

# Vaccination Essentials: Long-Term Care Pharmacy Partnership

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Strategic aims of New Jersey’s COVID-19 vaccination program  
*(from New Jersey’s vaccination plan Executive Summary)*



Provide equitable access to all who live, work, and/or are educated in New Jersey



Achieve community protection, assuming vaccine effectiveness, availability, and uptake

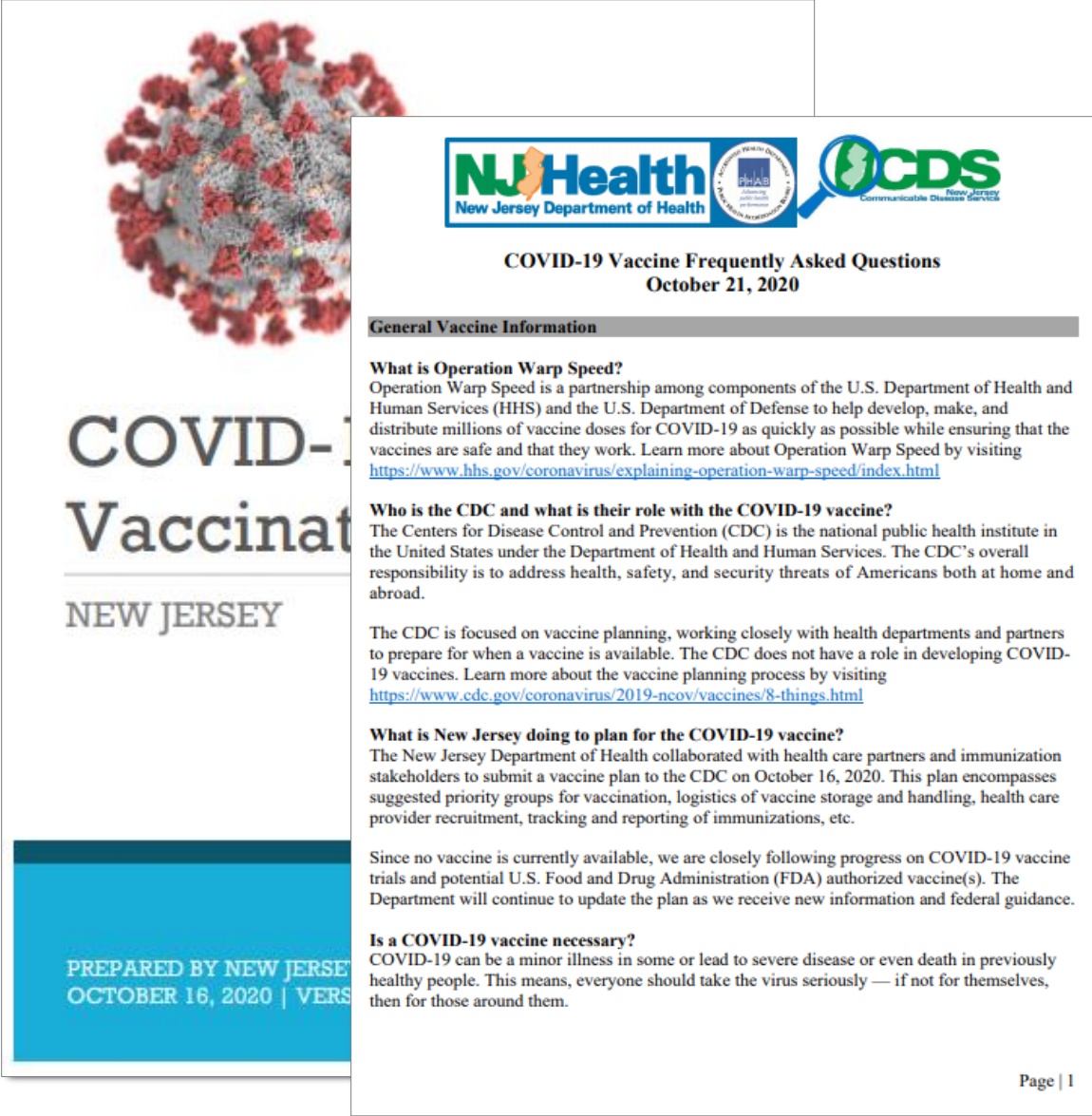


Build sustainable trust in COVID-19 and other vaccines

# New Jersey Interim COVID-19 vaccination plan

## Links

- [Interim COVID-19 Vaccination Plan](#)
- [Executive Summary](#)
- [FAQs](#)



The image shows a document titled "COVID-19 Vaccine Frequently Asked Questions" dated October 21, 2020. The cover features a large illustration of a coronavirus particle. Logos for NJ Health (New Jersey Department of Health), PHAB (Public Health Accreditation Board), and CDS (New Jersey Communicable Disease Services) are displayed at the top right. The document is prepared by the New Jersey Department of Health on October 16, 2020.

**COVID-19 Vaccine Frequently Asked Questions**  
October 21, 2020

**General Vaccine Information**

**What is Operation Warp Speed?**  
Operation Warp Speed is a partnership among components of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the U.S. Department of Defense to help develop, make, and distribute millions of vaccine doses for COVID-19 as quickly as possible while ensuring that the vaccines are safe and that they work. Learn more about Operation Warp Speed by visiting <https://www.hhs.gov/coronavirus/explaining-operation-warp-speed/index.html>

**Who is the CDC and what is their role with the COVID-19 vaccine?**  
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is the national public health institute in the United States under the Department of Health and Human Services. The CDC's overall responsibility is to address health, safety, and security threats of Americans both at home and abroad.

The CDC is focused on vaccine planning, working closely with health departments and partners to prepare for when a vaccine is available. The CDC does not have a role in developing COVID-19 vaccines. Learn more about the vaccine planning process by visiting <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/8-things.html>

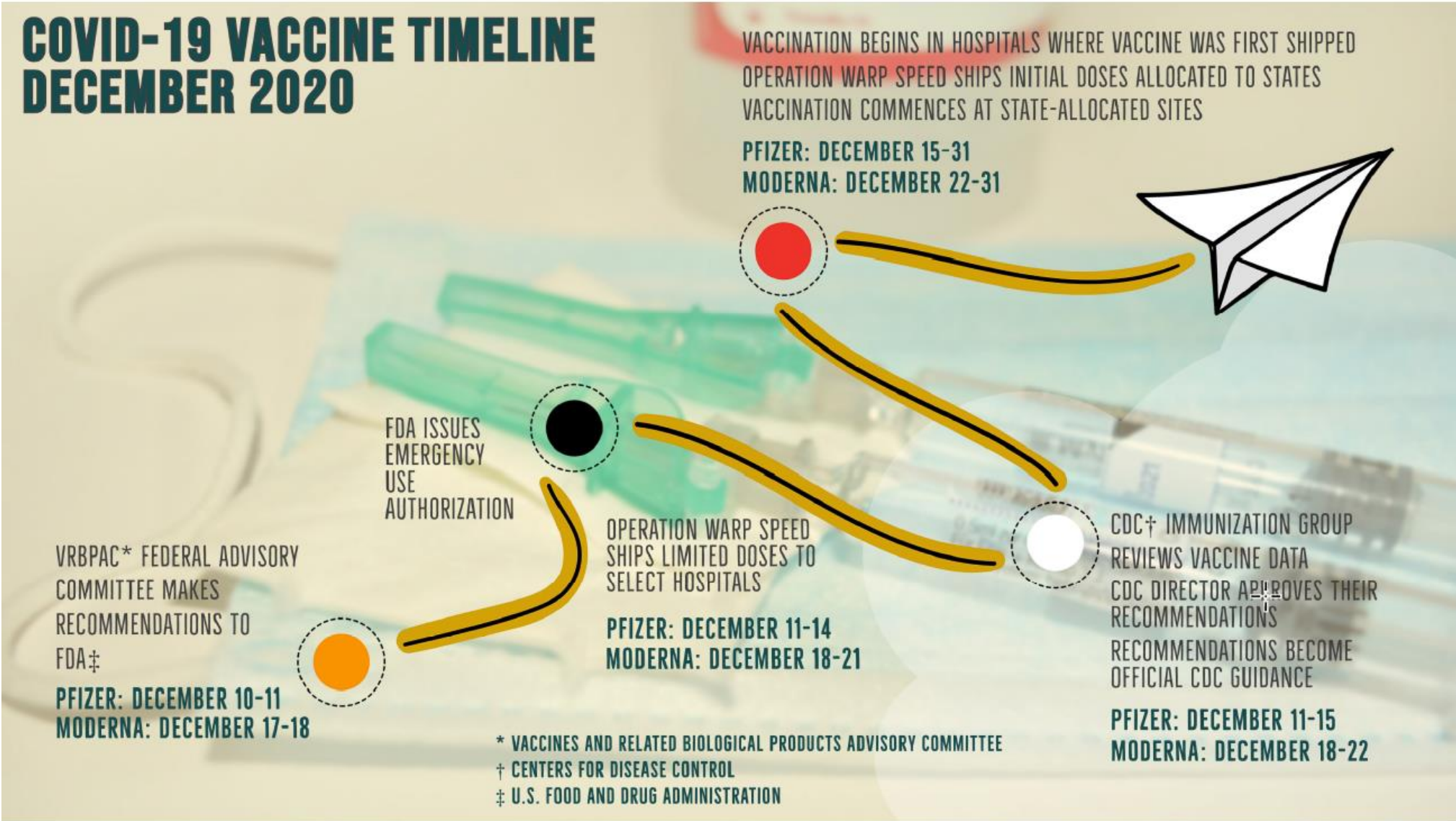
**What is New Jersey doing to plan for the COVID-19 vaccine?**  
The New Jersey Department of Health collaborated with health care partners and immunization stakeholders to submit a vaccine plan to the CDC on October 16, 2020. This plan encompasses suggested priority groups for vaccination, logistics of vaccine storage and handling, health care provider recruitment, tracking and reporting of immunizations, etc.

Since no vaccine is currently available, we are closely following progress on COVID-19 vaccine trials and potential U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authorized vaccine(s). The Department will continue to update the plan as we receive new information and federal guidance.

**Is a COVID-19 vaccine necessary?**  
COVID-19 can be a minor illness in some or lead to severe disease or even death in previously healthy people. This means, everyone should take the virus seriously — if not for themselves, then for those around them.

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# Sequence of steps and estimated timeline for the Pfizer vaccine and Moderna vaccine



Preliminary, pre-decisional, and deliberative. Based on input provided by State agency leaders and staff, to date, and subject to change. Content is descriptive only and is not meant to constitute legal, clinical, or policy advice.  
SOURCE: Operation Warp Speed

Emergency Use Authorizations granted to-date (updated 12/20/20)

## Pfizer-BioNTech

EUA granted December 11 for use in ages 16+

- [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine EUA Letter of Authorization](#)
- [EUA Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers](#)
- [EUA Fact Sheet for Patients](#)

ACIP recommendations published in MMWR  
December 13:

- [The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' Interim Recommendation for Use of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine – United States, December 2020](#)

## Moderna

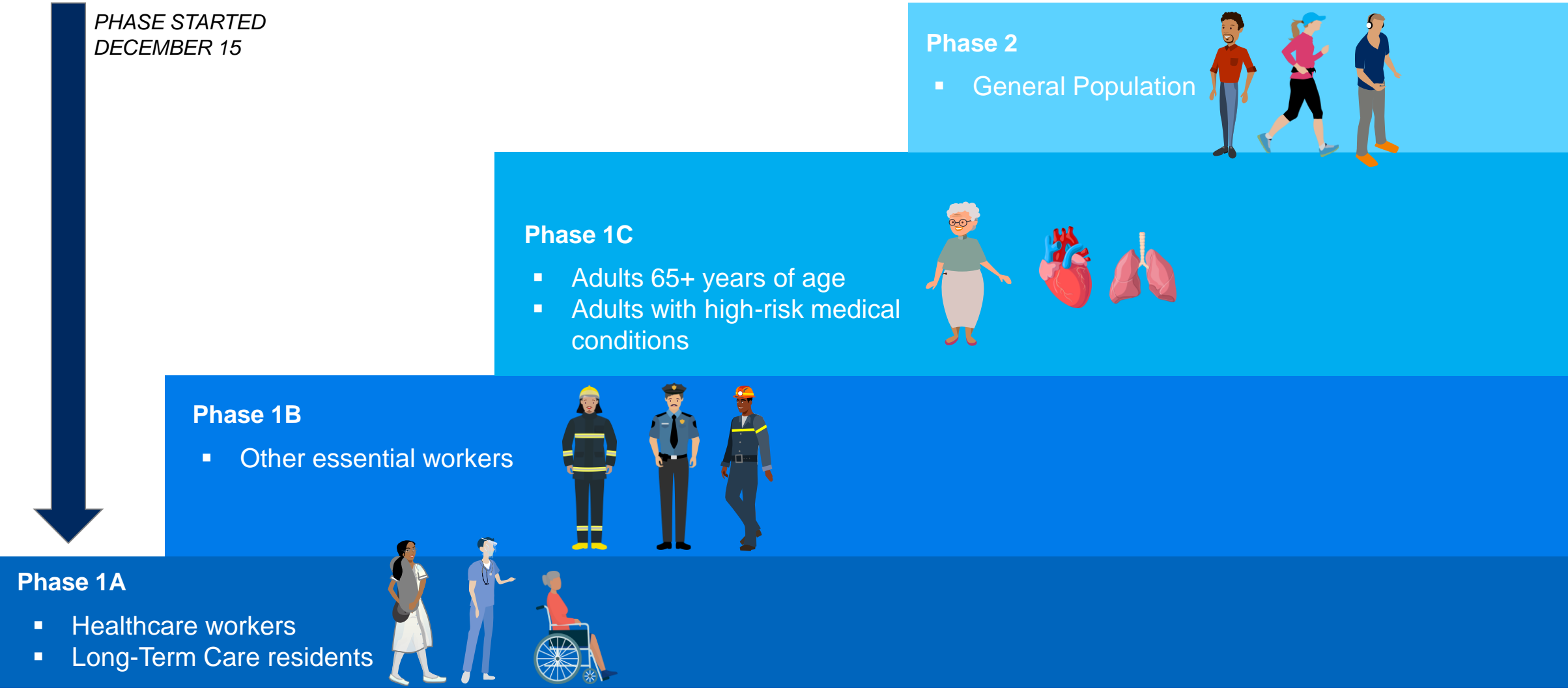
EUA granted December 18 for use in ages 18+

- [Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine EUA Letter of Authorization](#)
- [EUA Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers](#)
- [EUA Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers](#)

ACIP recommendations published in MMWR  
December 20:

- [The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' Interim Recommendation for Use of Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine – United States, December 2020](#)

# Who can get a vaccine in New Jersey and when?



Mid-December 2020 Spring 2021

Informed by [CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program Interim Playbook](#) (Sept. 16, 2020), CDC MMWR, [ACIP](#) Prioritization work group considerations

# Who is considered a healthcare worker?

NOT EXHAUSTIVE

Any paid or unpaid person working or volunteering in a healthcare setting who may have direct or indirect contact with infectious persons or materials. For example:

Doctors, nurses, pharmacists, dentists and any other licensed or registered health professionals

Staff in areas like Facilities management, Security, Food Services, Environmental Services, Administrative Services, Human Resources, Reception, Language Services, Information Technology, Laboratory and any other healthcare support areas

Community health workers / promotoras, home health aides, visiting nurses, doulas, health educators and public health professionals

Trainees, students, volunteers, essential caregivers, vaccinating site staff, contractors

Other personnel like Emergency Medical Services (EMS), paramedics, funeral staff, mortuary staff and autopsy workers



# Vaccines are expected to be available to healthcare workers starting mid-December 2020



Hospital workers and volunteers



Long-term care workers, volunteers, and residents



All other healthcare workers and volunteers

## Where can I get a vaccine if I am a healthcare worker?



Hospital where I work or volunteer

Long-term care facility where I live, work or volunteer

### Points of dispensing at:

- Pharmacies
- Urgent care centers
- Other medical clinics
- Federally Qualified Health Centers
- Hospitals
- Local Health Departments
- Other state and county-run sites

For more information please visit [our website](#)



# What is considered a healthcare setting?



**Hospital workers and volunteers**



**Long-term care workers, volunteers, and residents**



**All other healthcare workers and volunteers**

Hospitals of any type

Long-term care facilities, for example:

Other settings or contexts, for example:

- Skilled nursing facilities
- Veteran's homes
- Assisted living facilities, continuing care retirement communities, and personal care homes
- HUD Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program housing
- Group homes like residential care homes, residential dementia care homes, comprehensive care homes, adult family homes, adult foster homes, and intellectual and developmental disabilities IDD group homes
- Other vulnerable, congregate, long-term settings

- Ambulatory care facilities
- Community health centers
- Dental and other physician offices
- Dialysis centers
- Emergency Medical Services
- Family planning centers
- Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs)
- Funeral homes, cemeteries, crematoria
- Harm reduction centers
- Health clinics in workplaces, K-12 schools, universities, shelters, jails
- HIV/Sexually Transmitted Disease clinics
- Home care or visiting nurse agencies

- Hospice centers
- Intermediate care facilities
- Local public health departments, LINCS agencies
- Medical Marijuana Program Dispensary
- Other health settings like rehabs
- Pharmacies
- Psychiatric facilities
- School nursing and health centers
- Shelter health clinics
- Transitional living facilities
- Urgent care clinics
- **Other settings where healthcare is provided**

For more information please visit [our website](#)

# Long-term care Federal pharmacy partnership program

HHS/CDC is partnering with pharmacies (CVS and Walgreens) to offer on-site COVID-19 vaccines for **residents and workers** of nursing homes and assisted living facilities



**CVS and Walgreens will be scheduling and coordinating** on-site clinics directly with each LTC facility



**Both LTC residents and staff<sup>1</sup>** will have opportunity to receive the COVID-19 vaccine through this program



**First on-site clinics are expected at nursing homes (SNFs) beginning 12/28/20** – other facilities (e.g., assisted living facilities) will take place once SNFs are completed

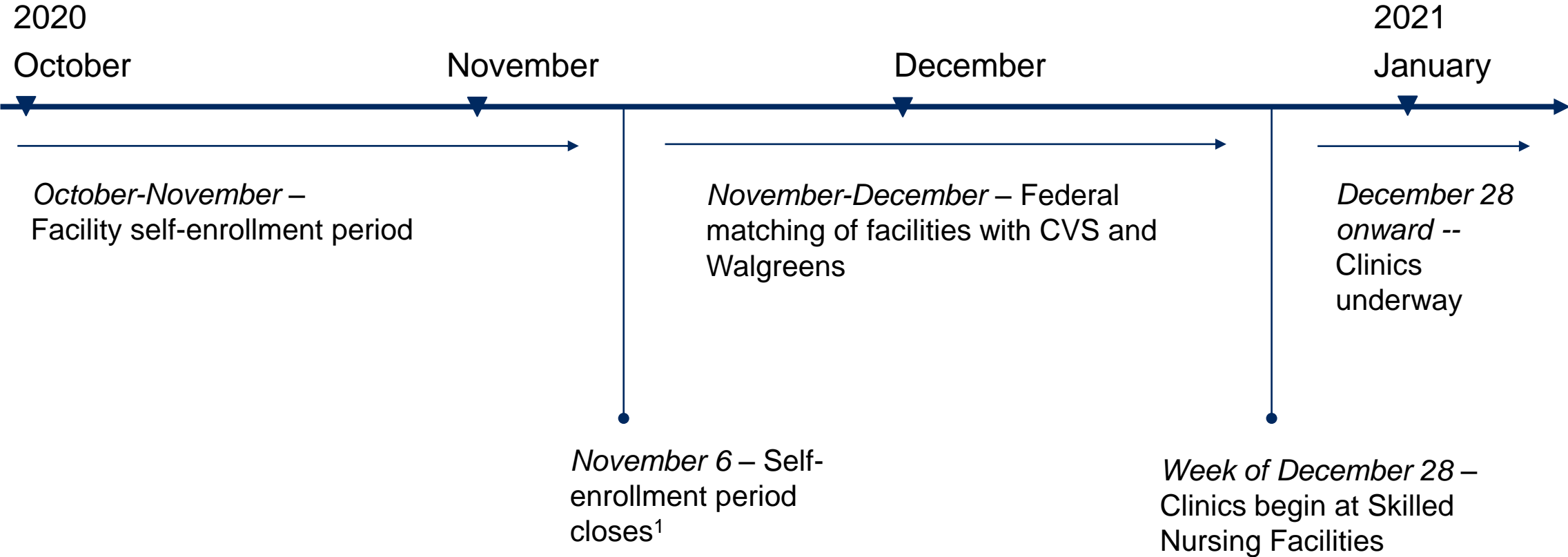


**CVS and Walgreens will visit each LTC facility three times**, each spread three weeks apart (for second doses)

1. Staff includes both paid and unpaid workers

SOURCE: CDC, "Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program for COVID-19 Vaccination" 12/1/2020

# LTC program timeline to date



1. [Nov/6 end HCANJ presser](#)

# Pharmacy participation in COVID-19 vaccination

## Pharmacy Programs

### **A Pharmacy Partnership for Long-term Care (LTC) Program**

*Provides end-to-end management of the COVID-19 vaccination process, including cold chain management, on-site vaccinations, and fulfillment of reporting requirements, to facilitate safe vaccination of this patient population, while reducing burden on LTC facilities and jurisdictional health departments*

### **B Federal Pharmacy Partnership for COVID-19 Vaccination Program**

*Select pharmacy partners will receive a direct allocation of COVID-19 vaccine. This will help jurisdictions augment access to vaccine when supply increases and vaccine is recommended beyond the initial critical populations.*

### **C Other pharmacies e.g., independents**

*Nature of participation to be determined but currently factored into business case as potential PODS*

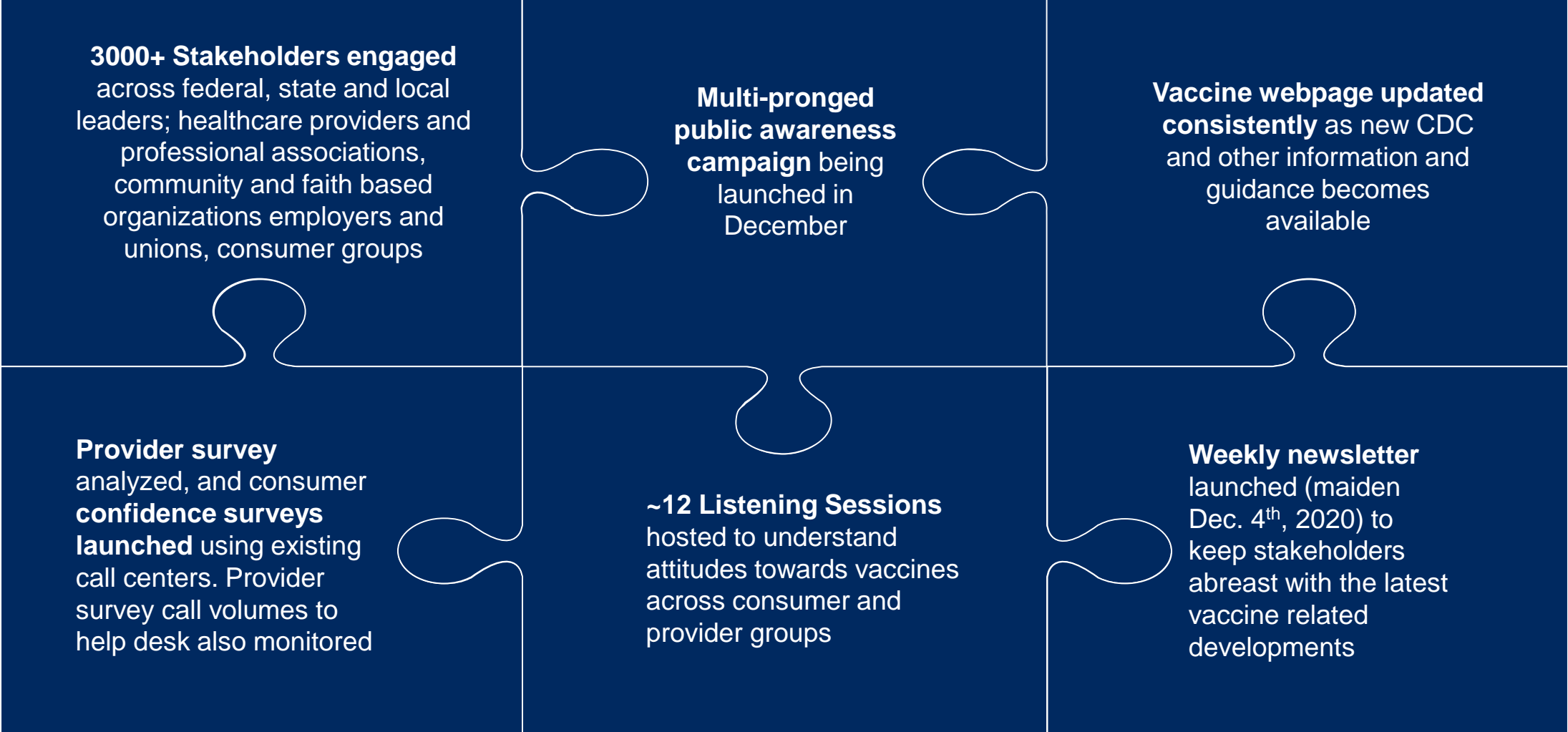
## Participating sites

- Walgreens
  - CVS Health Corporation
- 
- Walgreens
  - CVS Health Corporation
  - Walmart Stores, Inc (including Sam's)
  - Rite Aid Corp
  - The Kroger Co Publix
  - Costco
  - Albertsons Companies
  - Hy-Vee
  - Meijer
  - H-E-B
  - Retail Business Services (i.e., Food Lion, Giant Food, The Giant Company, Hannaford Bros Co, Stop & Shop)

SOURCE: CDC Playbook- Appendix H and I

Preliminary, pre-decisional, and deliberative. Based on input provided by State agency leaders and staff, to date, and subject to change. Content is descriptive only and is not meant to constitute legal, clinical, or policy advice.

# Public confidence building is critical



# Vax Matters

NJHealth December 11, 2020

## In the News

**Canada OKs Pfizer Vaccine**  
 Canada is the latest country to approve Pfizer's coronavirus vaccine, with vaccinations potentially beginning next week. Britain and Bahrain had earlier granted emergency use of the Pfizer vaccine. Britain began administering it this week.

**Op-Ed: Congressman Kim on COVID-19 Vaccine**  
 In an op-ed in The Star-Ledger, NJ.com, U.S. Rep. Andy Kim shares his views of the COVID-19 vaccine approval process and writes "If this process is executed in full as designed, I will have no hesitation taking the vaccine myself."

**Vaccine Video Conferences for N.J. Healthcare Workers**  
 Rutgers Project ECHO is hosting a series of video sessions with NJDOH to answer questions from healthcare workers and provide updates on the vaccination rollout plan. Phase 1A includes paid and unpaid persons serving in healthcare settings and long-term care facilities. The series began Dec. 11, and continues Dec. 14, Dec. 18, and Dec. 21. [Learn more and register](#) for one of the events.



**FDA to Move 'Rapidly' Toward Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine OK**

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration said Friday it will "rapidly work" toward finalizing and issuing an emergency use authorization for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine. The statement follows a meeting of the Vaccine and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee (VRBPAC) on Dec 10, which voted 17-4 with one abstention to recommend that the FDA issue the authorization of the vaccine in individuals 16 years of age and older.

In its statement, the FDA also said it had notified the CDC and Operation Warp Speed in order for them to execute their plans for timely vaccine distribution. After the EUA is issued, six hospitals in New Jersey will receive pre-positioned doses. The state is continuing to prepare for receipt of the vaccines and is working closely with these hospitals to ensure workers can be vaccinated as soon as possible.

The initial supply to New Jersey will be about 76,000 doses. The initial population to receive the vaccine during Phase 1A will be healthcare personnel, who are defined as paid and unpaid persons serving in healthcare settings, as well as long-term care residents (see more on Page 7).

With additional doses coming in the following weeks, it is hoped that the approval of the Moderna vaccine won't be far behind.

In a briefing document for the VRBPAC meeting, FDA scientists described the efficacy of the vaccine in preventing confirmed COVID-19 beginning seven days after the second vaccination at 95% and also outlined safety data.

**Survey: Interim Safety Reports Influence Healthcare Provider Views**

Eighty-five percent of physicians and 66% of nurses said they "definitely would" or "probably would" plan to take the COVID-19 vaccine, according to a new survey conducted by NJDOH.

This survey follows an October survey conducted by NJDOH to better understand their intentions to personally receive the COVID-19 vaccine, recommend the vaccine to their patients, and what information would influence these decisions.

In the October survey, 66% of physicians and 47% of nurses said they "definitely would" or "probably would" take the vaccine.

NJDOH repeated the survey to detect any changes in sentiment after Pfizer and Moderna (the two manufacturers likely to be the first to receive FDA Emergency Use Authorizations for COVID-19 vaccines) released their Phase 3 clinical trial interim analysis reports in November stating efficacy rates above 90%.

In the new survey, 77% of physicians plan to recommend the COVID-19 vaccine to their patients, compared to 46% in October. Nurses responded 60% and 35%, respectively.

A new question asked, after hearing the interim efficacy reports, would physicians recommend the vaccine to family, friends and colleagues: 77% of physicians responded affirmatively compared to 56% of the nurses.

The November survey included 3,320 respondents compared to 2,056 in October. It is unknown how many were participants in both surveys.

chilli, "The system will also allow us to ensure residents are returning for the second dose of vaccine." Under EO No. 207, individuals may opt-out of the registry 30 days after the public health emergency expires.

**Vaccine Rollout, Who May Get Vaccinated During Phase 1A?**

ness step-by-step to serve all who live, work or study in the state. New Jersey's are distributed in a fair and equitable manner.

ney will start vaccinating Phase 1A. This phase includes healthcare workers, who illicare settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients art by fortifying hospitals, including prioritizing those at highest risk of expo-

volunteer within a healthcare environment, for example: clinical staff, food ser-analysis centers, EMT's, home health aides, licensed professionals as Fed-essally any others. Examples of unpaid healthcare workers include health professional t caregivers.

esidents, who are adults who live in facilities that provide a range of services, rsons who are unable to live independently. Many of our vulnerable long-term gh the CDC-supported Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care.



**Testing Efficiency of Two-Dose Vaccine**

great COVID-19 vaccines under review, e that each consumer receives the same type d.

f recently signed Executive Order 207 in sions to New Jersey.

receive a COVID-19 vaccine will now au-omization Information System (NIHS), the ation registry.

and efficiency. Without proper accounting, f receives doses from two different novel serier to the H1N1 response.

me is vital to monitoring implementation said NJDOH Commissioner Judith Persi-

**Resources**

- [NJDOH COVID-19 Vaccination Page](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccination Plan at a Glance](#)
- [Understanding COVID-19 Vaccine: Information for Health Care Workers](#)
- [Sign up for the Vax Matters newsletter.](#)

# Key Resources



[CDC Interim COVID-19 Vaccination Playbook](#)



[CDC Checklist of Best Practices for Vaccination Clinics Held at Satellite, Temporary or Off-Site Locations](#)



[CDC Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit](#)



[CDC Skills Checklist for Vaccine Administration](#)



[CDC Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases](#)



[New Jersey COVID-19 Vaccination Plan](#)



[New Jersey COVID-19 Vaccination Plan Executive Summary](#)



[CDC Vaccine Administration Resource Library](#)

# What do we need from you?



Seek knowledge and be informed



Reach out if you have questions



Participate in setting up vaccination sites



Work with us to build public confidence



Engage with community as vaccine ambassadors



Stay safe, stay healthy, ...



...and get vaccinated!