

# Maine DHHS

## **COVID-19 Vaccines Information for Clinicians**

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# Welcome

- Introductions
- Session goals & format
- CME available (0.5 AMA PRA Cat 1 Credit/session)
  - **If CME desired, pls email your name & session attended to [COVIDCME.DHHS@maine.gov](mailto:COVIDCME.DHHS@maine.gov)**
- Future sessions
- Current context

# Disclosures

The planners and faculty for this activity do not have any relevant financial relationships to disclose with any Commercial Interests and do not have any conflicts of interest to resolve

# UPDATE!

- COVID-19 Vaccine Clinician Info Sessions moving in April to twice/monthly schedule
- Will host sessions on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> weeks/month
  - Tues 7:30AM (April 13 & 27 & onward)
  - Fri 12N (Apr 16 & 30 & onward)
- Will continue to record & post on CDC website
- Will also continue to host ME DHHS Health Equity webinar on 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed/mo (7:30AM)

# COVID-19 Vaccines – Info for Clinicians

- Context
- Science of vaccines
- Clinical trials & emerging vaccines
- **Vaccine updates**
- **Impact of viral variants**
- **State vaccination priorities & distribution**
- **Promoting vaccine equity**
- Building vaccine confidence
- Reporting & tracking adverse events

# COVID Vaccines: Key Similarities & Differences

## **Pfizer BioNTech**

- mRNA vaccine
- Trial with >44,000 in multiple countries
- Efficacy 94.5%
- Minimal adverse rxn's
- 2<sup>nd</sup> dose at 21D
- Auth'd for ≥16yo
- Storage at -70C
- Can be refrigerated for 5D

## **Moderna**

- mRNA vaccine
- Trial with >30,000 in US
- Efficacy >94.1%
- Minimal adverse rxn's
- 2<sup>nd</sup> dose at 28D
- Auth'd for ≥18yo
- Storage at -20C
- Can be refrigerated for 30D

## **J&J/Janssen**

- Viral vector vaccine
- Trial with >43,800 in multiple countries
- Efficacy >66.1% overall, 72% in US
- Minimal adverse rxn's
- Single dose only
- Auth'd for ≥18yo
- Storage at 2°C to 8°C (36°F to 46°F)

Note: COVID vaccines *not* interchangeable; however, if first dose of mRNA vaccine was received but patient unable to complete with same or different mRNA vaccine, single dose of J&J COVID-19 vaccine may be administered at minimum interval of 28 days from mRNA dose

# COVID Vaccines & Efficacy

Company	Platform	Doses	Number of vaccine recipients	Protection from COVID-19 hospitalization at 28D post-dose 2	Protection from severe COVID-19 (+/- hospitalized)	Efficacy vs milder COVID-19 disease
Moderna	mRNA	2	~15,000 (US)	100%	100% (30 cases in placebo; 0 in vaccine reported, though 1 per FDA)	94.1%
Pfizer	mRNA	2	~18,600	100%	100% (9 cases in placebo arm; 0 in vaccine)	95%
Johnson & Johnson (Janssen)	Non-replicating human adenovirus vector	1	~22,000 in US, Latin America, South Africa	100%	85% across 3 sites (89% in S Africa where nearly all were variant)	72% US, 66% Latin America; 57% S Africa
AstraZeneca	Non-replicating chimp adenovirus vector	2	~21,500 (US)	100%	100% (15 hospitalized in placebo arm; 0 in vaccine arm)	76%
Novavax	Spike protein/adjuvant	2	~9700 (Phase 3 UK; 2b SA)	100%	100% (but only 1 severe in placebo)	89.3% UK; 60% SA
Sputnik V	Ad26/AdS adenovirus vector	2	~15,000	100%	100% (20 in placebo arm; 0 vaccine arm)	91.6%

Adapted from table courtesy of Monica Gandhi, MD, MPH, UCSF , Feb 18, 2021 <sup>7</sup>

# COVID Vaccines & Viral Transmission

## Seven Studies to date that showed COVID-19 vaccines reduce asymptomatic infection (transmission)

Setting	Finding of xx% reduction in asymptomatic or infections that included asymptomatic	Reference
Healthcare workers in England	86%	<a href="#">Hall SSRN</a> , February 22, 2021
Healthcare workers in Israel	75%	<a href="#">Amit, Lancet</a> , March 6, 2021
Patients in Mayo Clinic health system	88.7%	<a href="#">Pawlowski medRxiv</a> , February 27, 2021
Israel Ministry of Health (nationwide)	94%	Pfizer <a href="#">press release</a> , March 11, 2021
Israel general population (Pfizer)	90%	<a href="#">Dagan NEJM</a> , February 24, 2021
Pre-surgical patients in Mayo Clinic health system	80%	<a href="#">Tande Clin Inf Dis</a> , March 10, 2021
Healthcare workers in Cambridge University Hospitals	75%	<a href="#">Weekes Authorea</a> , February 24, 2021

Moreover, nasal viral loads from post-vaccination exposures [are low](#) and [likely noninfectious](#) per CT values (use rapid Ag test)

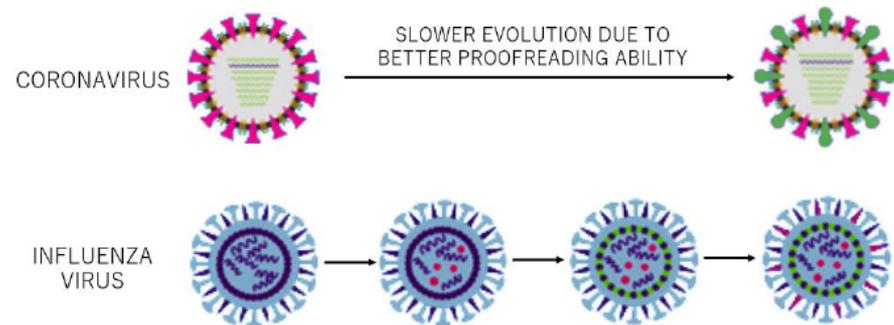
# Implications of Viral Variants

- Variants are expected, emphasize importance of...
  - COVID-19 mitigation basics, especially masking, physical distancing
  - Efficient vaccine rollout: Less transmission = less viral replication → fewer opportunities for mutation/viral evolution
  - Active molecular level surveillance, genomic sequencing
  - Ability to evaluate effectiveness of vaccines against variants, ability to adapt vaccines, potential role of “booster” doses

# COVID Variants & Vaccines: Worry Less?

Why not to worry clinically too much about variants

- This is what RNA viruses do, mutate more readily than DNA viruses
- SARS-CoV-2 doesn't mutate that fast, it is just transmitted a lot
- Neutralizing Ab titer information from Moderna/ Pfizer vaccines reassuring
- T cell responses and B cells and antibodies all elicited by vaccines; reassuring data about no hospitalizations/deaths in J&J (Brazil, S. Africa UK) and AZ trial (included Brazil, South Africa) and Novavax (S. Africa) suggests T cells mediating protection against severe infection
- mRNA vaccines and DNA vaccines can be readily "tweaked" (as they are being) from companies to code for new variant 'boosters' in future



# COVID Variants & Vaccines: Worry More

- US CDC: until more people vaccinated, variants could drive spike in cases, threatening health systems already under strain
- More than 2,463 infections involving “variants of concern” reported, many assoc’d with increased transmissibility
  - Most (2,400+) are UK variant (B1.1.1.7)
  - South Africa variant (B.1.351) found in 20+ other countries, including UK
  - Brazilian variant (P.1) recently identified in Maine
- Several variants include E484K mutation - may help virus evade parts of immune system

# Maine Plan for Vaccine Distribution\*

## Phase 1a

- Health Care Personnel
- Residents & staff of long-term care facilities
- Public safety
- State COVID response critical personnel



## All Other

- Current:
  - $\geq 50$  yo<sup>1</sup>
  - **School teachers & staff, child care staff**
- Then...
  - **April 19: All other 16yo & older**

\*Updates posted to Gov Mills COVID Vaccine website: [www.maine.gov/covid19/vaccines](http://www.maine.gov/covid19/vaccines)

NOTE: Facilities booking appts listed at: [www.maine.gov/covid19/vaccines/vaccination-sites](http://www.maine.gov/covid19/vaccines/vaccination-sites)

# Children and COVID-19 Vaccines

- Pfizer available for older than 16 yrs
- Moderna, J&J available for >18 yrs
- Pfizer trial is fully enrolled for children 12 <16 yrs
- Moderna trial fully enrolled for children 12 <18 yrs
- Moderna has opened trials for 6 mo-12 years
- J & J has opened trials 12-18 years and then will start trial for 6 mo-12 years

# Issues for Vaccinating 16 & 17yo's

Key issues, most still TBD:

- Consent required: written vs. telephonic?
- What personal identification required? (e.g. photo ID?)
- Accompanied by parent/caregiver?
- Emancipated minors: what “proof” needed?
- Restriction to Pfizer: how to direct individuals, parents to appropriate sites?
- Other ?

# Ensuring Equitable Vaccine Uptake

## ME DHHS efforts:

- Health Equity “Pop-up” Clinics
- Primary care distribution strategy
- Clinician Speakers Bureau to support community conversations
- Community Vaccination Line
- VaccinateME pre-registration & scheduling system
- Transportation assistance
- DHHS contracts with community organizations

# Health Equity “Pop-Up” Clinics

- Community partners invited to apply to host Pop-Up clinics to improve vaccine confidence & access for underserved communities
- Follows Governor’s eligibility phases
- Selected organizations linked with MIP-approved vaccine provider
- Community sponsors select physical location, plan logistics, provide staff or volunteers on site to serve as greeters, cultural brokers, interpreters
- Vaccine providers work with community sponsors to coordinate scheduling & ensure clinical and support staff

# Community Vaccination Call Line

- Community Vaccination Line: tel. 1-888-445-4111
- Available M-F: 7A -7P, & Sat-Sun: 8A - 2P
- Can help those who...
  - Do not have internet access
  - Need assistance connecting to or navigating online resources
  - Require interpretation assistance
  - Are home bound and need transportation
  - Have other questions about resources in their area
- *Will not provide faster access to clinic appts*

# Vaccine Pre-Registration & Appt System

- [VaccinateME.maine.gov](https://vaccinateME.maine.gov)
  - *Currently open for pre-registration only*
  - *Scheduling platform will go live in near future*
- Can be used for those not yet eligible (i.e. <50yo) as well as those currently eligible.
  - For those who are currently eligible, can also seek an open appointments
- Offers additional resource for scheduling purposes
- When vaccine / appointments are available, individuals will receive “Personal Access Code” to use for scheduling purposes

# Transportation Assistance

- Maine DHHS offering free transportation to anyone needing ride to vaccination appt
- Individ's must first schedule vaccine appt
- Those with vaccine appt can schedule rides by calling tel. 1-855-608-5172 (Mon-Sat, 7A – 4P)
- Need to call at least 48hrs before vaccine appt
- Managed by ModivCare (formerly LogistiCare), with contracts to CAPs & other agencies
- Drivers will leave pts for appt, return at 60' or 90'

# Ensuring Racial/Ethnic Equity

## ME DHHS Equity webinar Wed, April 21, 7:30A

- **Register in advance** for this and additional webinars in monthly series:  
<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcsfuGvpj0jGdaRiW5Y15qnYa2AMVriHgal> , *OR*
- **Log on at the time of the webinar** with following link: <https://zoom.us/j/93198786932>
  - Meeting ID: 931 9878 6932
  - Passcode: 4FrT7H
  - One tap mobile:  
+13126266799,,93198786932#,,,0#,,416363#

**\*NOTE:** Clinician Info Sessn's now being held on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tues (7:30A) & Fri (12N) each month

## WHY ARE YOU ASKING MY RACE AND ETHNICITY?

We care about equity.

Maine is committed to ensuring that COVID-19 vaccines are distributed equitably to all Mainers. We understand that the pandemic has disproportionately affected Black, Latinx, Asian and Tribal populations and want to ensure that vaccines reach those communities.

We want to serve your needs.

Like other demographic data, this information helps state and local entities understand how programs and policies are working for various groups. We use the data to make changes to those programs and policies so they are culturally and linguistically tailored to communities. In short, it holds us accountable and helps us to better serve your needs.

To help ensure equal opportunity.

We have an obligation to detect and deal with apparent inequity. Government, policy makers, and advocates use this data to identify potential gaps and advocate for change that improves the lives of communities.

### What about privacy? Race v. ethnicity?

We compile this information to create statistics for groups of people that share particular answers. We do not disclose personally identifying information. We are legally bound to strict confidentiality requirements. Individual records are not shared with anyone, including state agencies and enforcement entities.

**Race** is a socially determined category used to describe real or perceived differences between groups of people. **Ethnicity** is a socially determined category used to describe nationality, or shared custom or culture. We use standard categories that allow us to compare across other systems and states. We understand that the categories may not be the way you would normally describe yourself.



# Gov Mills Info COVID Vaccine



STATE OF MAINE  
**Covid-19 Response**  
Office of the Governor

[Home](#) — Vaccines



## COVID-19 Vaccination in Maine

**Maine is committed to an accessible, flexible, and equitable vaccination effort.**

Our vaccination strategy has two immediate goals:

1. Save the lives of Maine people at greatest risk of serious illness or death from COVID-19.
2. Ensure vaccine providers can efficiently and quickly vaccinate as many people as possible.

To learn more about vaccines and the vaccination process, please consult our [FAQs](#).

**664,807**  
Doses Administered

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**410,506**      **254,301**  
First Dose      Final Dose

Data as of: Mar 27, 2021

Microsoft Power BI

[View Maine's COVID-19 vaccination dashboard](#)

# Gov Mills Info COVID Vaccine

## When can I get vaccinated?

To maximize our limited vaccine supply and ensure every dose is used to protect the health of Maine people, Maine is using an age-based approach for vaccination eligibility. While vaccination is planned to proceed consecutively through the age groups outlined below, flexibility is possible based on vaccination progress and vaccine supply.

This age-based approach reflects recent data indicating age [is among the strongest predictors of whether a person may become seriously ill and die from COVID-19](#), offers greater certainty and predictability for Maine people to know when they are eligible for vaccination, and is easier for vaccine providers to implement and verify.



### Vaccination Eligibility by Age

*Only Maine residents are eligible to receive a vaccine in Maine at this time.*

**Now Eligible: Age 50 and older**  
**April 19: Age 16 and older**

**NEW: Pre-register for a COVID-19 vaccine appointment**

[See COVID-19 vaccination sites in Maine](#)

# Gov Mills Info COVID Vaccine



**People Age 60 and Older Now Eligible**

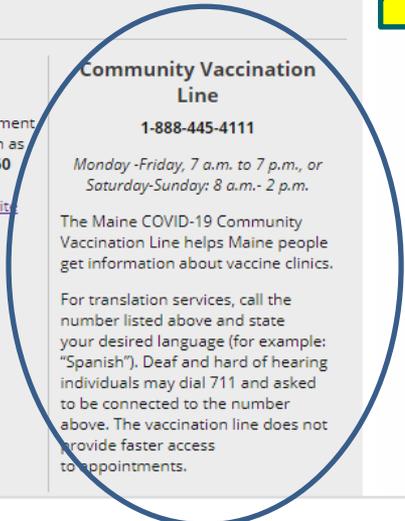
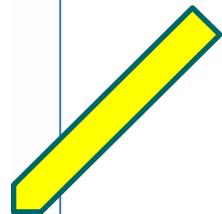
Only Maine residents are eligible to receive a vaccine in Maine at this time.

March 3: Age 60 and older  
April 1: Age 50 and older  
May 1: All adults

[Find a COVID-19 vaccination site in Maine](#)

### How to get a vaccination

COVID-19 Response Workers	Teachers, School Staff and Child Care Workers	Vaccination Sites	Community Vaccination Line
<p><b>Health care, public safety, and critical COVID-19 infrastructure personnel</b> should contact their employer or their professional associations to learn how to get a vaccine.</p>	<p>Vaccination sites will soon start offering appointments to Maine PreK-12 teachers and school staff, and workers at licensed child care facilities. Federal policy directs Hannaford, Walgreens, and Walmart pharmacies to prioritize these workers. It may take time for appointments to become available. Age-eligible individuals may still also make a vaccine appointment at one of Maine's <a href="#">vaccination sites</a>.</p>	<p>Age-eligible Maine residents are encouraged to make an appointment at a local vaccination site as soon as possible. <b>Maine residents age 60 and over</b> are now eligible for vaccination. <a href="#">Find a vaccination site now.</a></p>	<p><b>1-888-445-4111</b></p> <p><i>Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., or Saturday-Sunday: 8 a.m.- 2 p.m.</i></p> <p>The Maine COVID-19 Community Vaccination Line helps Maine people get information about vaccine clinics.</p> <p>For translation services, call the number listed above and state your desired language (for example: "Spanish"). Deaf and hard of hearing individuals may dial 711 and asked to be connected to the number above. The vaccination line does not provide faster access to appointments.</p>



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# ME CDC COVID Vaccine Resources

https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectious-disease/immunization/covid-19-providers/index.shtml

Maine.gov Agencies | Online Services | Help | Search Maine.gov

Select Language

Contact Us | News | Online services | Publications | Subject index

Search Disease Surveillance Search

## Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) - Updates and Information

DHHS → MeCDC → Disease Surveillance → MIP Home → COVID-19 Vaccine Providers Portal

Thurs 17 Dec 2020

### General Information

- MIP Home
- COVID-19 Vaccine Providers Portal
- COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Enrollment
- COVID-19 Vaccine Storage and Handling Resources
- COVID-19 Vaccine Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) Fact Sheets/VIS Forms
- COVID-19 Vaccine Safety
- COVID-19 Vaccine Communications

Report a Disease

2-1-1 Social Services Help

### COVID-19 Vaccine Providers Portal

- COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Enrollment
- COVID-19 Vaccine Storage & Handling
- COVID-19 EUA Fact Sheets/VIS Forms/Standing Orders
- COVID-19 Vaccine Safety
- COVID-19 Communications
- U.S. CDC COVID-19 Website
- State of Maine COVID-19 Vaccine Orders (PDF)
- COVID-19 Vaccine Info for Clinicians

## [ME CDC COVID-19 Vaccine Resources](https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectious-disease/immunization/covid-19-providers/index.shtml)

[www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectious-disease/immunization/covid-19-providers/index.shtml](https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectious-disease/immunization/covid-19-providers/index.shtml)

Vaccine questions? Email:  
[C19vaccine.MECDC@maine.gov](mailto:C19vaccine.MECDC@maine.gov)

# Presenters

- **Amy Belisle MD, MPH**

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# COVID-19 Vaccines

Questions??