



LTC Facility **Key Talking Points: COVID-19 Vaccine**

- We recognize that this has been an extremely challenging year for long term care staff and residents, as well as their loved ones. [Show empathy.]
- It is very encouraging that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has found a COVID-19 vaccine to be safe and effective.
- We are pleased to be able to give the vaccine to residents and our staff.
- We will begin giving the vaccine to residents [Provide details on vaccine clinic – date, time, location, what they can expect at the clinic, safety precautions in place such as social distancing, etc.]
- [If the facility does not have a vaccine clinic scheduled] A COVID-19 vaccine will soon be available to all residents and staff. We are moving forward with our plans and will provide additional details soon.
- Before the pharmacy can give the vaccine, we need consent from resident and staff members.
- Residents and staff will **not** have to pay to receive the vaccine.
- We encourage as many residents as possible to get this vaccine.
- The elderly population has a much higher risk for getting very sick, being hospitalized, or dying from COVID-19. The vaccine has been shown to provide a great deal of protection against serious illness due to COVID-19.
- The more of us that get vaccinated, the better we can protect our families and our community against potential outbreaks. We can save lives.
- This vaccine has gone through testing and clinical trials to ensure it meets the highest safety standards. It also is safe to get if you already had the virus.
- Potential side effects are listed on the fact sheet. You will find that these side effects are similar to the potential side effects of the flu shot, but they occur in more people. However, the health and safety of our residents is always our top priority, and we are confident this vaccine is a much better option than the risk of getting this virus.

- The vaccine requires two doses, and those getting it will need to get both doses to ensure the best results. The second dose will be given approximately 21 to 28 days after the first dose.
- We will continue to take all necessary precautions after the vaccine is administered, including wearing personal protective equipment and conducting regular testing, to ensure the safety of our residents and staff.
- We will also work with public health officials to determine how/when to adjust our policies for visitations and social activities and keep you updated.
- The vaccine will be a lifesaving turning point in the fight against COVID-19.
- Please feel free to reach back out to us if you have any additional questions. We are here to help make sure you feel comfortable with this process.

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