

COVID-19 Vaccine Updates

December 16, 2020

There is now an authorized and approved vaccine to prevent COVID-19. The Pfizer vaccine was approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and 24,000 doses arrived in Kansas December 14-15.

The Moderna vaccine is scheduled for review by the Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee (VRBPAC) on December 17. The FDA will then vote to issue an EUA for the Moderna vaccine. If approved, shipments are anticipated next week.

The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are a 2-dose series, with the second vaccine needed 21 to 28 days after administration of the first dose. The vaccines will not initially be for children (those under 18) or pregnant women.

Kansas News

Kansas received its first shipment of Pfizer vaccines on December 14-15. 24,000 doses were received in this initial shipment with more expected in the following weeks. In Kansas, public health has been working on preparing and strategizing for distribution of the vaccine for several months. The [Vaccine Plan](#) can be viewed online.

The initial vaccine distribution will be geared towards healthcare providers and long-term care residents, in line with CDC's ACIP recommendations. This distribution is anticipated to take through January.

Additional vaccine is expected the week of December 21, with approximately 28,000 vaccines from Pfizer and 49,000 from Moderna, once approved. The Pfizer allocation is going to the Pharmacy Partnership for Long-term Care (LTC) Program through CDC to begin administration of vaccine in long-term care populations. This program is coordinated between the federal government and CVS/Walgreens to provide long-term care facilities with vaccines. An FAQ is available at: www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/long-term-care/pharmacy-partnerships-faqs.html

Attached is a chart outlining when vaccine is anticipated to be available for population groups. Availability will be dependent upon supply and local distribution will occur. Further details of these breakdowns will be available in the future, following guidelines from the ACIP. Vaccine for the general public is not anticipated until late spring/early summer.

Healthcare workers who are eligible for the first phase of vaccinations should stay tuned to local communication channels regarding when vaccines may be available for them.

The Pfizer Vaccine will continue to be delivered to pre-positioned locations equipped for ultra cold storage throughout Kansas. Due to security reasons, KDHE will not disclose the locations of these facilities. From these locations, vaccine is distributed broadly to provide vaccine coverage to healthcare workers. Moderna will not require ultra-cold storage.

Communication

- KDHE is disseminating these weekly updates on vaccine developments via KSHAN and to partners every Wednesday.
- Other communications are in development and will be communicated as available.

Resources

- CDC - www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html

Expected Vaccine Availability Status to Population Group

Population Group	Very Limited Availability (Winter)	Limited Availability (Late Winter)	Increased Availability (Spring)	Generally Available (Summer)
Health Care Personnel				
Long Term Care Facility Staff				
Long Term Care Residents				
EMS/Frontline Public Health Workers				
First Responders				
Includes some public facing workers in essential and critical infrastructure				
Teachers, school staff, child-care workers				
Individuals at high risk for adverse health consequences				
All other adults				
Children				

Information and groups may be updated based upon federal guidance.

