



## San Mateo County Phase 1a Guidelines for COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution

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**Background:** Tiers are provided by California Department of Public Health, with Consideration/s from San Mateo County Health. Tiers are in rank order, and each bullet within a tier is also in rank order of priority. All facilities will conduct their own internal prioritization of staff and contractors and vaccinate those with direct patient contact and at higher risk of COVID exposure as defined below.

**Per California Department of Public Health: During Phase 1a of allocation, COVID-19 vaccine should be offered to the following persons in California:**

- **Persons at risk of exposure to SARS-CoV-2 through their work in any role in direct health care or long-term care settings.**
  - **This population includes persons at direct risk of exposure in their non-clinical roles, such as, but not limited to, environmental services, patient transport, or interpretation.**
  - **Residents of skilled nursing facilities, assisted living facilities, and similar long-term care settings for older or medically vulnerable individuals.**
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### Tier 1

- **Acute care, psychiatric and correctional facility hospitals**

*Consideration/s: General acute care hospitals (six in San Mateo County) and similar facilities conducting surgeries/procedures/same day hospitalization. Included in this category are residential mental health and behavioral health facilities.*

- **Skilled nursing facilities, assisted living facilities, and similar settings for older or medically vulnerable individuals**

*Consideration/s: Facilities for medically vulnerable individuals including those with significant medical conditions and those with significant developmental disabilities or behavioral health conditions. Those with developmental disabilities or behavioral health conditions could also fall under Tier 2, Intermediate Care Facilities. Includes Long-Term Care Ombudsman (LTCO) staff and Hospice workers (inpatient).*

- **Also, in concordance with ACIP, residents in these settings**

*Consideration/s: ACIP is the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. Residents of the settings listed above (Skilled nursing facilities, assisted living facilities, and similar settings for older or medically vulnerable individuals) are a category of patients, rather than healthcare providers, included in Phase 1a.*

- **Paramedics, EMTs and others providing emergency medical services**

*Consideration/s: Fire department staff who are paramedics/EMTs are included in this section. Non-medical first responders are in a later Phase. Includes lifeguards.*

- **Dialysis centers**

*Consideration/s: Dialysis centers and laboratories directly affiliated with dialysis centers.*

## Tier 2

- **Intermediate care facilities for persons who need non-continuous nursing supervision and supportive care**

*Consideration/s: Any facility or group home for older or medically vulnerable persons, or those with developmental disabilities or behavioral health conditions not covered under Tier 1.*

- **Home health care and in-home supportive services**

*Consideration/s: Category would include staff providing in-home hospice services.*

- **Community health workers, including promotoras with public exposure**

*Consideration/s: Community health or behavioral health workers providing direct in-person patient/client services in the community. Includes peer support workers.*

- **Public health field staff**

*Consideration/s: Public health field staff involved in the direct in-person delivery of any health or behavioral health service in the community.*

- **Primary Care clinics, including Federally Qualified Health Centers, Rural Health Centers, correctional facility clinics, and urgent care clinics**

*Consideration/s: Includes healthcare workers in mental health/substance use outpatient direct service settings. This also includes field-based staff providing direct in-person care affiliated with one of the clinics above. Includes any clinics not affiliated with Multi-County Entities (as defined by California Department of Public Health).*

### Tier 3

#### Other settings and health care workers, including:

- **Specialty clinics**

*Consideration/s: Any medical clinic not covered in Tier 1 and 2. Examples include medical specialties, physical or occupational therapy, optometry, nutrition and other similar clinics.*

- **Laboratory workers**

*Consideration/s: Any laboratory workers not covered in Tiers 1 and 2. Includes mortuary workers/ Funeral homes/ Coroner's office staff with exposure to infectious agents; blood bank/blood center workers.*

- **Dental and other oral health clinics**

*Consideration/s: Any dental/oral health workers not covered in Tiers 1 and 2.*

- **Pharmacy staff not working in settings at higher tiers**

*Consideration/s: Any pharmacy staff not covered in Tiers 1 and 2.*