

TO: Vermont Health Care Providers and Health Care Facilities
FROM: Mark Levine, MD; Commissioner

COVID-19 Vaccination Phase 5: Vermonters with High-Risk Conditions

Phase 5 Eligibility Start Dates

Vermonters with certain high-risk health conditions will be able to make vaccine appointments beginning on these dates:

- March 8, 2021: ages 55 and older with one or more high-risk health conditions (listed below)
- March 11, 2021: ages 16 and older with one or more high-risk health conditions

Appointments

Vermonters can make appointments online at healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine, or if they need help making an appointment, they can call 855-722-7878.

They will be asked:

- If they have one of the eligible high-risk health conditions.
 - Note: People will not need to specify which condition they have.
- To name a health care provider who can confirm that they have one of the high-risk health conditions. **If a person does not have a health care provider, they can still schedule an appointment.**
 - People who do not have a health care provider may be contacted by a care coordinator to get more information and be offered a connection to care.
- Eligible people can find information about making an appointment at:
healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine

Small Sample Confirmation Process Through Providers

Health care providers do not need to confirm a patient's condition before an appointment is scheduled. After a person makes their vaccine appointment, the State will try to confirm their eligibility due to a high-risk health condition by cross-checking it with data from VITL – Vermont's Health Information Exchange. Of people whose condition cannot be confirmed through this data, a random sample will be selected to be confirmed by their health care provider. The State will securely send the names of patients from this random sample to their identified provider (compiled and sent in batches to the provider if asked to confirm more than one patient's condition). Providers will need to confirm that the patient has one of the listed conditions but will not need to indicate which condition.

REQUESTED ACTION:

Please respond within one business day via secure e-mail. This process will not prevent the person from receiving their vaccination unless the confirmation process shows that they **do not** have a listed condition. If a provider is asked to confirm a condition but does not do so within one business day, the person's vaccine appointment will automatically move forward. For reference, high-risk condition diagnostic codes are included below. Julie Parker (Julie.Parker@vermont.gov), Mara Donohue (Mara.Donohue@vermont.gov), Brianna Nalley (Brianna.Nalley@vermont.gov), or Tim Tremblay (Tim.Tremblay@vermont.gov) will communicate to practices via secure e-mail when confirmation is required for a patient.

High-Risk Health Conditions for Eligibility in Phase 5 of Vaccine Distribution

People with one or more of the following high-risk conditions are eligible to get a COVID-19 vaccine during Phase 5 in Vermont. Diagnostic codes are not required to indicate presence of the conditions, however associated ICD-10 codes, as they may be helpful in identifying those with these conditions are listed below.

- **Current cancer**
 - DX C00-C80, C7A, C7B, C81-C96, D00-D09
- **Chronic kidney disease**
 - DX A18.11, A52.75, B52.0, C64.1, C64.2, C64.9, C68.9, D30.00, D30.01, D30.02, D41.00, D41.01, D41.02, D41.10, D41.11, D41.12, D41.20, D41.21, D41.22, D59.3, E08.21, E08.22, E08.29, E08.65, E09.21, E09.22, E09.29, E10.21, E10.22, E10.29, E10.65, E11.21, E11.22, E11.29, E11.65, E13.21, E13.22, E13.29, E74.8, I12.0, I12.9, I13.0, I13.10, I13.11, I13.2, I70.1, I72.2, K76.7, M10.3, M32.14, M32.15, M35.04, N00, N01, N02, N03, N04, N05, N06, N07, N13, N15, N17, N18, N19, N25.0, N25.1, N25.81, N25.89, N25.9, N26.1, N26.9, Q61.02, Q61, Q62
- **COPD, including emphysema and chronic bronchitis**
 - DX J40, J41.0, J41.1, J41.8, J42, J43.0, J43.1, J43.2, J43.8, J43.9, J44.0, J44.1, J44.9, J47.0, J47.1, J47.9
- **Heart disease, including heart attack, heart failure, congestive heart failure, coronary artery disease (angina, acute and chronic ischemic heart disease), cardiomyopathies, and pulmonary hypertension. Does NOT include high blood pressure.**
 - Heart Failure
 - DX I09.81, I11.0, I13.0, I13.2, I50.1, I50.20, I50.21, I50.22, I50.23, I50.30, I50.31, I50.32,
 - I50.33, I50.40, I50.41, I50.42, I50.43, I50.810, I50.811, I50.812, I50.813, I50.814, I50.82,
 - I50.83, I50.84, I50.89, I50.9

- Coronary Artery Disease (Ischemic Heart Disease)
 - DX I20.0, I20.1, I20.8, I20.9, I21.01, I21.02, I21.09, I21.11, I21.19, I21.21, I21.29, I21.3, I21.4, I21.A1, I21.A9, I22.0, I22.1, I22.2, I22.8, I22.9, I23.0, I23.1, I23.2, I23.3, I23.4, I23.5, I23.6, I23.7, I23.8, I24.0, I24.1, I24.8, I24.9, I25
- Cardiomyopathies
 - DX I42
- Pulmonary Hypertension
 - I27.0, I27.2
- **Immunocompromised (weakened immune system) due to one or more of the following causes:**
 - Solid organ transplant, blood, or bone marrow transplant, immune deficiencies, or other causes;
 - HIV with a low CD4 cell count or not on HIV treatment;
 - Prolonged use of corticosteroids or other immune suppressing drugs.
 - DX Z94, B20, D71, D80, D81, D81.8, D82, D83, D84, D89, D89.8, D81.3, D81.31, D81.32
- **Severe obesity (BMI of 40 or above)**
 - DX E66.01, E66.09, E66.1, E66.2, E66.8, E66.9, Z68.30, Z68.31, Z68.32, Z68.33, Z68.34, Z68.35, Z68.36, Z68.37, Z68.38, Z68.39, Z68.41, Z68.42, Z68.43, Z68.44, Z68.45
- **Pregnancy**
 - O09, Z33, Z34, O20-O29, O10-O16, O30-O48, O94
- **Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes**
 - DX E08, E09, E10, E11, E13
- **Has one or more of the following disabilities:**
 - Chromosomal disorders, such as Down syndrome;
 - Intellectual disabilities (IQ of 70 or below);
 - Disabilities that compromise lung function (neurologic and muscular conditions such as muscular dystrophy, spina bifida, and multiple sclerosis).
 - F70-F79, Q00-Q99, E84, G80.0-G80.9, G71.0, G35
- **Sickle cell disease**
 - D57, D56

The list of conditions is also available on the Health Department's website:

healthvermont.gov/COVID19vaccine

If you have any questions, please contact the HAN Coordinator at 802-859-5900 or vthan@vermont.gov.

HAN Message Type Definitions

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.

Info Service Message: Provides general correspondence from VDH, which is not necessarily considered to be of an emergent nature.