**POLICY**

To prevent the spread of infectious disease and to decrease the morbidity and mortality associated with the SARS-CoV-2 virus, commonly known as Covid-19, this facility will offer Covid-19 vaccination including all approved primary series and /or booster does for all residents in accordance with CDC eligibility requirements.

**PROCEDURE**

1. The Facility will designate a Registered Nurse (RN) as the Vaccine Coordinator with support staff as needed.
2. The RN Vaccine Coordinator will be the liaison for the LTC Pharmacy partner
3. All residents and resident representatives will be provided with education and the FDA approved Covid 19 Vaccination FDA EAU/VIS Fact sheets by the MD or RN.
4. For situations in which a resident lacks capacity to make healthcare decisions and there is no next of kin or designated healthcare representative, a risk vs. benefit analysis will be done, and a two-physician consent/declination will be required.
5. The facility will assign a “point of contact” or designee for providing information on how residents and their representatives are educated about and offered the Covid-19 vaccines, including samples of educational materials.
6. The facility will obtain a signed consent form for the administration of the Covid vaccine from the resident or the resident’s designated health care representative(s).

* Telephone consent is acceptable with two licensed personnel signing as witnesses.

1. The resident’s Primary Medical Doctor (PMD) will provide order for Covid 19 vaccination following review of allergies, medications, and plan of care to determine if there are any contraindications.
2. The facility will track consents, declinations, and vaccinations for all residents.

* Residents who declined Covid-19 vaccine will be provided with education that they can request a Covid-19 vaccine at any time should they change their mind.

1. All new and re-admissions will be evaluated by the nurse and/or physician for previous immunization and will be offered the vaccine as appropriate.

* As of 4/15/2021 (NYSDOH), the facility will provide, or make arrangements, for all consenting new and re-admissions to receive a first dose Covid-19 vaccine within 14 days of admission. Arrangements will be made for any subsequent doses as applicable.

1. For any discharges, the resident will receive immunization card, if only one dose received in a 2-dose series, a date will be provided to receive the second dose either at facility or in the community.
2. The vaccine will not be offered or administered to residents with contraindications:

* History of severe allergic reaction after a previous dose of the vaccine
* History of severe allergic reaction to any ingredient of the vaccine
* Residents with acute Covid-19 infection and still under isolation (can be vaccinated after resolution of infection)

1. Administration of the vaccine will be deferred in residents with acute respiratory disease, active infection, or acute febrile illness until resident has recovered.
2. The Covid-19 Vaccine may be given without regarding to timing of other vaccines (CDC, 5/14/2021) as ordered by a Physician
   * If multiple vaccines are administered at the same time, each injection will be administered at a different injection site.
3. The Pfizer [Comirnaty] (3-8 weeks) and Moderna (4-8 weeks) and Novavax (3-8weeks) vaccines are a two-dose series; both doses must be administered to be fully vaccinated

* If Janssen vaccine is used it is a one dose series only (Johnson and Johnson) In most situations, **Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccines are preferred** over Johnson & Johnson's Janssen (J&J/Janssen) COVID-19 vaccine. J&J/Janssen should only be [considered in some cases](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/janssen.html#When-to-Consider-J&J). J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine cannot be used as a second booster dose. (CDC 6/10/22)

1. The facility will offer a CDC booster dose of the covid vaccines to residents as recommended and approved by the CDC in alignment with NYSDOH regulations:

* **As of September 6, 2022, the CDC new booster recommendations for people ages 12 years and older is to receive one bivalent mRNA booster after completion of a monovalent primary series; it replaces all prior booster recommendations for this age group** 
  + **Recommendations for use of a bivalent Moderna booster dose in people ages 18 years and older**
  + **Recommendations for use of a bivalent Pfizer-BioNTech booster dose in people ages 12 years and older**

**Vaccination schedule: In accordance with CDC recommendations the facility will adhere to the following recommended vaccination schedule below:**

**Residents who are not moderately or severely immunocompromised:**

Adults ages 18 years and older are recommended to receive one primary dose and one booster dose **at least 2 months after the primary dose**. A bivalent mRNA booster dose is recommended.

**Residents who are moderately or severely immunocompromised:**

Adults ages 18 years and older are recommended to receive one primary dose, a second (additional) dose using a monovalent mRNA COVID-19 vaccine, and one booster dose; a bivalent mRNA booster dose is recommended. The primary series dose and the additional dose are separated by at least 4 weeks. **The booster dose is administered at least 2 months after the additional dose.**

1. In general, the same monovalent vaccine product should be used for all doses in the primary series. Therefore, if a 2-dose series vaccine is used, the second dose should be the same as the first. ([Clinical Guidance for COVID-19 Vaccination | CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/interim-considerations-us.html#timing-spacing-interchangeability)).
2. The facility Vaccine Coordinator will work with Pharmacy and/or Local Health Dept partner (if applicable) to provide immunization on established clinic dates.
3. Should vaccination be done in a dedicated area, the following will be adhered to:

* Social distancing to be maintained between each vaccination station

1. Prior to vaccine administration, the Vaccine Coordinator will validate that consent has been obtained, MD order received, and education has been provided.

* Should the facility be administering the vaccine (designated vaccinator), transportation, storage, handling, and preparation of the vaccine will be adhered to in collaboration with the pharmacy partner and in accordance with the specific Covid vaccine recommendations for approved Covid vaccines. The facility will complete all required reporting, including the Vaccine Tracker, HERDS Survey, and NYSIIS/CIR (as applicable)
  + Instances when syringes will be pre-filled/pre-drawn:
    - A dedicated area will be utilized for vaccine preparation
    - Each vaccine type will be labeled to prevent medication error
    - Pre-filled/pre-drawn syringes will be stored at the manufacturer recommended temperatures throughout the day

1. After administration, assigned nursing staff will monitor the resident closely x 15minutes after administration and then every shift x 72 hours for potential side/adverse effects of the vaccine.

* If a resident has a history of anaphylaxis they will be monitored after immunization for 30 minutes.
* Potential side effects following Covid 19 Vaccine that have been reported in clinical trials include injection site pain, fatigue, headache, muscle pain, chills, joint pain, fever, injection site swelling, injection site redness, nausea, malaise, and lymphadenopathy.

1. If a resident experiences post vaccination signs/symptom, as outlined above, PMD/NP/RN will assess resident to determine if any treatment or follow up is needed.
2. Any side/adverse effects will be documented in the medical record with MD notification and Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) follow up documentation. The **vaccination administrator** is responsible for MANDATORY reporting of reportable events that include

* Vaccine administration errors whether associated with an adverse event
* Serious adverse events\* (irrespective of attribution to vaccination)
* Cases of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome (MIS) in children and adults
* Cases of COVID-19 that result in hospitalization or death

1. The vaccine administrator/facility will
   * Document the name of the vaccine, manufacturer information, Lot #, expiration date, site, and date of administration
   * The Pharmacy vaccine administrator or designated personnel will enter vaccination information into the NY State/ NYC Immunization Registry as required within 24 hours of vaccine administration
2. The charge nurse/unit manager is responsible for updating the immunization record (acceptance/declination) and the immunization care plan (acceptance/declination).
3. In accordance with CMS QSO-21-19-NH, the facility will report Covid-19 vaccination data via NHSN (Survey Tag F884)
4. Epinephrine will be available in the facility’s emergency box(es) and in immunization area(s) for utilization in the event of severe allergic reactions
5. Should resident develop acute distress, a “Code Blue” will be initiated, and EMS system will be activated immediately to transfer resident to an acute care setting as needed.
6. A list of residents who have refused the Covid vaccine will be forwarded to the Director of Nursing Services (DNS) and Infection Preventionist for review and follow up as needed.

**REVISED**:

4/21/2021; 5/5/2021; 6/2/2021; 8/25/2021; 9/23/2021; 10/6/2021; 10/21/2021; 1/6/2022; 1/26/2022; 4/19/2022, 6/22/22,9/21/22

**REFERENCES**:

CDC( Updated 9/2/22) [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines: Appendices, References, and Previous Updates | CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/interim-considerations-us-appendix.html)

CDC ( Updated 9/ 7/ 22)[COVID-19 Vaccine Interim COVID-19 Immunization Schedule for 6 Months of Age and Older (cdc.gov)](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/downloads/COVID-19-immunization-schedule-ages-6months-older.pdf)

CDC (Updated 12/13/2020). Post Vaccine Considerations for Residents. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/post-vaccine-considerations-residents.html>

Moderna Health Care Provider Fact Sheet(updated 8/31/22) [bivalent-dose-HCP.pdf (modernatx.com)](https://eua.modernatx.com/covid19vaccine-eua/bivalent-dose-HCP.pdf)

Moderna Fact Sheet (updated 6/21/22) [eua-fact-sheet-recipients.pdf (modernatx.com)](https://eua.modernatx.com/covid19vaccine-eua/eua-fact-sheet-recipients.pdf?)

Pfizer Health Care Provider Fact Sheet Booster (Updated 8/31/22)[Pfizer HCP FS Bivalent Booster Grey 8.31.2022 (fda.gov)](https://www.fda.gov/media/161327/download)

Pfizer Recipient Fact Sheet (updated 8/31/22) [Recipients and Caregivers 12 years of age and older 08312022 (fda.gov)](https://www.fda.gov/media/153716/download)

Updated 5/21/22[Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine - EUA Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers (janssenlabels.com)](https://www.janssenlabels.com/emergency-use-authorization/Janssen+COVID-19+Vaccine-Recipient-fact-sheet.pdf)

[Training and Education for COVID-19 Vaccination | CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/training-education/index.html)

NYSDOH (9/19/22)[DAL\_COVID-19\_Booster\_\_Flu\_2022-23\_9-19-2022\_1663608172645\_0.pdf (state.ny.us)](https://commerce.health.state.ny.us/hpn/ctrldocs/alrtview/postings/DAL_COVID-19_Booster__Flu_2022-23_9-19-2022_1663608172645_0.pdf)

NYSDOH (9 /16/ 22) [NH 22-18; DACF 22-37 (ny.gov)](https://www.health.ny.gov/professionals/nursing_home_administrator/dal/docs/dal_nh_22-18.pdf)

CMS (5/11/2021). Interim Final Rule – COVID-19 Vaccine Immunization Requirements for Residents and Staff. <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-21-19-nh.pdf>