The *voice* of the community pharmacist.

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Need-to-Knows for Administering COVID-19 Vaccines

December 10, 2020 | 8 p.m. ET

NCPA Staff Members

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Breaking News!

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Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine recommended for emergency use authorization

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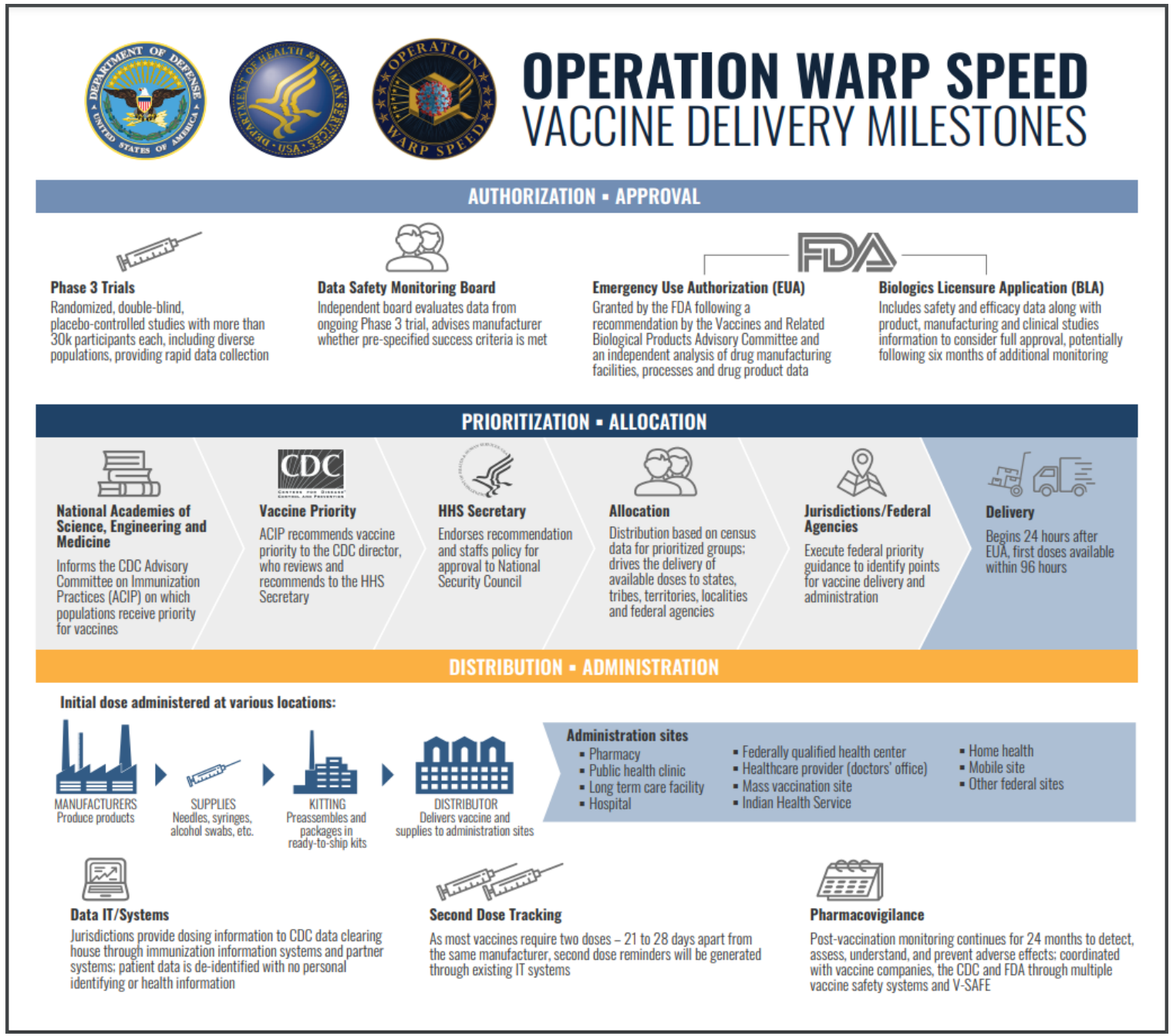
SCOTUS: VICTORY!



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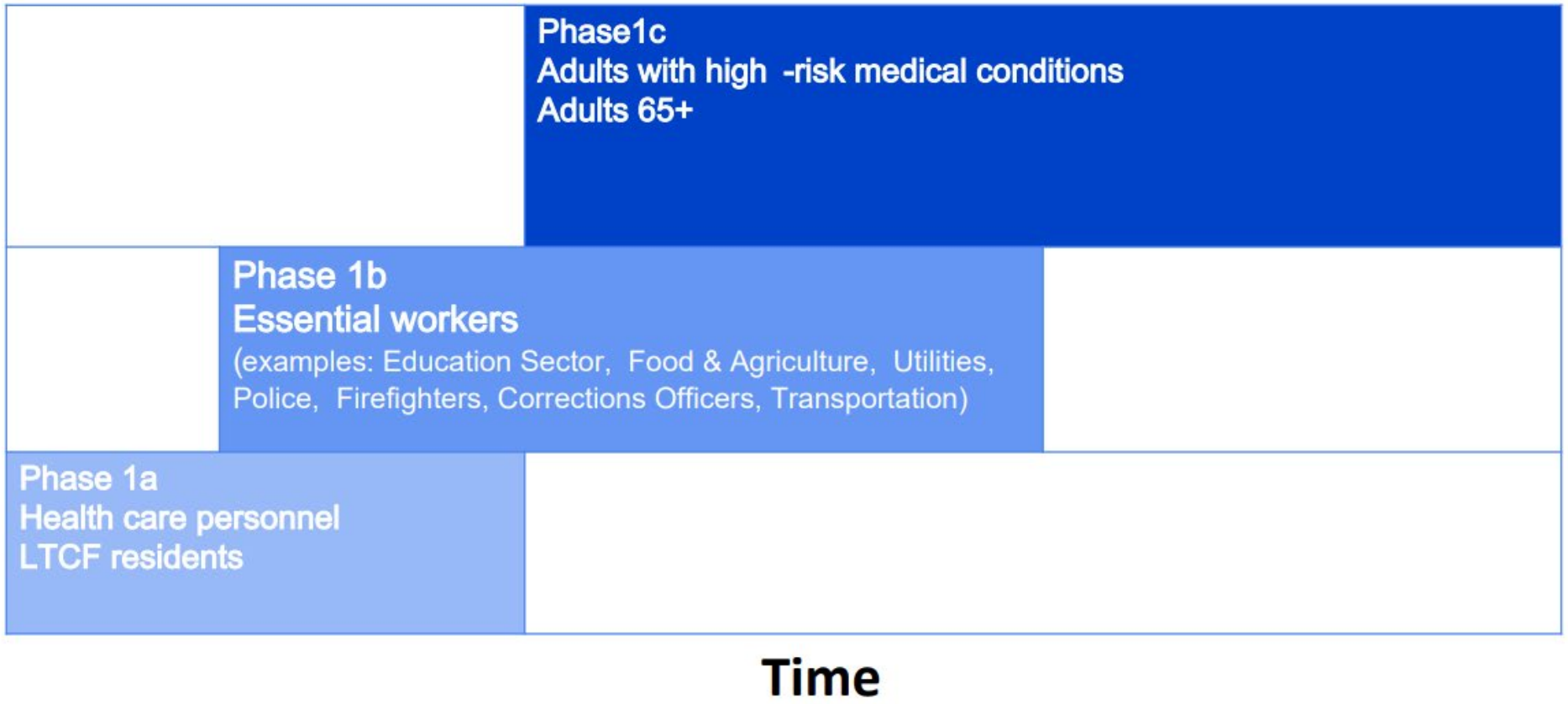
https://media.defense.gov/2020/Nov/05/2002529886/-1/-1/1/OPERATION-WARP-SPEED-VACCINE-DELIVERY-MILESTONES.PDF

Work Group Proposed Interim Phase 1 Sequence



ACIP Meeting. Dec. 1, 2020. https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/meetings/downloads/slides-2020-12/COVID-02-Dooling.pdf

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Billing: Medicare

- **Pharmacist** needs Type 1 NPI to order (prescribe) vaccine reimbursed by Medicare
  - National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES)
- **Pharmacy** needs to be enrolled as a Pharmacy or Mass Immunizer
  - Use pharmacy's existing Type 2 NPI
  - Provider Enrollment, Chain, and Ownership System (PECOS)
- Medical billing intermediary needed
  - FDS, OmniSys, Change Healthcare, EBS
- $28.39 to administer single-dose vaccines.
- $16.94, and $28.39 for the administration of the initial dose(s) and final dose, respectively in the series.

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Billing: Medicaid

- Reimbursement pathway and vaccine administration rates will vary state to state
- Claims could be covered on prescription benefit, the medical benefit, or both.
- If both pathways are available to the pharmacy, review vaccine administration reimbursement rates and make sure staff know which is preferred. Transaction fees and real-time adjudication may be factors in addition to the vaccine administration fee.
- All Medicaid programs, fee for service and managed care, are required to cover COVID vaccinations.

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Billing: Commercial

- Out-of-network vaccine providers must be reimbursed.
- NOW is the time to check on enrollment for employer plans in your area that have limited networks.
- Claims could be covered on prescription benefit, the medical benefit, or both.
- If both pathways are available to the pharmacy, review vaccine administration reimbursement rates and make sure staff know which is preferred. Transaction fees and real-time adjudication may be factors in addition to the vaccine administration fee.

Billing: Uninsured

- COVID-19 vaccine providers can claim reimbursement for administering the vaccine to uninsured patients through a program overseen by HRSA
  - NOW is the time to sign up with Optum Pay (different from Optum Rx) if you plan to submit claims for this program.
  - HRSA has contracted with UnitedHealth Group to be the sole administrator of the Uninsured Program for COVID-19.

www.hrsa.gov/coviduninsuredclaim

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Billing: Codes

- CPT Codes* - Talk to your medical billing intermediary about submitting claims for Medicare Part B and health plan medical benefits.
  a. Pfizer – product: 91300, first dose: 0001A, second dose: 0002A
  b. Moderna – product: 91301, first dose 0011A, second dose: 0012A

- NCPDP - The guidance from NCPDP is not a mandate for PBMs, but many may implement the recommendations as published.
  a. One-dose COVID-19 vaccine: Use the actual liquid volume (e.g. 0.5 mL) for the Quantity Dispensed, a Days Supply of “1”, Professional Service Code “MA”, and Ingredient Cost of $0.00 or $0.01 (depending on the payer).
  b. Two-dose COVID-19 vaccine: Use the actual liquid volume (e.g. 0.5 mL) for the Quantity Dispensed, a Days Supply of “1”, Professional Service Code “MA”, Ingredient Cost of $0.00 or $0.01 (depending on the payer), and the appropriate SCC indicating which dose in the series as follows:

     i. Initial Dose use SCC of 2 “Other Override”

     ii. Final Dose use SCC of 6 “Starter Dose”

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*As of 12/10/2020, codes are only available for the Pfizer and Moderna products.

Advocacy

- CMS prohibit patient steering by PBMs in regards to vaccine administration
- No differential payment based on vertical integration and PBM/pharmacy business agreements
- Need payment parity and pharmacy choice for success

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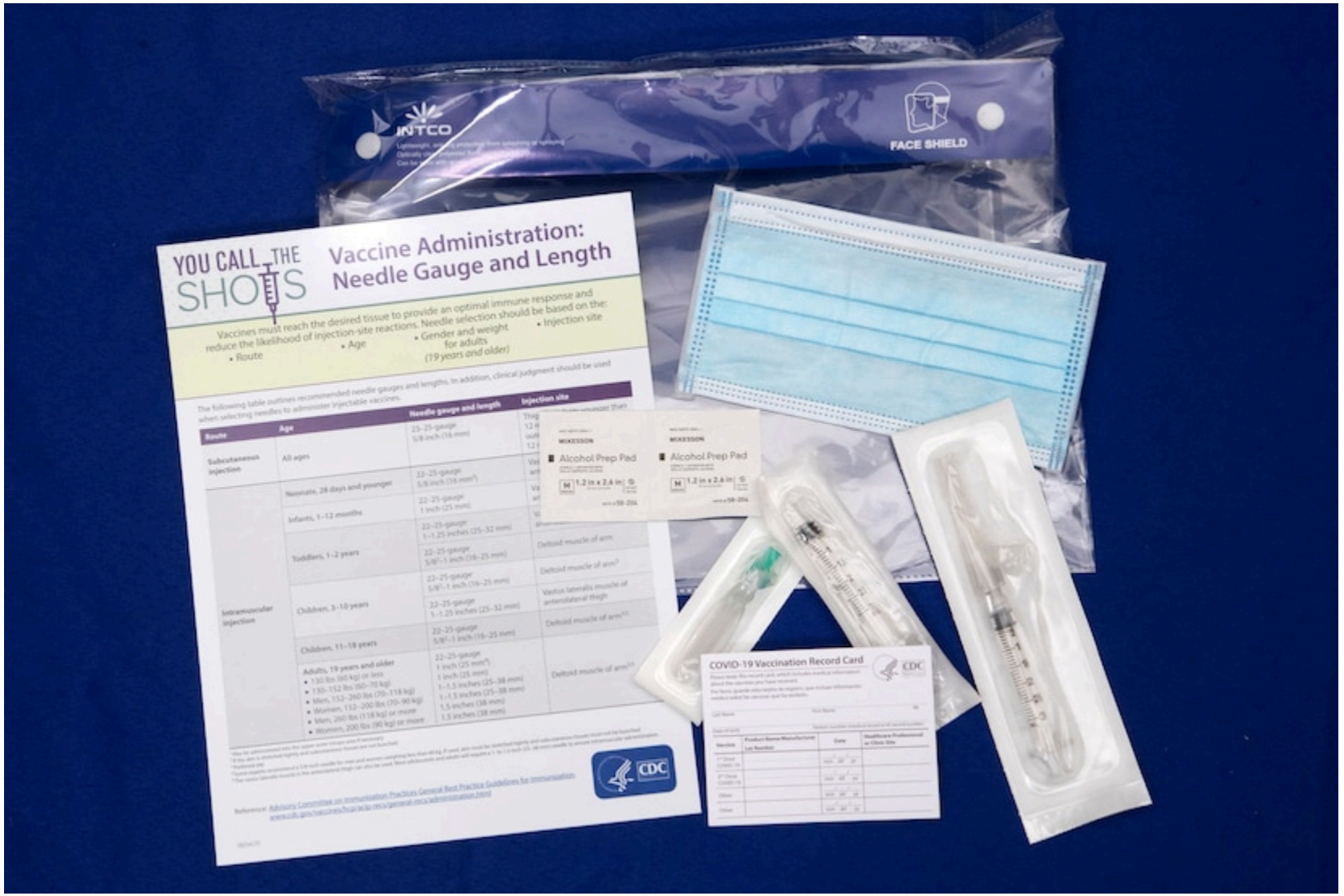
Vaccine Kits



https://www.defense.gov/Explore/News/Article/Article/2423700/operation-warp-speed-refines-vaccine-delivery-plan/

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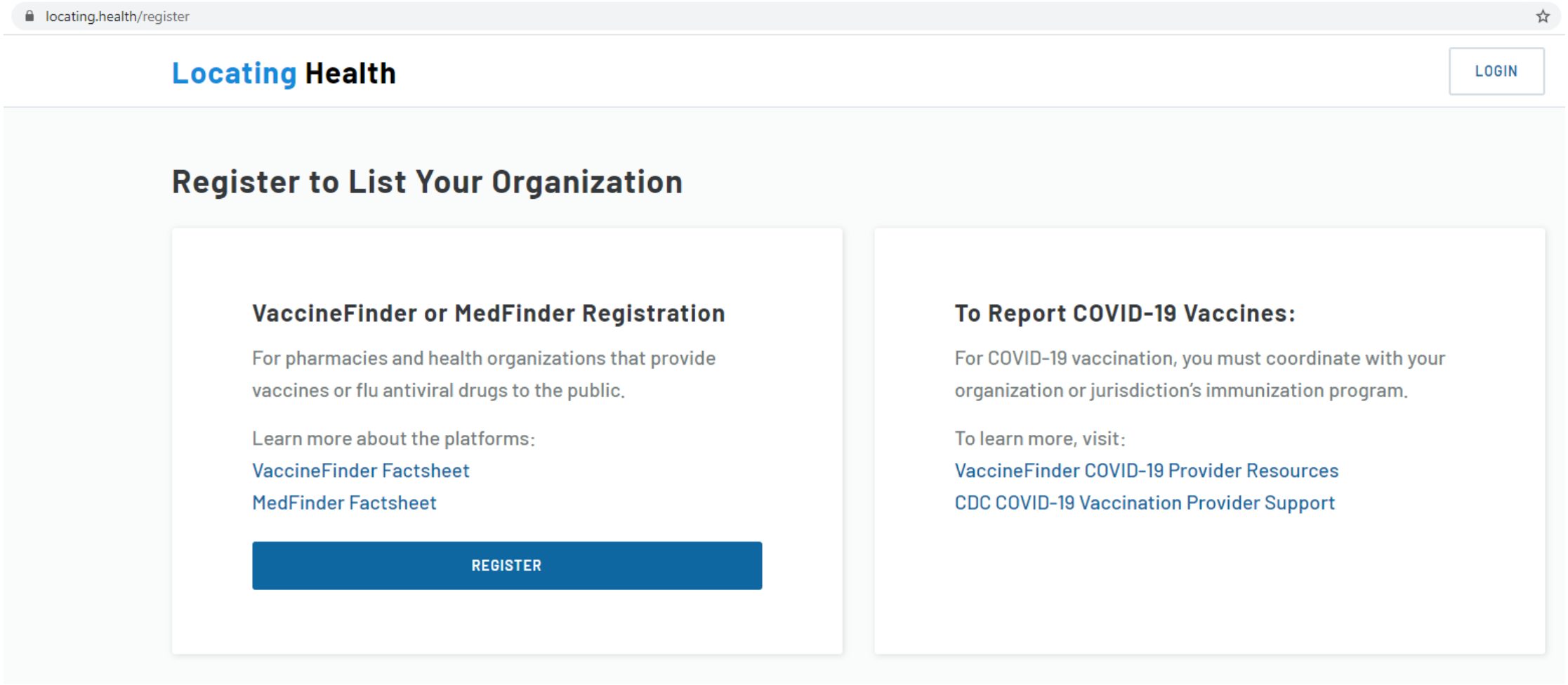
VaccineFinder



https://locating.health/register

VAERS Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System
www.vaers.hhs.gov

About VAERS | Report an Adverse Event | VAERS Data | Resources | Submit Follow-Up Information

Completion Status

- [ ] **Patient Information**
- [ ] Reporter Information
- [ ] Facility Information
- [ ] Vaccine Information
- [ ] Additional Information

Click to preview VAERS form

Report an Adverse Event - Patient Information

Instructions | en Español

Note: Fields marked with an * are essential and should be completed.

Item 1

Patient first name:

Patient last name:

Street address:

City:

State: Select State

County:

Zip code:

Phone:

Email:

Item 2

* Date of birth (☑ mm/dd/yyyy or ☐ mm/yyyy)

mm/dd/yyyy

Item 3

* Sex:

○ Male ○ Female ○ Unknown

Item 4

* Date of vaccination (☑ mm/dd/yyyy or ☐ mm/yyyy)

mm/dd/yyyy

Time:

hh:mm

○ AM ○ PM

Item 5

https://vaers.hhs.gov/esub/index.jsp

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V-SAFE

Vaccine safety assessment for essential workers (V-SAFE)

CDC
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

1. Text messages or email from CDC with follow-up – daily 1st week post-vaccination and weekly thereafter out to 6 weeks

Healthcare workers, essential workers, etc.

2. Any clinically important event(s) reported by vaccinated person

VAERS call center

3. Follow-up on clinically important event, complete a VAERS report if appropriate

CDC — FDA

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https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/meetings/downloads/slides-2020-09/COVID-03-Shimabukuro.pdf

IMPORTANT RESOURCES

- NCPA's Coronavirus Resource Center
  https://ncpa.org/covid-testing
- CPESN COVID-19 Best Practices
  https://www.covidbestpractices.com/
- CDC Info for Healthcare Professionals about COVID-19
  https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/index.html
- Medicare Provider Enrollment (PECOS)
  https://pecos.cms.hhs.gov/pecos/login.do#headingLv1
- VaccineFinder Registration
  https://locating.health/register
- VAERS
  https://vaers.hhs.gov/esub/index.jsp

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Questions?

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SAVE THE DATE

- CMS is hosting a call for members on Medicare Provider Enrollment to bill for vaccines
  - Tuesday, Dec. 15, at 1:30 p.m. ET.
  - To participate, just call **877-256-8277**. No meeting ID or passcode is required.
- An Update for Managing Personnel in the Time of COVID-19
  - Thursday, Dec. 17, at 8 p.m. ET
  - Registration: https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4743468396106057744
- Missed a COVID-19 related webinar?
  - https://ncpa.org/coronavirus-information#webinars

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