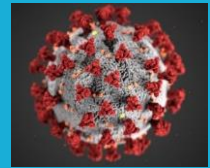




The following document is for historical purposes and is no longer being updated. Please go to the [COVID-19 Vaccination Clinical & Professional Resources](#) for more recent information.



# MISSISSIPPI INTERIM COVID-19 VACCINATION PLAN



## Executive Summary - DRAFT

October 22, 2020

### Introduction

The MS State Department of Health (MSDH) Covid-19 Vaccination Plan has been developed in coordination with internal and external partners throughout the state of Mississippi. It is a living document that will be updated as the MSDH receives more information with details of the vaccine and vaccination efforts.

The need for extensive collaboration in this vaccination effort with stakeholders and partners throughout MS is critical to addressing the Covid-19 Vaccination Planning efforts. Many of these partners are already part of stakeholder groups who are being communicated with for COVID testing and surveillance throughout the state.

### COVID-19 Vaccination Planning Sections:

#### Section 3: Phased Approach to COVID-19 Vaccination

MSDH will focus on closed point-of-dispensing (CPOD) settings to include paid and unpaid people serving in healthcare settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients or infectious materials and are unable to work from home. Phase 1-B: People who play a key role in keeping essential functions of society running and cannot socially distance in the workplace.

As the supply of available vaccine increases, distribution will expand, increasing access to vaccination services for a larger population during Phase 2. When vaccine Supply is sufficient, plans are to intergrate COVID-19 vaccine into routine vaccination programs statewide including both public and private partners.

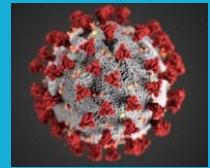
#### Section 4: Critical Populations

To improve vaccination among critical population groups, MSDH has and will work to ensure critical populations have access to vaccination services. MSDH is planning to conduct Mass Vaccination clinics at health department locations through Open Pod Settings to reach high risk populations who are not connected to a CPOD Settings. Regional planning of Open Points of Dispensing (OPOD) activities have been exercised in all three Public Health Regions through POD testing. All 82 counties of the state can access vaccination in 1 week with 16 rotating PODs a day.

#### Section 5: COVID-19 Vaccination Provider Recruitment and Enrollment

COVID-19 Provider Recruitment and Enrollment will first focus on hospitals and clinics that can effectively conduct CPOD vaccine administration to healthcare workers, and critical essential workers. Additional providers and potential pharmacies will be enrolled to assure vaccinations to groups such as emergency and law enforcement, people 65 years and older, food workers, teachers, and people with underlying medical conditions. As vaccine supply increases, MSDH

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will expand recruitment of providers to ensure equitable access of COVID-19 vaccine. The additional focus will be to provide vaccine to be administered at the local level to priority groups as issued by ACIP, guidance from Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and local factors.

## **Section 8: COVID-19 Vaccine Storage and Handling**

All enrolled providers will be trained and provided educational materials for the appropriate vaccine storage and handling procedures to implement and follow as best practice. This information also includes the proper procedures for wastage and expiration of vaccine.

## **Section 10: COVID-19 Vaccination Second-Dose Reminders**

Second dose reminders will be handled through the MIIX system. In addition, MSDH has an existing MS ITS contract through AVAYA for text reminders to remind of 2<sup>nd</sup> dose. This redundancy provides options as we move forward.

## **Section 12: COVID-19 Vaccination Program Communication**

MSDH Office of Communications is responsible for the comprehensive communication plan to disperse information to the public. Starting before COVID-19 vaccines are available, clear, effective communication will be essential to implementing a successful COVID-19 Vaccination Program. Building vaccine confidence broadly and among groups anticipated to receive early vaccination, as well as dispelling vaccine misinformation, are critical to ensure vaccine uptake.

MSDH has a Communication Plan that includes a comprehensive Risk Communication Plan that has been used for COVID-19. The communications plan includes different methods to issue critical information to the public about the pandemic outbreak and control measures using joint information process (JIC), at both the State, and local levels.

## **Section 14: COVID-19 Vaccine Safety Monitoring**

MSDH will stress the requirement and importance to ensure that the MS COVID-19 vaccination providers understand the procedures for reporting adverse events to VAERS. Detailed information will be provided during the enrollment process.

## **Section 15: COVID-19 Vaccination Program Monitoring**

The MSDH Immunization Program will be responsible for monitoring all aspects of the COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign. Situational meetings will be conducted to assure activities are progressing from provider recruitment and enrollment, ordering and administration of vaccine, vaccine administration reporting to MIIX and to CDC as required, vaccine availability to high risk populations, and monitoring communication effectiveness internally and externally.

## **Additional Information**