All-State Medicaid and CHIP Call
October 12, 2021

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Agenda

• CDC Update on Long-Term Care COVID-19 Vaccine Access and Planning for Distribution of Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccines
• Afghanistan Evacuee Coverage Update
• Open Mic Q and A
Long-Term Care COVID-19 Vaccine Access

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October 12, 2021
COVID-19 Vaccine Access for Long-Term Care

Goal:
Continue to protect those who are disproportionately affected by COVID-19—especially residents of Long-Term Care settings (e.g., nursing homes, assisted living, residential care communities, group homes, and senior housing).

All LTC settings that request assistance accessing COVID-19 vaccines for their residents and staff will receive the support they need.
COVID-19 Vaccine Access for Long-Term Care

This approach provides maximum flexibility for different long-term care settings depending on their specific staff/residents’ needs:

- Existing local pharmacy provider, retail pharmacy clinics
- On-site clinics
COVID-19 Vaccine Access in Long-term Care Settings

The federal government is committed to ensuring that residents and staff in long-term care (LTC) settings, such as nursing homes, assisted living, residential care communities, group homes and senior housing have access to COVID-19 vaccines to receive primary series and booster doses (if approved by the US Food and Drug Administration [FDA] and recommended by CDC’s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices [ACIP]).

The goal is to continue to protect those who are disproportionately affected by COVID-19—especially residents of LTC settings. All LTC settings that request assistance in accessing COVID-19 vaccines for their residents and staff will receive the support they need.

Many LTC providers have already identified strategies and partnerships to obtain and administer COVID-19 vaccines for residents and staff. These include:

- Working with established LTC partners and retail pharmacy partners
- Coordinating with state and local health departments

Long-term care providers are encouraged to consider the option that works best for their residents and staff when
What is considered a long-term care setting?

“Long-term care settings” include any location where older adults, people with disabilities or chronic health conditions, or people otherwise needing assistance with activities of daily living receive services or supports. These can include both medical care and non-medical care. Examples of long-term care settings include, but are not limited to:

- Skilled nursing and nursing facilities (also known as nursing homes);
- Intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities (ICFs-IID);
- Inpatient psychiatric settings, including psychiatric residential treatment facilities (PRTFs);
- Inpatient substance use disorder facilities and residential settings for people with substance use disorders;
- Assisted living settings for older adults and people with disabilities, including assisted living facilities, independent living facilities, residential care and continuing care retirement communities, personal care homes, and board and care homes;
- Senior housing, including Section 202 and other HUD-assisted housing that primarily serves older adults;
- Housing for people with disabilities, including Section 811 HUD-assisted housing. Housing Opportunities for People living With AIDS (HOPWA), and other HUD-assisted housing that primarily serves people with disabilities;
- Residential settings for people with disabilities and older adults, including group homes, shared living, adult foster care, and transitional housing;
- Congregate day programs, including adult day programs, PACE® programs, day habilitation programs, and other community-based day service programs; and
- Senior center programs and congregate nutrition programs.
Accessing a COVID-19 Vaccine If You Are Homebound

First Steps for Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine

If you are homebound and need to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, contact your healthcare provider or your state or local health department for information about accessing a COVID-19 vaccine. In many states, you may also dial 211 to connect to essential community services.

Other Options for Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine

If you are not able to arrange to receive a COVID-19 vaccine through your healthcare provider or through your state or local health department, try contacting groups that are advocates for people who are homebound or that provide home health services. For example, you may try calling The Aging Network at 1-800-677-1116 or searching for services by ZIP code with the Eldercare Locator. The Eldercare Locator is a public service of the U.S. Administration on Aging that connects people to services for older adults and their families.

Other options include contacting the Disability Information and Access Line (DIAL) at 1-888-677-1199 or the hotline for Medicare recipients at 1-800-633-4227 (TTY 1-877-486-2048).
CDC Actions

- **Outreach to LTC partners/Federal partners/LTC settings**
  - Regular calls with LTC partners (e.g., AHCA, Leading Age) and Federal Partners (ACL, CMS, etc.) for sharing information and gathering feedback
  - Outreach to all LTC settings from primary series Federal Retail Pharmacy Partnership that included a survey to indicate a need for additional assistance
  - Skilled Nursing Facility verification survey and weekly monitoring for assistance through National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN)

- **Outreach to Jurisdictions**
  - Calls/listening sessions with HHS regions; individual assistance with some states, as needed
  - Office hours every week
  - Tiberius (Safety Net Dashboard) training available (e.g., how states see LTC matching with pharmacies)

- **Outreach to Pharmacy partners**
  - Weekly calls with all 21 pharmacy partners to assess progress with LTC clinics and monitor operational challenges

- **Additional CDC support**
  - LTC website: COVID-19 Vaccine Access in Long-term Care Settings
  - CDC connects LTC settings who request assistance with pharmacy partners as an additional safety net support (CDC INFO helpline, vaccines.gov)
LTC COVID-19 Vaccination Data Reporting

- Pharmacy partners continue to submit patient vaccination data to jurisdiction immunization information systems (IIS) and directly to CDC
  - Includes data for older adults aged over 65 years

- Pharmacy partners collect facility level data for onsite clinics (weekly)
  - Elements reported: facility name, city, state, # doses administered and date of clinic
  - Will only include data from when pharmacies go to a facility to administer doses
  - Data will be shared with CDC
  - Jurisdictions will have access to this data in Tiberius

- CMS-certified skilled nursing facilities report estimates of vaccine coverage of residents and staff available in NHSN¹
  - NHSN collects booster/additional doses
  - Weekly reports are sent to jurisdictions

- Jurisdictions have visibility through Tiberius on the progress of LTC requests sent to CDC as part of USG “Safety Net”

¹ National Healthcare Safety Network
Contact Us:

For more information, contact CDC
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)

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The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
Questions