**BULLETIN What Massachusetts COVID-19 Vaccine Providers Need to Know Week of 1/18/21**

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**Latest Numbers**

* As of 1/16, 684,825 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have shipped to Massachusetts, and 316,903 doses have been administered (data may differ from the [Weekly COVID-19 Vaccination Report](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccination-program#weekly-covid-19-vaccination-report-) due to different dates of reporting).

**What to Know this Week**

* *Weekly survey:* The Massachusetts COVID-19 Vaccination Program (MCVP) sends a survey every Monday to providers who have received COVID-19 vaccine. The survey is sent to the emails of the primary and back-up COVID-19 vaccine coordinators. **It is essential that providers complete this survey every week no later than 12pm on Wednesday**. The information collected is critical to the efficient allocation of COVID-19 vaccine. If the survey is not filled out, then the site will not receive additional first doses the following week. If you requested doses in a previous week but did not receive them, you should resubmit the request in the survey the following week. Please keep in mind, second doses will be sent you automatically, so you only need to include first doses in your requests. If you have not received the survey, please email DPH-Vaccine-Management@massmail.state.ma.us.
* *Wastage:* Providers should make every effort to reduce lost or expired COVID-19 vaccine. In the event that vaccine is lost/expired, use the weekly survey to report those doses and then discard lost/expired doses. The MIIS will be enhanced to accept storage and handling incidents.
* *Second doses*: This week, sites will receive second doses of both Moderna and Pfizer vaccine. Going forward, vaccine shipments include vaccine for both first and second doses. Sites will need to distinguish second doses within the order, as they will not be marked as such. If sites redistributed any vaccine, sites are responsible for also redistributing the same number of second doses.
* *Notification of shipments:* Providers scheduled to receive COVID-19 vaccine shipments from McKesson for Moderna COVID-19 vaccine and directly from Pfizer for Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine will receive advance notification via email. Sites will also receive an email about dry ice shipment from UPS for those receiving Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine.
* *Updated clinical guidance:* The [CDC Clinical Considerations](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/index.html) were updated on 1/6/21, including:
	+ Clarification on the 4-day grace period for administration of the second dose of vaccine
	+ Updated recommendations regarding vaccine co-administration
	+ Clarification on passive antibody therapy and vaccine administration
	+ Updated information on management of anaphylaxis

**Who to Vaccinate this Week**

* Massachusetts is currently in Phase 1. All COVID-19 vaccination efforts should continue to focus on immunizing COVID-19-facing healthcare workers (HCW).
	+ COVID-19-facing HCW include **employees, contractors, students** **in the clinical training programs or from affiliated academic institutions reporting to the facility, and others** who provide care and services to patients who are infected with COVID-19 or come into contact with COVID-infected materials. This category includes COVID-19-facing non-medical staff, such environmental services, food services, etc.
* Staff and residents of long-term care facilities are currently being vaccinated through the Federal Pharmacy Partnership Program (FPPP).
* First responder vaccinations (EMS, police, and fire) began the week of 1/11/21.
* Staff and residents of congregate care settings, such as shelters and prisons, will be vaccinated beginning 1/18/21.
* Effective 1/15/21, all provider sites that have unused vaccine on site and who have completed vaccination of the current priority groups should use the unused vaccine to begin vaccinating any individual eligible in Phase 1 including non-clinical health care workers, long term care facilities, rest homes, assisted living facilities, first responders, congregate care settings (including correction and homeless shelters), home-based healthcare workers and healthcare workers doing non-COVID-facing care.
* Individuals who are in an eligible category and live, work or study in Massachusetts can receive the COVID-19 vaccine.
* For more information, visit [When can I get the COVID-19 vaccine? | Mass.gov](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/when-can-i-get-the-covid-19-vaccine).

**Vaccine Ordering Process**

* At this time, the DPH Vaccine Unit will order from CDC on behalf of providers. Orders are placed in the MIIS and then transmitted to CDC for fulfillment. Orders will routinely be placed on Monday for arrival at most sites by Tuesday-Thursday each week. It is critical to complete your weekly MCVP survey by Wednesday at 12pm in order to signal the need for additional vaccine. You will be notified once ordering functionality is available in the MIIS.
* Provider sites requesting vaccine from the Department of Public Health may only request vaccine for COVID-facing health care workers, first responders, and congregate care settings at this time.

**Vaccine Receipt and Storage & Handling**

* Immediately check all deliveries for completeness, cold-chain, and place in storage.
* If problems exist call the customer service number on the box/invoice.
* Pay attention to temperature requirements, use appropriate storage.
* If using the Pfizer thermal shipping container for temporary storage make sure the Controlant email is received, additional contacts added if needed, and train staff to monitor temperatures.
* Plan ahead for any transfer/redistribution; only move what you can use at satellite sites.
* Check expiration dates on the vaccine package (Pfizer vaccine) or manufacturer’s website (Moderna vaccine; [https://www.modernatx.com/covid19vaccine-eua/providers/vial-lookup](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.modernatx.com_covid19vaccine-2Deua_providers_vial-2Dlookup&d=DwMF-g&c=lDF7oMaPKXpkYvev9V-fVahWL0QWnGCCAfCDz1Bns_w&r=odrC2_VQugK58X57UEr8QKWFVMMAdE-2Omse1Y8qXEw&m=Ix88e65po2yURpcqoYwPJttezyYt-CZE0SxhfCsnINI&s=IO2MrK0nB2JcAWY_XKdvJAKs9JzzZs9cIQdx5IdybYQ&e=)).

**Redistribution of COVID-19 Vaccine**

* Vaccine can be redistributed to sites that have completed an MCVP Agreement. See below for redistribution guidance for the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines. Please note that this guidance does not apply to temporary off-site clinics.
	+ [Redistribution Guidance - Pfizer-BioNTech](https://www.mass.gov/doc/redistribution-guidance-pfizer-biontech/download)
	+ [Redistribution Guidance - Moderna](https://www.mass.gov/doc/redistribution-guidance-moderna/download)
* Sites that are redistributing vaccine must complete the transfer document below and email to DPH-Vaccine-Management@massmail.state.ma.us.
	+ [COVID-19 Transfer Form](https://www.mass.gov/doc/covid-19-transfer-form/download)
* Regional hospitals will serve as depots to receive, store, and redistribute the vaccine to smaller practices that are unable to accept vaccines directly because of their size and storage capacities: [COVID-19 Vaccine Locations for Health Care Workers | Mass.gov](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccine-locations-for-health-care-workers)

**Where to go when you have questions about COVID-19 vaccination**

* **Vaccine Product-Specific Information,** including temperature excursions
	+ The Moderna Call Center is available from 8am to 8pm EST, Monday through Friday and can be reached at 1-866-MODERNA (1-866-663-3762, press 2).
	+ For questions specific to Pfizer vaccine, call 1-877-829-2619.
* **Vaccine Unit** (dph-vaccine-management@massmail.state.ma.us)
* Enrollment into MCVP
* Vaccine storage and handling
* Vaccine shipments, inventory
* Number of doses allocated
* Vaccine transfer
* Vaccine wastage/expiration
* **MIIS** (miishelpdesk@mass.gov)
	+ MIIS registration/onboarding
	+ How to log in to the MIIS
	+ How to report vaccines to the MIIS
	+ Running reports in the MIIS
	+ Adding users/sites to the MIIS
	+ Assistance with MIIS functionality
* **COVID-19 email box** (COVID-19-Vaccine-Plan-MA@mass.gov)
* Who can vaccinate
* Who can get vaccine
* Vaccine prioritization
* Where and how to get vaccinated

**Resources & Learning Opportunities**

* New MDPH Live Webinar and Q&A for Clinical Staff: Handling and Administering the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine. Wednesday January 20, from 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM. [Register here](https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/499453569241921038).
* New MIIS FAQ for providers: <https://www.miisresourcecenter.com/pages/ResourceCenterFaq>
* New CDC MMWR Early Release - [Allergic Reactions Including Anaphylaxis After Receipt of the First Dose of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine](https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7002e1.htm?s_cid=mm7002e1_w) — United States, December 14–23, 2020
* New Please be sure you are using these updated versions of the following forms:
	+ [Screening Form: Prevaccination Checklist for COVID-19 Vaccines](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/downloads/pre-vaccination-screening-form.pdf) (updated 1/5/21)
	+ [Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Standing Orders](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/moderna/downloads/standing-orders.pdf) (updated 1/4/21)
	+ [Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Preparation and Administration Summary](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/moderna/downloads/prep-and-admin-summary.pdf) (updated 12/30/20)
	+ [Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Standing Orders](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/pfizer/downloads/standing-orders.pdf) (updated 1/3/21)
	+ [Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Preparation and Administration Summary](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/pfizer/downloads/prep-and-admin-summary.pdf) (updated 1/3/21)
* Visit [www.mass.gov/CovidVaccineProviders](http://www.mass.gov/CovidVaccineProviders) for [vaccine provider FAQ](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccine-frequently-asked-questions-vaccine-providers); detailed [guidance](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massachusetts-covid-19-vaccine-program-mcvp-guidance-for-healthcare-providers-and) on vaccine management and administration; and CDC and FDA [resources](https://www.mass.gov/lists/additional-covid-19-vaccination-resources-for-providers) such as v-safe After Vaccination Health Checker.
* Answers to [commonly asked questions](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccine-frequently-asked-questions-vaccine-providers) from the general public
* [EUA fact sheets](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccine-information-for-providers#fda-emergency-use-authorization-(eua)-) for providers and caregivers, available in multiple languages
* COVID-19 Vaccine Overview: Learn the basics of COVID-19 vaccine Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) and vaccine storage, handling, and administration in CDC’s [course](https://www.train.org/cdctrain/course/1094789/?ACSTrackingID=USCDC_450-DM45089&ACSTrackingLabel=COVID-19%20Vaccine%20Training&deliveryName=USCDC_450-DM45089).
* Visit [CDC Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity](https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2020/index.asp?ACSTrackingID=USCDC_450-DM45089&ACSTrackingLabel=COVID-19%20Vaccine%20Training&deliveryName=USCDC_450-DM45089) for webinar recordings and slide sets on vaccination and other timely clinical topics.
* **DPH strongly encourages** the primary and back-up vaccine coordinators at each site and providers administering COVID-19 vaccine to complete the trainings in vaccine storage and handling and administration found at [COVID-19 Vaccine Information for Providers | Mass.gov](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccine-information-for-providers#storage-and-handling-).