

## COVID-19 Update

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June 2, 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.

### Post-Vaccination Potential Adverse Events in Adolescents: Myocarditis

As discussed on today's call, the CDC has been monitoring reports of cases of myocarditis and pericarditis occurring after COVID-19 vaccination. These reports are rare, given the number of vaccine doses administered, and have been reported after mRNA COVID-19 vaccination (Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna), particularly in adolescents and young adults. There has not been a similar reporting pattern observed after receipt of the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine (Johnson & Johnson).

These cases seem to occur:

- predominantly in adolescents and young adults age 16 years or older
- more often in males than females
- more often following dose 2 than dose 1
- typically within 4 days after vaccination

CDC monitoring systems have not found more cases of myocarditis and pericarditis than would be expected in the population, although follow-up on the reported cases and further study of this potential adverse event are ongoing. More information can be found on the CDC's website [here](#) and [here](#).

**The CDC continues to recommend COVID-19 vaccination for everyone 12 years of age and older, given the greater risk of COVID-19 illness and related, possibly severe complications.**

### COVID Vaccination for the Homebound

New York State, in partnership with counties, has established local points of contact to expand access to vaccines through an in-home vaccination program. This program helps those who are homebound due to physical limitations, cognitive or visual impairments, and/or a lack of transportation, and who lack the support or resources to physically go to an existing vaccination provider.

To refer your homebound patients located in Monroe County, email the [Finger Lakes Vaccine Hub](#). For all other counties, click [here](#) to find your local point of contact for this service.

### NYS Vaccination Scholarship Incentive

New York State has launched the "Get a Shot to Make Your Future" outreach campaign to increase awareness of the availability and efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines and provide incentives to New Yorkers 12-17 years of age to get vaccinated. Parents or legal guardians of any New Yorker, ages 12 to 17, can enter their child who has received at least their first COVID-19 vaccine dose, for a chance to win one of 50, four-year full-ride scholarships (including tuition, fees, room-and-board, and expenses) to any New York State public college or university.

Click [here](#) to download a poster to promote the program and encourage your patients and families to register. Additional information about "Get a Shot to Make Your Future" can be found [here](#).

### Next Behavioral Health Call - Tuesday, June 8th, 12:15 to 1:00 pm

Join the AHP Behavioral Health team as well as members from our pharmacy, care management and social work teams every Tuesday from 12:15 pm – 1:00 pm via Zoom and/or phone for just in-time, virtual consultation support for the behavioral health needs of both your pediatric and adult patients.

Users have two options for participation:

- Phone only: Dial 1 (646) 876-9923, enter Meeting ID 92843450755 and Password 702578
- Computer: Click the link below which has the password embedded <https://urmc.zoom.us/j/92843450755pwd=c2UxS0FJM3ISUXRVRXE5bTIBNmV5dz09>

### Next COVID Response Call: Wednesday, June 16th, 12:15 to 1:00 pm

Due to the relative stability in the course of the outbreak in our community and the slower influx of information related to it, AHP's COVID-19 response calls will now be held at 12:15 pm every other Wednesday. **Our next COVID-19 Response teleconference will be held at 12:15 pm, Wednesday, June 16th.** Please dial-in to 1 669 900 6833 and enter Meeting ID: 989 6918 4459 or click <https://urmc.zoom.us/j/98969184459>

### You Can Do It: COVID Vaccination in the Primary Care Setting

The data doesn't lie: PCPs can help overcome vaccine hesitancy by agreeing to administer COVID vaccine within their practices. According to a recent study, three out of 10 vaccine-hesitant adults would accept vaccination if offered by their PCP.

Don't believe the early hype: Offering COVID vaccination at your practice is actually much easier than you may think. Some things to consider:

- **Believe that since vaccine is available everywhere, your practice doesn't need to vaccinate?** The issue isn't access, it's overcoming hesitancy! There are many patients who can be persuaded to be vaccinated by their trusted PCP.
- **Heard that ordering vaccine supply from NYS is onerous?** Practices in Monroe County can have vaccine redistributed to them from the Monroe County Department of Public Health. Read more [here](#). Providers in other counties can be connected to [Jackie Lyttle](#) at the S2AY Rural Health Network to coordinate redistribution from your local health department.
- **Heard that storing vaccine is a headache?** Not really: requirements around transport, storage, and handling have loosened considerably.
- **Not enough nursing or other staff to handle a vaccination effort?** The United Way has volunteers available, including clinicians, to staff your vaccination clinics. These volunteers are already working successfully in several area private practices supporting their vaccination efforts. Contact [Kim Povec](#) for more information.
- **Don't think you have the time to develop and stand up a new workflow?** There are resources for workflow development, so you won't have to start from scratch.
- **Worried that you won't have enough patients willing to be vaccinated?** Don't be: you can be allocated a very small number of doses to get started.
- **Afraid of the consequences for wasting a dose?** Old news! The state's latest guidance around wastage can be summarized as, "do your best to use every dose, but not at the expense of missing an opportunity to vaccinate a willing patient."

### Convinced? Here's how to get started:

**Step #1: Enroll in the NYS COVID-19 Vaccination Program and obtain a COVID PIN.** Enrolling does not obligate the practice to administer the COVID vaccine, so practices are encouraged to enroll even if they are not certain. [Click here for enrollment instructions](#), including detailed guidance on how to complete the online application.

**Step #2: Determine what resources you may need to begin vaccination.** If you are in Monroe County, contact [Kathy Hiltunen](#) at the Monroe County Department of Public Health for guidance related to vaccine storage, handling, workflow development, etc. Outside of Monroe County, email [Jackie Lyttle](#) from S2AY Rural Health Network to be connected with local resources that can assist you.

**Step #3: Obtain a supply of vaccine.** If your practice is located in Monroe County you can quickly be allocated a vaccine supply from MCDPH. Click [here](#) to read the FAQs about requesting and obtaining a vaccine allocation. Primary care practices located outside of Monroe County can email [Jackie Lyttle](#) from S2AY Rural Health Network to coordinate redistribution from your local health

department.

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](#)

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## 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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