



Federal Retail Pharmacy Program Updates

September 8: video update from Scott Podolan

In this latest video, Scott shares new information from the CDC, HRSA, and CMS; details a must-see upcoming webinar from APhA on vaccine confidence and young people; and discusses a success story on vaccinating school students.

[Watch now](#)

LTC data report for CDC

CDC will soon be requesting data from all FRPPP participants regarding LTC vaccinations. We will provide an easy template for you to use. Please start thinking about how you will collect this information.

HRSA clarifies differences between claims programs

In this [new slide deck](#), HRSA outlines key differences between COVID-19 Claims Reimbursement Programs (Uninsured versus Coverage Assistance).

CMS resources for Medicare payments, billing, and coding

CMS has prepared resources for billing and coding, linked below

- Medicare Payment for COVID-19 Vaccine Shots: <https://www.cms.gov/medicare/covid-19/medicare-covid-19-vaccine-shot-payment>
- COVID-19 Vaccine Billing, Coding and Payment Allowances Website: <https://www.cms.gov/medicare/medicare-part-b-drug-average-sales-price/covid-19-vaccines-and-mono-clonal-antibodies>
- COVID-19 Medicare Provider Toolkit: <https://www.cms.gov/covidvax-provider>

CDC guidance on self-attestation for immunocompromised patients

CDC reiterates that patients only need to self-attest in order to receive an additional dose. Official language is below:

“Individuals can self-attest to their moderately to severely immunocompromised status and receive the additional dose wherever vaccines are offered. Vaccinators should not deny COVID-19 vaccination to a person due to lack of documentation. This will help prevent barriers to access for this vulnerable population receiving a needed additional dose. **If people who are immunocompromised have questions about the additional dose**, they should discuss with their healthcare provider whether getting an additional dose is appropriate for them.

CDC is providing further information regarding vaccine administration to immunocompromised individuals to states, pharmacies, health centers, and all vaccine providers.”

Please read CDC’s guidance on self-attestation for immunocompromised patients here: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/immunocompromised.html>

Patient self-attestation template for third dose

Good Neighbor Pharmacy has put together a **suggested patient self-attestation template** as a reference point for pharmacies. All reporting, attestation and compliance obligations remain vested with the participating pharmacy, and they should seek independent legal review/guidance if and as needed.

At-home reimbursement changes clarified

CDC has also reiterated the changes below regarding at-home reimbursements:

- Additional payments are not available for nursing facilities.
- At-home rates will be for facilities with fewer than 10 residents.
- Important to note the at-home rates will only apply for the **FIRST 5** residents in a facility.
- At-home rates do not apply if the COVID vaccine is administered with other services (flu shots).

COVID-19 vaccine inventory directives

- CDC would also like pharmacies to have no more than **3 weeks of administrations in inventory**.
- Reminder that Moderna is also available for anyone 18 or older.
- While CDC remains confident that there will be enough supply, they are clearly encouraging pharmacies to only order what is needed and to not stockpile.

Webinar: Building COVID-19 vaccine confidence through social media and Tik Tok influencers

Thursday, September 9th, from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm ET

Earn CE when you join APhA **Thursday, September 9th**, from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm ET for the next [Addressing the COVID-19 Crisis: An Open Forum Webinar Series for Pharmacy](#). Social media is fueling the “pandemic of misinformation” and threatens the public’s confidence in COVID-19 vaccination. This webinar will discuss the impact of social media on vaccine confidence and strategies pharmacists can use to address misinformation about COVID-19 vaccines. Hear from expert, Judy Klein, President of the Unity Consortium, about efforts to raise adolescent and young adult vaccination rates and from Tik Tok influencer, Christina Kim, a nurse practitioner at Mass General Hospital, to learn tips for building vaccine confidence through social media. Register [here](#)

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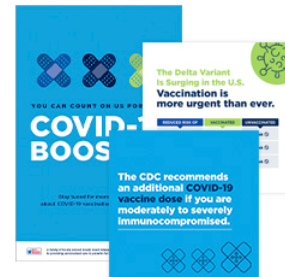
COVID-19 vaccine inventory directives

Help your teams with vaccine confidence — APhA’s [Vaccine Confident](#) website features:

- Information about the [drivers for vaccine confidence](#)
 - Information for pharmacists and patients about [how the drugs were developed](#), and [how they work](#)
 - [Resources to build vaccine confidence in your patients and others](#)
- Webinars and other educational activities
 - [Video testimonials of pharmacists at their practice sites](#), explaining how they discuss vaccine concerns with their patients
 - [Pharmacist success stories](#)
- Find timely, concise information in [APhA’s growing library of practice resources](#)
 - [APhA's Education During COVID-19](#) is a library of approved CPE for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians

New! COVID-19 marketing materials on COVID-19 vaccine booster shots and variants

Visit [Brand Central Station](#) and [SOCi](#) for new digital and print marketing materials you can use to let your patients know they can count on you for the booster shot. You can also find patient education materials on the COVID variants. Materials



include social media graphics, window clings, counter cards, and more. Stay tuned for additional marketing materials in the coming weeks.

New to the COVID-19 vaccine program? Please read these reminders

Implementation guide

Our in-depth [implementation guide](#) provides everything you need to know about running a successful and compliant COVID-19 vaccination program at your pharmacy.

Timing and ordering process

Pharmacies must request COVID-19 vaccine allocation by [following this process through ABC Order](#). Requests submitted by Mondays at 12pm EST should arrive to your pharmacy by Thursday of that same week. Any requests received after Mondays at 12pm EST will be fulfilled the following week. Order fulfillment is subject to availability.

VaccineFinder Reporting

Remember to report your vaccine inventory on hand under your FEDERAL login and make sure your VaccineFinder listing is accurate. Need help? Email vaccinefinder@castlighthhealth.com or call 855-886-4317.

Flintridge Pharmacy success story: Vaccinating school students

With an alarming surge in the city's infection rate, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health partnered with the Glendale Unified School District to provide walk-up vaccination clinics at each of the public middle and high schools. The program was coordinated by Cheryl Johnson, COVID Vaccine Program director at Flintridge Pharmacy, who provided vaccines and organized a team of volunteers to administer them.



The shots were free of charge, did not require appointments, and were available to anyone regardless of age or residence. Accompanied by a parent, an adult sibling or by their entire family, students 12 years and older stepped up for a COVID vaccination that would protect them as schools reopen. Over the course of 7 days, approximately 600-700 vaccinations were given at 9 sites! The team returned 21 days later to administer the second doses. Each immunization represents protection for the individual and for his or her daily contacts.



Tell us your story!

Is your pharmacy doing anything **special or innovative** to vaccinate the most vulnerable patients in your community? Do you have any tips to provide your peers on how you are combatting vaccine hesitancy among your patients? If so, we want to hear about it! Your story may be featured in an upcoming issue of this newsletter, and on our Fearless Pharmacy website! Tell us your story by emailing COVIDvaccines@AmerisourceBergen.com.

Questions? Continue to work with your Business Coach or Sales Executive if you have questions. Questions can be sent to COVIDvaccines@AmerisourceBergen.com.

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