

## **Alaska COVID ECHO Informal Meeting Notes (Molly Gray)—November 19, 2020**

386 Attendees

### Pfizer and BioNTech / Moderna Vaccines

- Vaccine candidate is more than 95% effective
  - Pfizer anticipates submitting an EUA application with FDA
- Moderna's candidate is found 94.5% effective. Has not uncovered any serious safety concerns. Also will submit EUA in the coming weeks. By end of 2020, expects to have 20 million doses ready to ship in the USA and is on track to manufacture 500 million to 1 billion doses globally in 2021.

### New MRNA technology

- The two vaccines that have completed enrolling Phase III clinical studies were developing using a new vaccine technology employing messenger RNA (mRNA). When authorized or approved, these will be the first vaccines approved using mRNA technology.

Clinical Trials—No steps were skipped during the clinical trial process for COVID-19 vaccine. Manufacturing and trials can happen at the same time, which speeds up the timeline for a vaccine to reach Alaska should it be authorized by the FDA.

- Clinical Trials
  - Phase 1—Test for safety in a small number of people (10-100)
  - Phase 2—Test hundreds of people with different characteristics such as age and health status. This is to understand effectiveness and side effects.
  - Phase 3—Test thousands of people to assess safety and effectiveness
  - First issues are usually seen within the first two months of tests.

Provider Enrollments: <http://covidvax.Alaska.gov>

- Read all documents before you begin as that will help answer question.
- Download the agreement before you begin to fill it out—common issue. Needs to be an electronic form, not a scanned form, so information is downloadable.
- To enroll your own site, that might not be vaccinating others/the public, you have to have at least 10 staff members that you plan to vaccinate in Phase 1.
- What to Expect after Enrollment—CDC contractors will deliver a specific amount of vaccine to designated locations. Federal contractors will provide needles (various sizes), syringes, alcohol prep pads, surgical masks and face shields for vaccinators, vaccination record cards for vaccine recipients, needle information.

You may be able to use your own software system IF—you can schedule appointments, track race, ethnicity, comorbidity, and occupation data, tracking adverse events at time of vaccination, submitting administration data to VacTrAK within 24 hours of administration (the last is a CDC requirement).

Communication and Education Resources (Regina)

[COVID-19VaccineMessageMaps.pdf \(alaska.gov\)](#)

- Covidvax.Alaska.gov—Toolkit materials.
  - Vaccine talking points you can directly copy or edit for your own needs.
  - Fill in the blank PDF flyer templates to support POD vaccine clinics
  - Signs for POD vaccine clinics with directions and health guidance.
  - RESOURCES—Benefits of getting Vaccine, How it Works, Myths, etc.
- Targeting media campaign release early December 2020.

#### COMMON QUESTIONS

1. Will people who have had COVID be vaccinated? Not enough info currently to say if or how long after infection someone is protected against getting it again.
2. What are the side effects of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines? Within first week, fatigue, headache and joint pain or chills after the first dose and fatigue, chills, headache, nausea, joint pain and/or fever after the second dose. Adverse effects largely are resolved within three days.
3. What will be the cost for the vaccine? No charge. Providers will be able to bill insurance an administration fee.
4. Allocation (Sondra)—There are many questions/key points that have been considered in who should be included in Phase 1 vaccinations. Going off CDC recommendations. By end of 2021, everyone who wants a vaccination should have been able to get a vaccine.
5. Ramifications if someone is off with their second dose of vaccination? Don't have data if you don't get it exactly on the date. If you miss the second dose, there is not enough vaccine for you to start your series over. **MUST get at exactly 21 days after. (Dr. Liz Ohlsen with State answering/gave a lot of info during presentation).**
6. Shipped in quantities of 975—has made allocation in AK challenging with ultra cold storage needs for stability.

Alaska is not limiting options by specifying which vaccine we want to receive Pfizer or Moderna—welcoming both and all that receive FDA approval.