

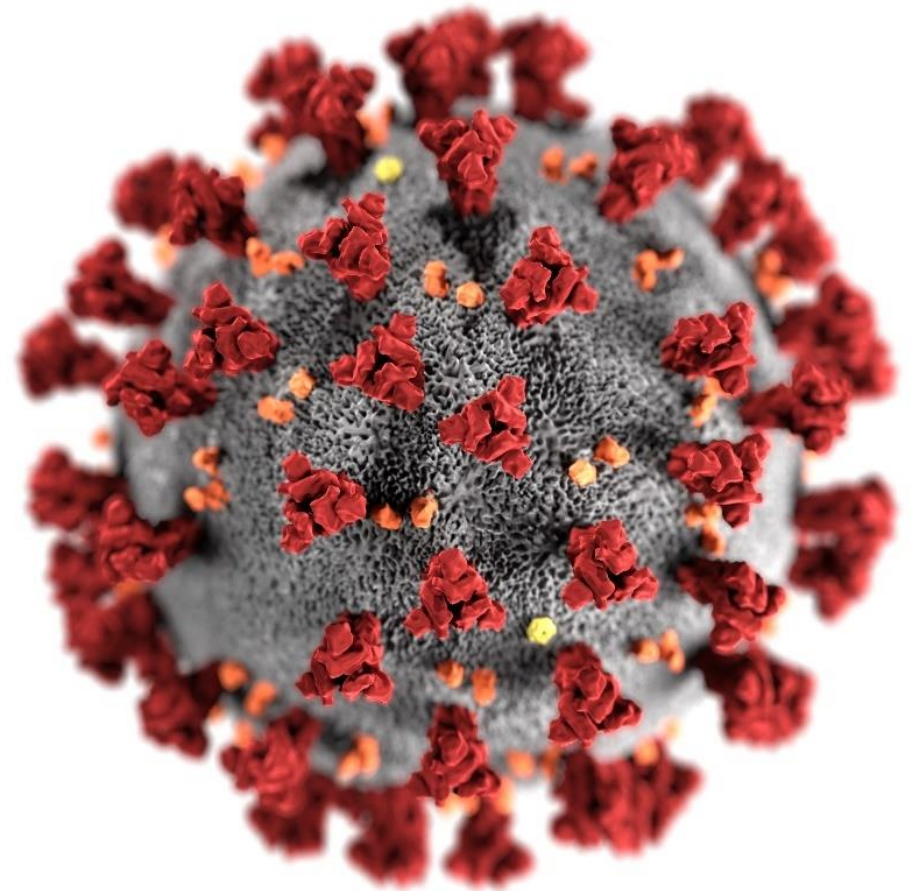
# COVID-19 Vaccine Program Updates

**Georgina Peacock, MD, MPH, FAAP**

Director, Immunization Services Division

National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

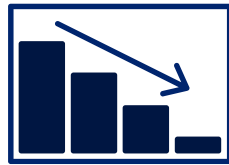


For more information: [www.cdc.gov/COVID19](https://www.cdc.gov/COVID19)

# Overarching Objectives for the U.S. COVID-19 Vaccination Program



Ensure safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines



Reduce mortality, morbidity, and incidence of COVID-19 disease



Help minimize disruption to society and economy, including maintaining healthcare capacity



Ensure equity in vaccine allocation and distribution

# End of the Public Health Emergency on May 11, 2023 and the COVID-19 Vaccination Program

- What will change

- Possible reduced submission of vaccine administration data from some jurisdictions which may limit completeness of administration data on a national level
- Most jurisdictions have signed a COVID-19 vaccine Data Use Agreement extension through the end of 2023

# End of the Public Health Emergency on May 11, 2023 and the COVID-19 Vaccination Program

- What will not change
  - CDC working with public and private partners to learn more about the short- and long-term health effects associated with COVID-19, who is affected, and why – and implementing vaccine recommendations to optimize protection
  - FDA's EUAs for COVID-19 products (including vaccines)
  - All vaccines purchased by the U.S. government will continue to be distributed and available for free

**Public Health Emergency ending ≠ Commercialization**

# Commercialization of COVID-19 Vaccines

- Commercialization of COVID-19 vaccines is the transition of vaccines previously purchased by the U.S. Government (USG), to established pathways of procurement, distribution, and payment by both public and private payers
- Timeline: Likely in early Fall
  - Considerations include what will be authorized by FDA and recommended by CDC, and what will align with a strain change for potential variants
- After commercialization, vaccines will remain free for most people through the Vaccines for Children Program, Children's Health Insurance Program, most commercial insurance, Medicare, and Medicaid programs

# Focus on Vaccination Equity

- **Vaccination equity:** when everyone has fair and just access to vaccination.
- CDC works with national, state, tribal, territorial, healthcare, and community partners to ensure all people have fair and just access to vaccination.
- CDC uses a [Social Vulnerability Index](#) to support areas at increased risk.
- **Making sure the uninsured have continued access to COVID-19 vaccines with as few financial barriers as possible is a top priority**

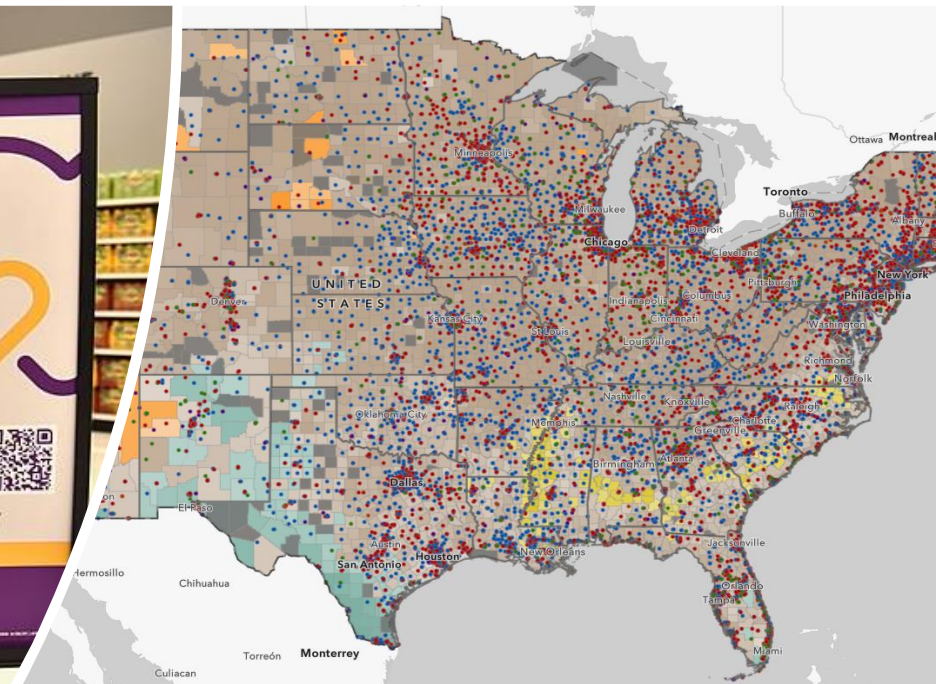




# Pharmacies Help Increase Access to Vaccines



♥CVS  
**COVID-19  
vaccines  
are here**



# ***Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act for Medical Countermeasures against COVID-19***

- HHS recently announced intent to amend the declaration under the PREP Act for medical countermeasures against COVID-19.
- By issuing this amendment, the HHS Secretary intends to extend immunity liability to pharmacists, pharmacy interns, and pharmacy technicians to administer COVID-19 and seasonal influenza vaccines through December 2024.
- Additional information on the planned amendment to the declaration under the PREP Act can be found at <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2023/04/14/factsheet-hhs-announces-amend-declaration-prep-act-medical-countermeasures-against-covid19.html>



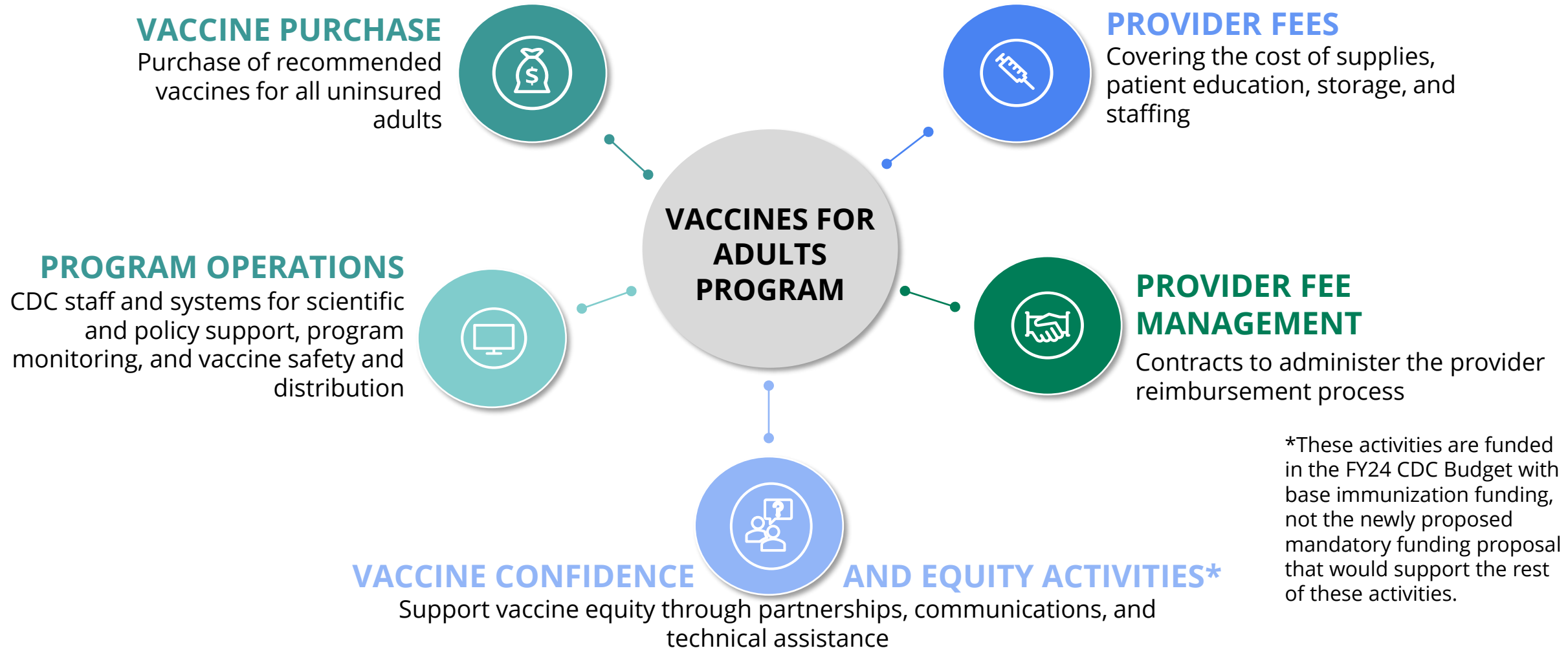
# Inflation Reduction Act

## *Inflation Reduction Act*

The *Inflation Reduction Act*, passed August 2022, includes key provisions efforts that:

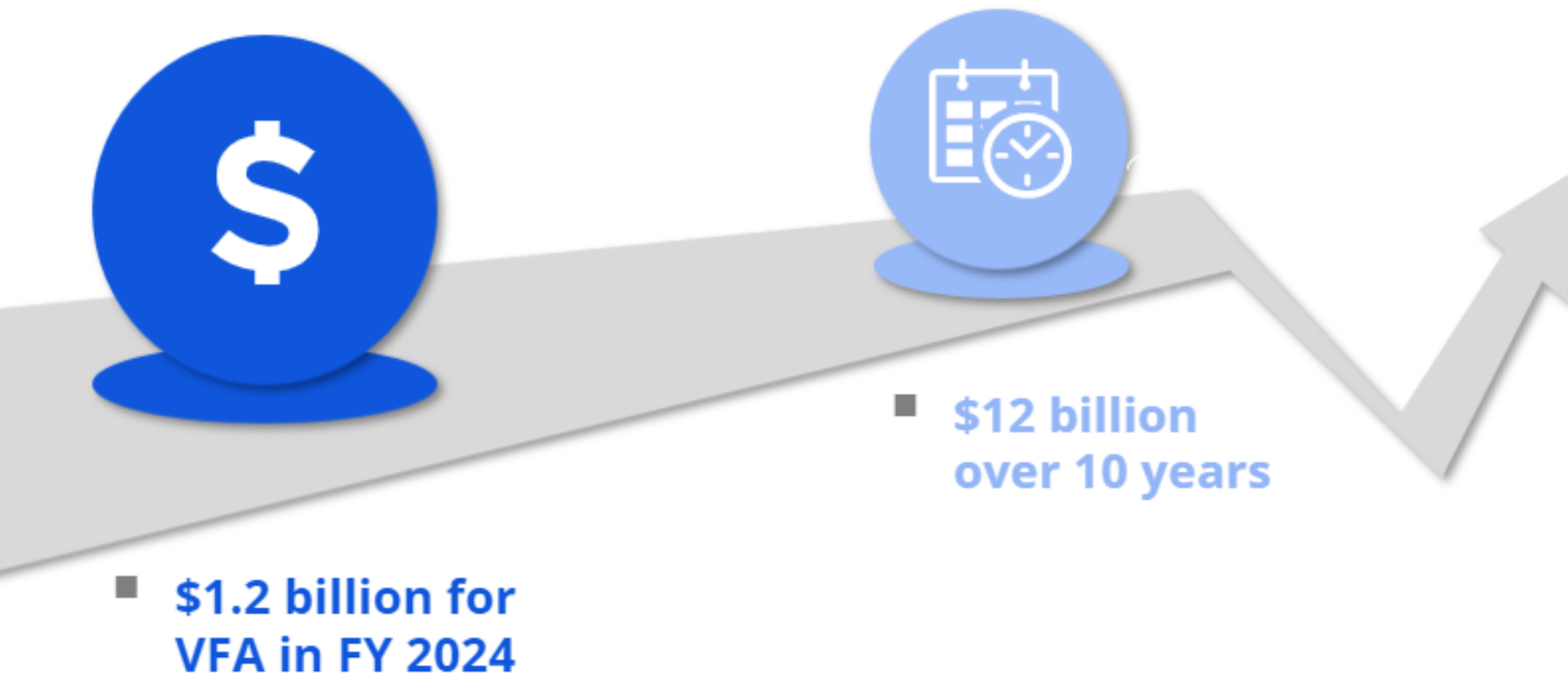
- **Eliminate cost-sharing for all ACIP-recommend vaccinations under Medicaid and Medicare Part D/equivalent plans** starting January 1, 2023.
- Guarantee that **nearly 50 million Medicare beneficiaries and more than 80 million Medicaid beneficiaries will have access to all vaccines** recommended by the ACIP without cost-sharing.

# The proposed Vaccines for Adults program would reduce the spread of vaccine-preventable diseases and pave the way to greater health equity



# FY24 President's Budget Request: Vaccines for Adults (VFA)

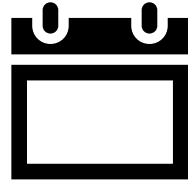
CDC's FY 2024 President's Budget request of \$1.2B in mandatory funding for VFA would begin to expand access to all routine and outbreak vaccines to uninsured adults.



***These funds would be used for:***

- **Vaccine Purchase**
- **Program Operations**
- **Provider Administration**
- **Provider Fee Reimbursement**

# Looking Forward



Communicating about  
the Public Health  
Emergency ending



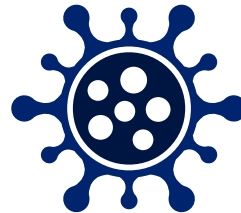
Collaborating with  
partners on vaccine  
commercialization



Continuing focus  
on vaccine equity



Increasing  
vaccine  
confidence



Continued  
surveillance of  
viruses



Continued vaccine  
effectiveness  
studies



Thank you

