

Alaska Pharmacy COVID Vaccine Taskforce Communication—Distributed 10/21/2020

LTCF PARTNERSHIP FOR COVID VACCINE, DUE 10/29

In preparation of a future COVID vaccine, all settings who provide care to individuals, across the spectrum of life, are encouraged to strengthen or establish relationships with other community partners. This is critically important for homes that provide long-term care to residents.

We ask that pharmacies and partners share the information below widely across Alaska.

****NEW* HHS/DOD Public-Private Partnership for LTC settings***

On Friday, October 16, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the U.S. Department of Defense [announced](#) a partnership with CVS and Walgreens to administer, free of charge, COVID-19 vaccine *when available* to residents in long-term care settings, including:

- skilled nursing facilities (SNF),
- nursing homes,
- assisted living facilities,
- residential care homes, and
- adult family homes.

What actions should be taken by Pharmacies?

1. Pharmacies who provide medication and/or vaccination services to long term care homes and wish to provide COVID vaccination services to those homes are encouraged to reach out to their existing partners now to let them know of your interest. If you are a pharmacy provider who is unable to provide on-site COVID vaccine administration services, you may be able to help direct the home to an alternate pharmacy partner or resource.
2. All Pharmacies should make a plan to enroll with the State of Alaska as a Vaccine Provider even if you are unable to participate in the LTC targeted phase. More information on [how to enroll](#) is forthcoming.
3. **By no later than 11:59 pm EDT on Thursday, October 29, 2020**, nursing and assisted living homes are asked to identify their COVID vaccination partners through the [NHSN portal](#) or ALH [sign-up form](#). A home may select:
 - a. On-site clinic from an existing or new local pharmacy partner;
 - b. Free on-site clinic(s) held by CVS or Walgreens; or
 - c. Opt-out and provide COVID vaccination services a different way.

A facility should select a contingency in case their primary plan falls through. Selections are non-binding, however, and may be modified by the home. **Only the facility or home will complete the sign-up (not the pharmacy).** Filling out the sign-up form will help federal officials identify additional needs; homes are encouraged to ensure they enter their information **by Oct 29th**. **Pharmacies should reach out to their current LTC homes now to help them know your availability.**