

COVID-19 Update

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January 13, 2021

Dear Colleagues:

In order to provide updates on the evolving response and best practices related to the COVID-19 pandemic, AHP will be delivering brief, critical updates on an ongoing basis addressing important highlights and frequently asked questions.

UR Medicine COVID Vaccination Scheduling Outreach Starting Tomorrow

We are pleased to report that UR Medicine will be reaching out to *age-based* vaccination-eligible patients starting tomorrow evening, January 14th to schedule COVID vaccination at URM Rochester-area clinics beginning Friday, January 15th. **UR Medicine will be contacting age-eligible patients (65 and older) who have a UR-employed or AHP-participating private practice PCP.**

To ensure that all of your eligible patients are included in this outreach, practices will need to submit to AHP a report of their patients age 65 and older. AHP will be sending the report template that must be used to submit the data to the practice administrator at adult primary care practices via secure email. That email will include additional details about this outreach process and other FAQs.

Governor Expands Eligibility Criteria for COVID Vaccination

Effective January 11th, Governor Cuomo has expanded access to COVID vaccination to **individuals age 65** and older. Please note that, although we anticipate that patients age 16 and older with certain chronic conditions will soon be added to the list of New Yorkers eligible for vaccination, *that has not yet been enacted.*

Click [here](#) for the current, full list of eligible New Yorkers. At present, vaccine supply is extremely limited, and the various pharmacies (Wegmans, Rite-Aid, Walgreens, Tops, others) reported to be scheduling vaccination actually do not have appointments available at the time of this writing.

Practices should advise patients calling to inquire about vaccination:

- For patients age 65 and older: If your practice has submitted a report to be included in the outreach detailed above, you may tell these patients that they will be contacted by UR Medicine to schedule vaccination.
- For patients with occupation-based eligibility: Advise that they contact their employer, union or their local department of health.
- All other patients (including at 65+ who do not want to wait for scheduling outreach): Instruct patients to check their eligibility at the NYS website located [here](#). After eligibility is confirmed, the site will provide a list of vaccination sites. Encourage patients to bookmark the listed websites and check back frequently as clinics are added.

CHANGE TO COVID-19 Response Call Schedule Week of January 18th

Due to the Martin Luther King Day holiday, **there will be no COVID-19 response call on Monday, January 18th. Our next calls will be held at 12:15 pm, Tuesday, January 19th and Thursday,**

Click on the Zoom link <https://urmc.zoom.us/j/98969184459> or dial in to (669) 900 6833, Meeting ID: 989 6918 4459. **Please check out the [AHP YouTube](#) channel for recorded Zoom calls you may have missed.**

Revisions to COVID-19 Return to Play Documents

Yesterday, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) released further written clarifications around the December 2020 AAP [COVID-19 Interim Guidance: Return to Sports \(revised, December 17, 2020\)](#). In alignment with the expert opinion and best practice recommendations from the AAP, the collaborative pediatric cardiology, primary care, and infectious disease expert teams in Rochester and Buffalo have made minor modifications to the guidance documents and workflows already being followed by our primary care providers in the Finger Lakes region. These same workflows and documents are currently being adopted by our colleagues in the Buffalo area as well.

The revisions to the Return to Play Algorithm (found [here](#)) and the Pediatric Assessment and Return to Play Release Template ([here](#)) include the following:

- Per AAP clarifications, **four days** or more of systemic COVID symptoms is considered moderate risk (not five).
- Patients that had mild COVID symptoms and screen positive for a cardiac symptom can have a **screening EKG ordered by the PCP** and do not need to be automatically referred to cardiology.
- Quarantine is updated to **10 days**.
- Gradual Return to Play still applies to K-12:
 - Younger children and those not participating in sports will generally have a parent guide them through the seven days.
 - Those in scholastic (and club) sports should ideally have a coach or athletic trainer guide them through the seven days.
 - Patients 18 and older should be referred to adult cardiology if there are any concerns for cardiac symptoms related to COVID infection.
- This is the AAP's recommended **BEST PRACTICE** and may or may not be enforced by individual schools at this time.

We will continue to revise these documents and workflows as appropriate and will communicate those changes to our healthcare providers, school health providers, school districts, patients and their families.

NEW ID Requirement: Vaccination at URMIC for Patient-Facing Health Care Workers

URMC is now offering COVID vaccination to patient-facing health care workers from private practices, regardless of affiliation. Eligible health care workers may schedule appointments for their first and second dose using the links below.

[Pfizer Vaccine Clinic](#) (No slots currently available)

[Moderna Vaccine Clinic](#) (Slots available today)

Please note the following:

- This information may be shared with **any** patient-facing health care worker.
- Individuals registering for a slot must attest to being a patient-facing health care worker.
- Please be sure to bring your driver's license, health insurance card and **proof of eligible employment (work ID, paystub, letter on company letterhead attesting to employment and patient-facing role)**

We continue to partner with Dr. Mendoza and County Health Department officials on preparedness and response protocols and will convey information as it becomes available.

Thank you for your continued collaboration in this important public health endeavor.

All the best,



[J. Chad Teeters, MD](#)
Executive Medical Director



[LJ Shipley, MD](#)
Pediatric Medical Director



[Renée Sutton](#)
Senior Director, Provider
Relations

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[COVID Pharmacy Archive](#)

[Back to School Archive](#)

COVID-19 Resource Links

[Golisano Children's Hospital Coronavirus Information for Families](#)

Project Teach: Seven Ways to Support Kids and Teens Through the Coronavirus Pandemic, in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)

[American Academy of Pediatrics COVID-19 Site](#)

[Monroe County Health Department](#)

[CDC Coronavirus Site](#)

[New York Department of Health Coronavirus site](#)

COVID-19 Online Databases

- [Greater Rochester Area COVID-19 Tracker](#)
 - [Monroe County COVID-19 Dashboard](#)
 - [NYSDOH COVID-19 Tracker](#)
 - [NYS Nursing Home Fatalities](#)
 - [CDC Coronavirus Interactive](#)
 - [Johns Hopkins COVID-19 Dashboard](#)
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