



January 26, 2021

## **Provider Health Advisory**

*COVID-19 Vaccine: County Health supports provider entities transitioning to the population aged 65 and over as vaccine supply allows.*

### **Summary**

- San Mateo County has aligned eligibility criteria to the State guidance to include people age 65 and over, prioritizing in accordance with the State's rubric.
- Health care entities in San Mateo County have vaccinated over 30,000 Phase 1A health care providers. The County sponsored and ran a week-long mass vaccination effort reaching more than 9,500 healthcare workers and directed vaccine to local entities to enable vaccination of their 1A health care worker staff.
- San Mateo County is encouraging Multi-County Entities (Sutter/PAMF, Kaiser, Dignity, AHMC/Seton) to scale vaccination efforts at publicly accessible locations.
- San Mateo County understands that vaccine supply and personnel to perform and support vaccination remain barriers to further access for people aged 65 and over.
- San Mateo County understands residents' confusion with the vaccine pathways available to them and seeks providers' continued collaboration in relaying information to their patients.
- Providers can enroll in the State's new CalVax system to provide a path for direct vaccine allocation directed by San Mateo County Health as vaccine supply gradually increases.
- County Health must focus its limited remaining vaccine supply and personnel resources to reach the remaining unvaccinated Phase 1A health care workers and the over-65 population that is most vulnerable and exposed, while partnering with Multi-County Entities to enable those eligible persons not yet reached by them to have a pathway to be vaccinated.
- The State has said it will take a greater role in coordinating with local health departments and providers. We will continue to adapt to the quickly changing landscape and aim to keep health care providers informed. In the coming weeks providers may receive additional direction from the State, rather than San Mateo County.

[more]





### **Actions requested of Healthcare Providers**

- San Mateo County expects the Multi-County Entities (Kaiser, Sutter/PAMF, Dignity, AHMC/Seton) operating in San Mateo County to continue vaccinating Phase 1a healthcare providers and patients aged 65 and over as vaccine supply allows, with consideration of the prioritization tiers outlined by the CDPH:
  - **Age:** Those 75 years or older
  - **Occupational risk exposure:** Individuals whose work puts them at higher risk of exposure
  - **Residence in vulnerable communities:** As determined by the California Healthy Places Index or comparable local health department knowledge
- These organizations should be prepared to use either Pfizer or Moderna vaccines.
- These organizations should communicate clearly about the pathways for eligible patients to be vaccinated and, if not yet eligible, the pathway to be notified.
- San Mateo County encourages health care providers to enroll in CalVax to provide a path for direct vaccine allocation once supply increases.
- These organizations should communicate clearly about the pathways for eligible patients to be vaccinated.
- San Mateo County expects all health care providers administering vaccination to minimize waste:
  - Providers are expected to establish wait list policies and operations that prioritize eligible patients to be vaccinated with end-of-clinic unanticipated extra doses.
  - Providers are expected to share these wait list policies with patients or members of the public to demonstrate prioritization of the most vulnerable and exposed and protect against favoritism, privilege, or profiteering in administering vaccine.
  - San Mateo County understands that the logistical and operational requirements of vaccine administration and prioritization of assuring a good patient experience may require deviation from eligibility criteria for a very small proportion of end-of-day doses.
- San Mateo County requests that all providers, whether involved in vaccine administration or not, continue to collaborate with the County and fellow providers, local pharmacies, and other entities that can enable clear communication to residents about the pathways for eligible residents to be vaccinated.