratory will also receive doses for re-distribution to sites without ultra cold storage capabilities


Projected Doses for Administration by site




Vaccine Communications and Community Engagement Plan


- **Provide** clear, accurate, consistent information about the vaccine
- **Build** trust and vaccine confidence
- **Dispel** vaccine misinformation
- **Partner** with community leaders, faith-based organizations, trusted voices
- **Launch** comprehensive statewide public awareness campaign in multiple languages (Phase 2)
- **Update and disseminate** information on vaccination locations and availability

mass.gov/covidvaccine

 **Mass.gov**

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SEARCH 



COVID-19 Vaccine in Massachusetts

Massachusetts is preparing for the safe, equitable, and effective delivery of an FDA-approved COVID-19 vaccine. Learn about the approach and when you can expect to get vaccinated.

[WHEN CAN I GET THE VACCINE?](#)

FAQs:

Is the vaccine safe?

- **The vaccine will not be distributed until the FDA determines the vaccine is safe**
- Vaccines go through more testing than any other pharmaceuticals, including extensive testing in clinical trials
- The FDA, which approves the vaccine, and the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), which will make its recommendation for use, will review all data to ensure any vaccine is both safe and effective
- The infectious disease leads in the state's academic medical centers have pledged to review the EUA data and provide an independent opinion about their safety and efficacy
- COVID-19 Vaccination Provider Agreement requires reporting moderate and severe adverse event to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS)

What will the vaccine cost?

- **The vaccine is being provided free of charge to all individuals by the federal government**
- Insurance companies will not charge any out-of-pocket fees or co-payments related to COVID-19 vaccine administration
- All health care provider sites that receive vaccine must agree to not charge patients out-of-pocket fees or deny anyone vaccination

Other FAQs will be made available on mass.gov/covidvaccine