As the COVID-19 vaccine continues to be distributed across the nation, there have been questions about whether the vaccine will be available at the [HEALTH CENTER NAME]. QuadMed, the company that manages the health center, has enrolled to become a COVID-19 vaccine program provider and is taking steps to prepare for safe administration of the vaccine as soon as it is made available.

**COVID-19 Vaccine Availability**

Distribution of the vaccine is at the discretion of the federal and state governments. While supply of the vaccine is expected to increase throughout 2021, early rounds of the vaccine are being provided to the most vulnerable populations, including essential workers and those age 65 and older. It may be several months into 2021 before the vaccine is available to the general public.

As you consider getting vaccinated, we encourage you to visit the [QuadMed COVID-19 information page](https://myquadmed.com/vaccine), where you can find updated information as well as answers to frequently asked questions about the vaccine. The page also includes links to individual state health department websites that can provide additional details about the prioritization and distribution plans that are being followed by each state.

**Is the COVID-19 Vaccine Effective?**

It’s important to note that the COVID-19 vaccine is your best bet to protect yourself and others around you from the virus. A vaccine, however, does not replace the need to continue other actions to stop the spread of this illness and keep everyone healthy. It will take many months to provide the vaccine to everyone who needs or wants it. Even after vaccination, you should continue to wear a mask, wash your hands often and social distance (at least 6 feet) to best protect yourself, your loved ones and the public.

**Don’t Put Off the Care You Need**

While you wait for the vaccine, it’s important that you don’t put your health on hold. The health center is open and ready to provide the care you need safely. Whether you’re feeling sick, need a preventive exam or have a question about your health, extra steps are being taken within the health center to ensure that your visit is safe. For safety and convenience, virtual visits are also available.

We will continue to update you on the availability of the vaccine as more information becomes available. Rest assured, as soon as the vaccine is available, you can rely on QuadMed to provide it safely.