

QuadMed is committed to implementing a comprehensive COVID-19 vaccination plan based on federal, state and local guidelines, including those established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), local public health departments and the QuadMed COVID-19 Taskforce.

The QuadMed COVID-19 Vaccine Handbook is designed to provide up-to-date information on the COVID-19 vaccine state of affairs as it relates to all QuadMed health and wellness centers. Within this handbook you will find the latest information on the COVID-19 vaccine, including steps that our organization is taking to ensure we are prepared to administer the vaccine as soon as it is available to us.

It's important to note that the information provided in this packet is a summary of the information available at the point that the document was last updated. Any projections or assumptions contained here are based upon the conditions and data currently available and are subject to change.

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AVAILABILITY AND DISTRIBUTION

The federal government is overseeing a centralized system to order, distribute and track COVID-19 vaccines. As part of this centralized system, the CDC is working with state, tribal, territorial and local jurisdictions on the development of COVID-19 vaccination plans for their respective areas.

QuadMed is applying to administer the vaccine in every state where we operate health centers, however approval is not guaranteed. If approved, QuadMed will receive vaccines from the CDC's distributor or directly from a vaccine manufacturer.

It is important to note that the CDC has also worked with private partners, including chains and networks of independent pharmacies, such as CVS, to distribute COVID-19 vaccines more widely. So, you may see vaccines available in your community before they are available at QuadMed.

TRAINING

The training associated with each vaccine will vary, and there are several important elements to evaluate as part of overall planning efforts. All staff will receive comprehensive, competency-based training on vaccine administration policies and procedures before administering vaccines. Health center staff will be trained on the following COVID-19 vaccine components:

- Efficacy, safety, duration of immunity and route of administration (e.g., intramuscular, intradermal injection, oral, other)
- Dosing frequency and tracking (e.g., single dose vs. multiple doses, time between doses)
- Contraindications and precautions
- Shipping/storage requirements (e.g., room temperature, refrigerated, frozen, deep-frozen)
- Compounding requirements (e.g., reconstitution, ready-to-use)
- Post-clinic reporting and recording of vaccinations administered, including reporting to the jurisdiction immunization information system (IIS)

Most COVID-19 vaccines currently under development are likely to require a second booster shot. Providers will ensure that patients receive the same product during the first and second vaccination.

STAFFING

We plan to use all available QuadMed staff to assist in the administration of the vaccine. Your Client Operations Manager will discuss the staffing options available at your location, including how to utilize existing clinical staff, while still ensuring your clinic is able to meet acute and urgent patient needs.

The public health emergency order allows additional staff to vaccinate, such as physical therapists, pharmacists and medical assistants. We will tap into the following networks that may be available based on location:

- Current QuadMed float staff
- Staff from other QuadMed facilities
- Local nursing school students
- A national staffing agency

ADMINISTRATION

We understand that administration of the vaccine will vary at each health center based on factors such as location, staffing and more. Your Client Operations Manager will work with you to develop a plan for administration and will help you to:

- Determine the best location for vaccine clinics
- Establish the safest way to administer the vaccines following guidance from the CDC
- Evaluate who should receive a vaccine first, based on national recommendations, if there are not enough doses of the vaccine for everyone

PATIENT EDUCATION

Your Client Operations Manager and Marketing Strategist will work with you to develop marketing and education materials, including but not limited to:

- Frequently asked questions about the vaccine
- Instructions, directions and signage for vaccination events
- Information about the side effects of the vaccine and procedures for reporting them
- The importance of the second dose for full protection and when to come back to receive it

DISTRIBUTION PHASE RECOMMENDATIONS

Currently, the CDC is working with other health experts to recommend a phased plan to fairly allocate the vaccine to all United States residents. These phases recommended by the CDC are meant to ensure that those

with the greatest risk of exposure and the highest risk of complications receive the vaccine before those who are healthy. Additionally, each state has developed their own COVID-19 Vaccination Plan.

Phase	Eligibility
Phase 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High-risk health care workers (working in hospitals/ long-term care facilities) • First responders (EMS, Police, Fire) • Older adults who are residents of assisted-living, long-term care and nursing facilities • High-risk individuals of all ages with comorbid and underlying conditions
Phase 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K-12 teachers and school staff and childcare workers • Critical workers in high-risk settings (essential industries only) • High-risk individuals of all ages with comorbid and underlying conditions • Residents and staff in homeless shelters or group homes, prisons, jails, detention centers and similar facilities • All older adults not included in Phase 1
Phase 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Younger adults and children • Workers in industries and occupations important to the functioning of society and at increased risk of exposure not included in Phases 1 and 2
Phase 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everyone residing in the United States who did not have access to the vaccine in previous phases

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When will QuadMed have vaccines?

Unfortunately, the answer is not known at this point as the situation changes daily.

Distribution will need to be prioritized for those most in need until manufacturing capabilities can ramp up and additional manufacturer vaccines are approved to meet the demand of the entire population.

QuadMed will work to provide vaccines as soon as possible, consistent with governmental priorities.

What is the status of each vaccine?

Manufacturer	Trial Status	FDA Approval Status (as of 12/2020)
Pfizer	Phase 3 complete	Approved (ages 16 and older)
Moderna	Phase 3 complete	Approved
Astra Zeneca	Phase 3 in process	Expected Q1 of 2021
Janssen	Phase 3 in process	Expected Q1 of 2021
Novavax	Phase 3 in process	Expected 2021
Sanofi/GSK	Phase 1/2 results expected 12/2020	Expected late 2021

What is the difference between the vaccines?

Currently, there are three main types of COVID-19 vaccines. Below is a description of how each type of vaccine prompts our bodies to recognize and protect us from the virus that causes COVID-19. None of these vaccines can give a person COVID-19.

mRNA vaccines

Contain material from the virus that causes COVID-19 and gives our cells instructions for how to make a harmless protein that is unique to the virus. After our cells make copies of the protein, they destroy the genetic material from the vaccine. Our bodies recognize that the protein should not be there and build T-lymphocytes and B-lymphocytes that will remember how to fight the virus that causes COVID-19 if we are exposed in the future.

Protein subunit vaccines

Include harmless proteins of the virus that cause COVID-19 instead of the entire germ. Once vaccinated, our immune system recognizes that the proteins don't belong in the body and begins making T-lymphocytes and antibodies. If we are ever exposed in the future, memory cells will recognize and fight the virus.

Vector vaccines

Contain a weakened version of a live, non-COVID-19 virus that has genetic material from the virus that causes COVID-19 inserted in it. This is called a viral vector. Once the viral vector is inside our cells, the genetic material gives cells instructions to make a protein that is unique to the virus that causes COVID-19. Using these instructions, our cells make copies of the protein. This prompts our bodies to build T-lymphocytes and B-lymphocytes that will remember how to fight that virus if we are exposed in the future.

Which vaccine will QuadMed have?

It is not known at this point. The Pfizer vaccine currently being distributed requires ultra-frozen storage at minus 70 degrees Fahrenheit. We do not have this type of freezer at our clinics and the CDC does not recommend that we purchase a deep freezer for the purpose of these vaccines. These freezers are being allocated nationally to the distribution chain to ensure stability when the vaccines are delivered.

It is anticipated that all other vaccines can be effectively stored in typical vaccine refrigerators, similar to other vaccines we have in the health centers. QuadMed would be able to utilize current vaccine refrigerators and freezers and no additional costs would be incurred.

Your Client Operations Manager will ensure that there is enough refrigeration space to house enough vaccines to vaccinate your population over the course of one week.

Are the vaccines safe?

While the development of COVID-19 vaccines has been fast tracked, the FDA reinforces that no safety precautions have been compromised. The FDA will consult with the Vaccine and Related Products Advisory Committee (VRBPAC) prior to any approval. The VRBPAC is an advisory committee comprised of independent experts in the fields of vaccine safety and infectious disease.

How many doses are required?

Of the current vaccine candidates, most require two doses including the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines. Only the Johnson & Johnson vaccine is a one-dose vaccine.

The timing between the first and second dose varies by vaccine, but averages between 21 and 28 days. QuadMed is developing a comprehensive plan for tracking patients to ensure compliance with all doses.

How long after the vaccine is given is it effective and protecting the individual?

According to the CDC, it takes two for the body to build immunity after vaccination.

Will there be enough vaccines for everyone?

The goal for the government's Operation Warp Speed is to deliver safe vaccines that work. There likely will not be enough doses available for all adults in the initial supply. Supplies will increase over time, and all adults should be able to get vaccinated at some point in 2021. However, a COVID-19 vaccine may not be available for young children until more studies are completed.

What are the common side effects of the vaccine?

Side effects are a normal sign that your body is building protection. Side effects may feel like flu and even affect your ability to do daily activities, but they should resolve in a few days.

Common side effects

- Pain and swelling at injection site
- Fever
- Chills
- Tiredness
- Headache

Will there be a cost for vaccines?

At this time, the cost for the vaccine itself will be covered by the federal government via funding authorized by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. As established in the CARES Act, patients will receive the vaccine at no out-of-pocket cost and no deductible regardless of where they get the vaccine.

The federal government will be including the items to administer the vaccine in supply kits (needles, gauze, alcohol pad, etc). McKesson, one of our key vendors, is tasked with the "warp speed" distribution. McKesson has been providing QuadMed with regular updates so we can continue to update our clients.

Health plans and self-insured plans may be required to pay for the administration of the COVID-19 vaccine.

Do safety precautions still apply to those who are vaccinated?

According to the CDC, if people have been fully vaccinated, they can gather indoors with fully vaccinated people without wearing a mask. They can also gather indoors with unvaccinated people from one other household (for example, visiting with relatives who all live together) without masks, unless any of those people or anyone they live with has an increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19. If they've been around someone who has COVID-19, they do not need to stay away from others or get tested unless they have symptoms.

Those who are fully vaccinated should still take steps to protect themselves and others in many situations, like wearing a mask, staying at least 6 feet apart from others, and avoiding crowds and poorly ventilated spaces.

These precautions should be taken whenever you are: in public, gathering with unvaccinated people from more than one other household or visiting with an unvaccinated person who is at increased risk of severe illness or death from COVID-19 or who lives with a person at increased risk.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

For more information about the vaccine, please visit the [CDC website](#).

Questions about the administration of the COVID-19 vaccine can be directed to your Client Operations Manager, who will be assisting in the development of a distribution plan that is specific to each location.