MESSAGE ID:	**MSHAN-20201125-00477-ALT (Health Alert)**
RECIPIENTS:	**All Physicians, Hospitals, ERs, ICPs, NPs, and Healthcare Providers – Statewide**
	Wednesday, November 25, 2020
SUBJECT:	**Hospital Provider Enrollment for Priority COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution**

Dear Colleagues,

Pfizer has recently applied for an Emergency Use Authorization with the FDA for their COVID-19 vaccine. Moderna will soon follow with an application for their COVID-19 vaccine. Early data for both vaccines are promising with initial reports of 90-95% effectiveness.

Approval of the EUA for the Pfizer vaccine is anticipated soon which will allow the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) to obtain and position vaccine to be ready when the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) releases the formal recommendations for vaccine administration.

The initial allocation of vaccine will likely be limited, **therefore the first priority for vaccination distribution and administration will be frontline hospital staff at highest risk of contact to COVID-19 infected patients**. As the allocations of vaccine increase, vaccine distribution will expand to additional priority groups.

In order for your hospital to receive vaccine to administer to priority staff, your facility must be enrolled as a COVID-19 vaccine provider. Your facility will need to complete the Provider Agreement paperwork and submit as soon as possible. Once processed, your organization will receive additional information for next steps. Facilities should first submit the enrollment agreement for their hospital prior to submitting an agreement for other facilities within your organization.

See the MSDH website for resources for COVID-19 vaccine providers and the Provider Agreement at https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/14,0,71,975.html. We encourage you to read the instructions and FAQs first; this will assist greatly in the completion of the agreement. If you have any questions, feel free to email covid19vaccine@msdh.ms.gov or call our office at 601-576-7751.

570 East Woodrow Wilson ● Post Office Box 1700 ● Jackson, MS 39215-1700
601-576-8090 ● 1-866-HLTHY4U ● www.HealthyMS.com

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Please remember, if your facility does not complete and submit the Provider Agreement, your hospital will not receive vaccine to administer to your priority staff. The initial allocation for vaccine will be available soon, so we encourage enrollment now.

Please see below for additional resources.

CDC web pages on COVID-19 vaccination:
- Benefits of Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine
- How COVID-19 Vaccines Work
- Myths and Misconceptions about COVID-19 Vaccines
- Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 Vaccination

Regards,

Paul Byers, MD
State Epidemiologist

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Alerting Message Specification Settings

Originating Agency:	Mississippi State Department of Health
Alerting Program:	MS Health Alert Network (MS HAN)
Message Identifier:	MSHAN-20201125-00477-ALT
Program (HAN) Type:	Health Alert
Status (Type):	Actual ()
Message Type:	Alert
Reference:	MSHAN-00477
Severity:	Unknown
Acknowledgement:	No
Sensitive:	Not Sensitive
Message Expiration:	Undetermined
Urgency:	Undetermined
Delivery Time:	600 minutes

Definition of Alerting Vocabulary and Message Specification Settings

Originating Agency:	A unique identifier for the agency originating the alert.
Alerting Program:	The program sending the alert or engaging in alerts and communications using PHIN Communication and Alerting (PCA) as a vehicle for their delivery.
Message Identifier:	A unique alert identifier that is generated upon alert activation (MSHAN-yyymmdd-hhmm-TTT (**ALT=Health Alert, ADV=Health Advisory**, **UPD=Health Update**, **MSG/INFO=Message/Info Service**).
Program (HAN) Type:	Categories of Health Alert Messages**.**
Health Alert:	Conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.
Health Advisory:	Provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.
Health Update:	Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.
Health Info Service:	Provides Message / Notification of general public health information; unlikely to require immediate action.

Status (Type):

Actual:	Communication or alert refers to a live event
Exercise:	Designated recipients must respond to the communication or alert
Test:	Communication or alert is related to a technical, system test and should be disregarded

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Message Type:

Alert:	Indicates an original Alert
Update:	Indicates prior alert has been Updated and/or superseded
Cancel:	Indicates prior alert has been cancelled
Error:	Indicates prior alert has been retracted

Reference: For a communication or alert with a Message Type of "Update" or "Cancel", this attribute contains the unique Message Identifier of the original communication or alert being updated or cancelled. "n/a" = Not Applicable.

Severity:

Extreme:	Extraordinary threat to life or property
Severe:	Significant threat to life or property
Moderate:	Possible threat to life or property
Minor:	Minimal threat to life or property
Unknown:	Unknown threat to life or property

Acknowledgement: Indicates whether an acknowledgement on the part of the recipient is required to confirm that the alert was received, and the timeframe in which a response is required (Yes or No).

Sensitive:

Sensitive:	Indicates the alert contains sensitive content
Not Sensitive:	Indicates non-sensitive content

Message Expiration: Undetermined.

Urgency: Undetermined. Responsive action should be taken immediately.

Delivery Time: Indicates the timeframe for delivery of the alert (15, 60, 1440, 4320 minutes (.25, 1, 24, 72 hours)).

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