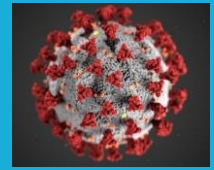


DELAWARE INTERIM COVID-19 VACCINATION PLAYBOOK



Executive Summary

October 26, 2020

Introduction

Delaware, located in the Mid-Atlantic region, has a population of 972,332, which is 45th in population size among all U.S. states, with significant increases during the spring/summer seasons due to an influx of visitors to its beaches. While most states have both local and state health departments, the Division of Public Health (DPH) within the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) serves as the public health entity for both state and local needs. During this COVID-19 pandemic, effective allocation and administration of a vaccine will significantly reduce COVID-19 effects on Delaware's health, society, and economy. Although the overarching aim is to vaccinate all persons in Delaware, the initial vaccine supply will be insufficient to meet this goal. Delaware will use its experience in mass vaccination during the novel H1N1 Influenza pandemic and the yearly influenza season, as well as the infrastructure created for COVID-19 testing to develop and implement a phased approach to vaccine distribution.

COVID-19 Vaccination Planning Sections:

Section 3: Phased Approach to COVID-19 Vaccination

The Delaware Division of Public Health State Health Operations Center (DPH SHOC) understands the significant challenges to both vaccine distribution and administration that an initially constrained supply of COVID-19 vaccine brings. Similar to what occurred during the novel H1N1 Influenza pandemic, Delaware will implement a phased roll-out of the vaccine. During Phase 1 and 2, Delaware intends to consider and adopt the priority groups as recommended by CDC and other subject matter experts. We have established Closed Point of Dispensing (POD) Agreements with hospitals and Emergency Medical Service agencies to activate and operate vaccination sites for identified critical work force members. Our Crisis Standards of Care Concept of Operations (CSC CONOPs) together with the recommendations from the Delaware Public Health and Medical Ethics Advisory Group will be employed to guide the ethical allocation of vaccine when supplies are not adequate to treat the entire population. During Phase 3, activation of our Point of Dispensing Annex Open PODs will serve the public at large.

Section 4: Critical Populations

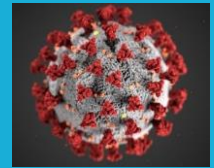
DPH is diligently working to ensure equity in access to COVID-19 vaccinations across all populations in Delaware. Critical populations identified as this point include:

- Paid and unpaid persons serving in health care settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients or infectious materials and are unable to work from home.
- Health care workers/First Responders/Public Health and Community Health support workers.
- Essential workers (as defined by Delaware State of Emergency declarations, Public Health Emergency declarations, etc.).
- Priority population groups identified most at risk (e.g., those in congregate settings, those who are immunocompromised, the elderly, minority populations, and those with high-risk chronic diseases).

Section 5: COVID-19 Vaccination Provider Recruitment and Enrollment

The Immunization Program is reaching out to existing, as well as new, vaccination providers to enroll every provider who wishes to provide COVID-19 vaccine. Providers who wish to administer the vaccine must register with the statewide Immunization Program through the Immunization Information System, known as DelVAX. For providers to enroll in the COVID-19 vaccination program, their medical license information will be checked against

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information from the State Division of Professional Regulation based on the enrollment data provided, to ensure validity of provider information. Providers will be made aware of all responsibilities as a COVID-19 vaccine provider and will be provided training on proper vaccine ordering and administration.

Section 8: COVID-19 Vaccine Storage and Handling

As part of the enrollment process, the Immunization Program will store data on vaccine storage equipment for every COVID-19 provider for the CDC to match vaccine doses distributed to a provider's storage unit. Each provider will store the vaccine in accordance with the recommended vaccine storage temperatures. Providers will also have appropriate equipment to track temperatures of their storage unit so that the equipment is functioning properly to keep vaccines within recommended temperature ranges. To ensure the cold chain is maintained, Immunization Program staff will primarily manage and conduct vaccine transfers as they occur.

Section 10: COVID-19 Vaccination Second-Dose Reminders

There will be three methods of second-dose reminders for COVID-19 vaccine recipients. 1) Providers will provide Immunization Record Cards. 2) DelVAX has the capability to provide reminder/recall reports to providers, which can be used to send reminder letters to valid addresses. 3) The Immunization program plans to enter a contract with a vendor that will contact individuals to remind them when to get their second dose.

Section 12: COVID-19 Vaccination Program Communication

The Division of Public Health's Office of Communications (OComms) will work closely with other hospital and state agency communications staff, as well as the state's marketing and communications vendor to develop and implement clear and concise messaging regarding the COVID-19 vaccine. While early survey results indicate there is some reluctance from the public in receiving the COVID-19 vaccine, it is imperative that the campaign strategy includes the information on the safety of the vaccine, the status of vaccine availability and education on both the personal and community benefits of receiving the vaccine in order to reduce vaccine hesitancy. Among the planned communication channels are mainstream social media platforms, radio, and the use of faith-based and community influencers.

Section 14: COVID-19 Vaccine Safety Monitoring

The Immunization Program will post Vaccine Safety information on the DPH COVID web page with options on how to report Vaccine Adverse Events, which is standard practice for Delaware Providers. The link to VAERS (<https://vaers.hhs.gov>) will be posted with instructions on how and what to report.

Section 15: COVID-19 Vaccination Program Monitoring

The Immunization Program has several processes to monitor the success of providing COVID-19 vaccine to the citizens of Delaware. The program will be comparing enrollment data in DelVAX against recruitment of COVID-19 providers to ensure that the program is reaching the right providers. The program will also ensure that provider data, vaccine ordering, and administration data is being reported to the CDC as required. The Immunization Program will use the Health and Human Services (HHS) operating system called "Tiberius" to allow the Vaccine Planning Group to obtain vaccine data for Delaware and target critical populations and work groups to ensure the vaccine allocated to Delaware is being used effectively.

Delaware will continue to revise this Playbook and other planning documents based on available information to provide COVID-19 vaccine to the public as part of the overall COVID-19 pandemic response. Documents will be viewed as drafts due to the nature that these are living documents that will be updated.