



LHA COVID-19 ALERT



LHA COVID-19 C-Suite Alert: LDH Provides Vaccine Guidance for Hospitals

The Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) today provided the following additional guidance to hospitals regarding the use of remaining vaccine that exceeds hospital staff uptake.

LDH GUIDANCE: The Louisiana Office of Public Health (OPH) remains in support of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations for vaccination. On Dec. 20, 2020, the ACIP recommended vaccination for Phase 1a (healthcare personnel and long-term care facility residents). The ACIP also recommended that if vaccine was still available, the 1b priority group should also be offered vaccine. Louisiana's 1b COVID vaccine priority group includes:

- Persons age 70 years or older; and
- Various outpatient healthcare provider types.

Request to Hospitals: Effective immediately, please begin to use any remaining current and future vaccine allotments that exceed your interested hospital staff to begin vaccinating any and all of the following:

- Persons Age 70 Years or Older in Your Community;
- Outpatient Clinic Providers and Clinic Staff;
- Urgent Care Clinic Providers and Staff;
- Community Care Clinic Providers and Staff;
- Dialysis Center Providers, Staff and Clients (if not already being vaccinated by their dialysis centers);
- Home Health Service Providers and Recipients;
- Dental Providers and Staff; and
- Students, Residents, Faculty, and Staff of Allied Health Schools (if not already receiving vaccine or in a plan to receive from their respective schools).

Note: Outpatient health personnel and outpatient health-related support personnel in your community (not only those associated with your facility) include physicians, nurses, support staff and all others who enter the clinical environment. Please refer to the LDH COVID-19 Vaccine Information Page at <https://ldh.la.gov/covidvaccine> for a comprehensive list of the 1b (Tier 1) priority group.

Once vaccine is administered, please continue to report to LINKS within 24 hours. If you have any questions regarding this guidance, contact OPH's Immunization Team at la.immunization@la.gov.