



## Get ready for vaccination with these updates

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### CDC continues to expand priorities as vaccine supply steadily increases

President Biden announced Tuesday that he wanted all American adults to have access to the vaccine by April 19. To that end, the Biden administration values the contribution that pharmacies are making to this critical public health initiative. We are extremely encouraged by the expanded opportunities for our program participants to be pulled forward to support CDC priorities. In just two months, we have gone from allocating 10,000 vaccine doses to 100 stores in 5 states/territories to now allocating 140,000 doses this week to 1,248 pharmacies in 49 states and Guam, plus jurisdictions in Philadelphia, New York City and Chicago. *Your turn is coming soon!*

The “Phase 2” rollout is not what we thought it would be back in October when we first began to work with the CDC to enable our independent pharmacies to participate in the Federal Retail Pharmacy Partnership Program. Instead, we’re seeing our pharmacies pulled forward depending on CDC and state priorities. Right now, the CDC focus is on vaccinating the most vulnerable and economically diverse populations as well as essential workers; however, those priorities are expanding and shifting as more patients in these populations are vaccinated. Each week, more states are opening vaccination eligibility to those 16 and older, which is very promising.

While we don’t know the exact timing, we **do** know that once we’re notified about increased allocation for our program, the turnaround is extremely quick, **less than 24 hours**, for stores that are pulled forward to receive product. This is why it continues to be critical to have all readiness steps completed in order to be considered for allocation. Please read additional information below about these requirements.

**If you do not believe your pharmacy will be able to receive vaccine inventory within 24 hours’ notice for any reason, please email [COVIDVaccines@amerisourcebergen.com](mailto:COVIDVaccines@amerisourcebergen.com) with a request to be placed on hold, or to unenroll in the program. Include store name and NCPDP in these requests.**

It is important to note that even as product availability increases, all product remains under the direction of the CDC, with input from the local jurisdictions/states. We continue to advocate and champion the important role that our independent pharmacies play in their communities with the CDC, as we have since the inception of this program, and we continue to push for expanded vaccine access every time we connect with the CDC, industry partners, and individual states to share our expansion requests. We look forward to offering more consistent shipments when our allocated supply increases. Thank you for your patience and for your continued commitment to your community!

### Video update from Jenni Zilka

In this brief video, Jenni provides the latest updates from the CDC on vaccine priorities and on the Federal Retail Partnership Program.

[Watch now](#)

### NEW RESOURCE: Allocation Guide

The [Allocation Guide](#) will walk you through everything from shipment, to receiving the vaccine, storage, administration, marketing, adverse events, and reporting. Please familiarize yourself with this key resource to prepare for yourself for your first vaccine shipment.

[Allocation Guide](#)

### Frequently asked questions of the week

**Q: Can I order the vaccine through ABC Order?**

**A: No. Pharmacies will not be able to choose which vaccine they receive or place orders for the product from the CDC or through ABC Order.** Pharmacies who are selected to receive allocation will be notified via a welcome email at the primary email address indicated on the survey response. This initial email will NOT specify the number of doses or the manufacturer of the vaccine product. You will be notified which location(s) will be receiving product, the manufacturer of the product, and the number of doses you will be receiving via a separate order/shipment notification email. Note: Pharmacies will NOT be shipped the Pfizer-BioNTech product without prior approval from the pharmacy.

**Vaccine inventory is shipped by the CDC contracted distributor directly to the pharmacy.** AmerisourceBergen does not control the ship days and will not be physically shipping vaccine inventory.

**IMPORTANT:** The timing between the allocation notification and shipment can be as little as 12-24 hours. **If you enrolled, and are not prepared to accept product immediately, email [COVIDvaccines@AmerisourceBergen.com](mailto:COVIDvaccines@AmerisourceBergen.com) for assistance with putting your participation on hold or terminating it completely.**

### Marketing tip of the week

Provide a bottle of water and ensure proper socially-distancing accommodations to patients as they wait in your store after getting the shot.

### Missing readiness requirements

Last week, we **emailed individual participants** who have not completed all readiness requirements with **customized instructions for how to complete these requirements.** **Please check to see if you received this email.** *At this time, due to our CDC agreement, will not be able to allocate vaccine product to pharmacies who have not completed the required steps.*

## Fearless Pharmacy

Fearless Pharmacies always stand up for their patients! Every one of you is doing great work in your community -- going above and beyond every day for your patients. Thank you!

*“Moundville Pharmacy is proud to be part of an outstanding network of pharmacy movers and shakers in CPESN West Virginia. We’re ready to put even MORE shots in arms!” Jason Turner, Owner and Pharmacist, Moundville Pharmacy, Moundville, West Virginia [#fearlesspharmacy](#)*

### Resources

Visit the [COVID-19 Vaccine Webpage](#) regularly for the most up-to-date resources and past issues of this newsletter. Be sure to refresh the browser after opening each resource to ensure you are viewing the most up-to-date version.

- [COVID-19 Vaccine Implementation Guide](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Billing and Reimbursement Guide](#) from NCPA
- [CDC Required COVID-19 Vaccine Training Access Guide](#)
- [COVID-19 Program FAQ](#)
- [COVID-19 Marketing Resources and Updates](#)
- Elevate members can also access marketing materials in the [Patient Engagement Center](#)

### Have questions?

Please continue to reach out to [COVIDvaccines@AmerisourceBergen.com](mailto:COVIDvaccines@AmerisourceBergen.com) with questions. If for any reason you no longer wish to participate in our Federal Network Administrator program, please email your sales executive.