



Health Alert Network Message 21-31: Availability and Provision of COVID-19 Vaccine in Ambulatory Medical Clinics

Origination Date:
April 6, 2021

Revision Dates (List All Revision Dates):

John Bel Edwards
GOVERNOR



Dr. Courtney N. Phillips
SECRETARY

State of Louisiana Louisiana Department of Health

MEMORANDUM

TO: Louisiana medical clinics interested in providing COVID-19 vaccine to patients
FROM: Joseph Kanter, MD, MPH
State Health Officer
DATE: April 5, 2021
RE: Availability and provision of COVID-19 vaccine in ambulatory medical clinics

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This memo is in reference to Health Advisory Alert message 21-06 and the accompanying memo “Louisiana Hospitals, pharmacies, and other recipients of Operation Warp Speed (OWS) COVID-19 vaccine doses.”

The Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) greatly appreciates the efforts of physicians and nurse practitioners in promoting and supporting COVID-19 vaccination among their patients and in their communities. Recent polling and focus groups have shown the single most trusted source for vaccine-related information remains one’s own medical provider. To further reduce barriers to vaccination, it is a goal of LDH to create opportunities for individuals to receive the COVID-19 vaccine from their own medical provider and in the setting where they receive primary care.

To this end, LDH encourages medical clinics throughout Louisiana to consider receiving COVID-19 vaccine and offering administrations as a routine component of clinic visits. To facilitate this, as it relates to small medical clinics/practices, LDH is rescinding its aforementioned prohibition on COVID-19 vaccine providers not limiting vaccination services to “existing” or “prior” patients. If a small medical clinic/practice would like to receive COVID-19 vaccine for the purposes of providing vaccine to their known/future patients without the expectation of open services to the broader community, they are now free and encouraged to do so.

Physician or Nurse Practitioner leadership of any medical clinic/practice interested in receiving COVID-19 vaccine should contact the Provider Enrollment Hotline at 225-325-5880 for assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J. Kanter". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Joseph Kanter, MD, MPH
State Health Officer