

**Please review the enclosed Facts and Questions regarding the COVID-19 Vaccine**

AEDD is offering the 1<sup>st</sup> injection of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine

**February 3<sup>rd</sup>** at the Lacy Landers Skills Training Center

6 Production Dr., Little Rock, AR 72209 at **11:00 a.m.**

The vaccine is being administered by Don's Pharmacy

## **DO NOT BE LATE**

Don's Pharmacy will have multiple staff on-site providing the vaccine, if there are not many getting the vaccine it could be a very short process.

We will not be able to ask them to wait on anyone.

## **YOU MUST HAVE THE FOLLOWING WITH YOU**

- 1. Your Driver's License or State ID**
- 2. Copy of your Health Insurance (come early if you need to make a copy)**
- 3. Provider COVID-19 Immunization Consent Form (enclosed)**

## **YOU WILL NOT BE PROVIDED THE VACCINE**

**IF YOU DO NOT HAVE THE 3 ITEMS ABOVE OR IF YOU ARE LATE.**

**Arkansas Enterprises for the Developmentally Disabled, Inc.**  
**COVID-19 Vaccine FAQs**

**1. Will AEDD require the COVID-19 Vaccine?**

- a. No. Although AEDD does not require consumers or staff to be vaccinated, we strongly encourage everyone to do so.

**2. Which COVID-19 Vaccine will AEDD consumers and staff receive?**

- a. There are currently 2 vaccines approved for [Emergency Use Authorization](#) (EUA) by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA): Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna.
- b. AEDD staff and consumers will receive the Moderna vaccine.

**3. Are there differences between the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 Vaccines?**

- a. Yes. However, both vaccines report a >94% efficacy, and similar side effects after vaccination. Differences include: length of time between first and second dose, amount of volume, ages approved for, storage and handling instructions, etc. ([Centers for Disease Control - CDC](#))

**4. Will AEDD staff administer the COVID-19 Vaccine?**

- a. No. AEDD has chosen to partner with Don's Pharmacy, they will store, educate and administer the Vaccine to our consumers and staff that choose to receive it. The vaccine will be administered at the Lacy Landers location at 6 Production Dr., Little Rock, AR 72209 on Wednesday February 3, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. Several staff of Don's pharmacy will be providing the vaccines and AEDD staff will be onsite to assist, as necessary.

**5. How will the COVID-19 Vaccine be administered?**

- a. The Vaccine will be administered to the outside of your upper arm, into your muscle. It is a "series" of shots; you will need 2 injections, 28 days apart for the Moderna vaccine. The second injection will be scheduled, at a minimum, 28 days following the February 3 injection. You will receive additional information regarding the scheduling of the 2<sup>nd</sup> injection.

**6. Why do I need to get 2 shots of the COVID-19 Vaccine?**

- a. The first shot helps your immune system recognize the virus, and the second shot strengthens the immune response. ***You need both to get the best protection.***
- b. Early data suggest high vaccine efficacy in preventing COVID-19 following *two doses* of mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (greater than 90%). Limited data are currently available regarding the efficacy of a single dose.

**7. What should I bring or know about my COVID-19 Vaccination appointment?**

- a. You will need to bring your Driver's license or State ID, Health Insurance information and the enclosed Provider COVID-19 Immunization Consent Form to your appointment (see below, #23 for additional information regarding cost to your health insurance).
- b. Each person getting the COVID-19 vaccine will receive follow up information regarding the date of the 2<sup>nd</sup> vaccine.
- c. After vaccination, you will be observed in the waiting area for at least 15 minutes (may vary) as a safety measure, please plan accordingly. *Anyone with a history of anaphylaxis reaction due to any cause should let the Pharmacy Provider know* (30 minute observation is recommended by the CDC).

**8. Should I take medication “pre-med” before my COVID-19 Vaccine appointment?**

- a. Taking medication to prevent post-vaccination symptoms before administration (prophylactically) is not currently recommended by the CDC, as information on the impact of such use on mRNA COVID-19 vaccine-induced antibody responses is not available at this time.
- b. Pain and fever medications (e.g., Tylenol, ibuprofen, etc.) may be taken for the treatment of post-vaccination local or systemic symptoms after administration, if medically appropriate.

**9. How long is the Covid-19 vaccine supposed to remain effective in your body after you get it?**

- a. We do not currently know. More research is needed to determine this, and it also depends on whether and how much the virus changes over the coming months to years. COVID-19 vaccines may be like the annual flu vaccine, where we may need to have vaccine shots for COVID-19 on a regular basis.

**10. Why does everyone say “talk to your doctor” if I have any questions?**

- a. Because every person is different, with a different medical history; government health organizations make recommendations for the general public, for a generally “healthy” person, with no serious health risks/conditions.
- b. You may wish to speak to your physician if you have a complex medical history (allergies, immunocompromised condition, pregnant, breastfeeding, etc.) or have any other questions about how YOUR medical status may impact your ability to receive the vaccine.

**11. What are some of the possible side effects of the COVID-19 vaccine?**

- a. There may be side effects, but they should go away within a few days. Possible side effects include a sore arm, headache, fever, or body aches. *This does not mean you have COVID-19.* Side effects are signs that the vaccine is working to build immunity. When you receive the second dose of the vaccine, the discomfort can be more pronounced. *This is a normal reaction, so be prepared.*
- b. If you experience discomfort after the first dose of the vaccine, it is very important that you still receive the second dose a few weeks later for the vaccine to be effective.

**12. Will the vaccine make me sick?**

- a. No. *This does not mean that the vaccine has given you COVID-19.* Rather, this means that the vaccine is causing your body’s immune system to react and create antibodies to fight off the virus. In other words, if you feel some discomfort, then the vaccine is doing its job!
- b. In some cases, a person may already be infected with COVID-19 when they get the vaccine but are asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic. If they later have symptoms of COVID-19 or test positive for it, it does not mean they got COVID-19 from the vaccine.

**13. What if I have to take off work due to the side effects from receiving the COVID-19 vaccine?**

- a. AEDD’ COVID-19 Vaccine Team is working with City Pharmacy to ‘stagger’ clinics for the second injection.
- b. The CDC released guidelines for Returning to Work after COVID-19 Vaccination, that AEDD will follow. *It is important to call your direct supervisor and/or human resources to report any symptoms,* even if you think they could be from the vaccine. If you cannot work at AEDD due to side effects of the vaccine, your accrued sick time will be used, as applicable.

**14. Will the COVID-19 vaccine have long-term effects?**

- a. Because all COVID-19 vaccines are new, it will take more time and more people getting vaccinated to learn about very rare or possible long-term side effects. The good news is, at least 8 weeks' worth of safety data were gathered in the clinical trials for all the authorized vaccines, and it's unusual for vaccine side effects to appear more than 8 weeks after vaccination.

**15. Is it safe to get a COVID-19 Vaccine if I have an underlying medical condition?**

- a. Yes. COVID-19 vaccination is especially important for people with underlying health problems like heart disease, lung disease, diabetes, and obesity. People with these conditions are more likely to get very sick from COVID-19 disease itself, and need protection provided by the vaccine.
- b. If you have questions regarding your specific diagnosis, contact your doctor and ask if they recommend the COVID-19 vaccine for you.

**16. Are there any interactions with medications?**

- a. There were no interactions reported between medications and vaccine administration. If you have questions about your medication regimen and taking the vaccine, please contact your Primary Care Provider for a recommendation individual to you.

**17. There have been 'viral' reports of COVID-19 Vaccination causing Bell's Palsy, should I be concerned?**

- a. Cases of Bell's palsy were reported following vaccination in participants in both the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines clinical trials. However, the FDA does not consider these to be above the frequency expected in the general population. Currently, there is not enough data available to determine the vaccine caused Bell's Palsy. FDA recommends surveillance. "Bell's Palsy is a form of *temporary* facial paralysis or weakness on one side of the face that affects about 40,000 people in the United States every year. The cause is unknown. Risk factors for Bell's palsy include pregnancy, preeclampsia, obesity, hypertension, diabetes, and upper respiratory ailments." (*National Institute of Neurological Disorders*).

**18. I'm allergic to Latex and have allergies, will I be safe to take it?**

- a. If you have questions regarding your specific allergy, contact your Allergist (Allergy Doctor) and ask if they recommend the COVID-19 vaccine for you. *Anyone with a history of anaphylaxis reaction due to any cause should let the Pharmacy Provider know.* If you are prescribed an EpiPen, you should always keep it with you.
- b. *CDC: "The vial stoppers of these mRNA vaccines are not made with natural rubber latex, and there is no contraindication or precaution to vaccination for persons with a latex allergy. In addition, as the mRNA COVID-19 vaccines do not contain eggs or gelatin, persons with allergies to these substances do not have a contraindication or precaution to vaccination."*
- c. *American College of Allergy and Immunology: "Allergic reactions to vaccines, in general, are rare with the incidence of anaphylaxis estimated at 1.31 in 1 million doses given... Individuals with common allergies to medications, foods, inhalants, insects, and latex are no more likely than the general public to have an allergic reaction."* [Guidance on Risk of Allergic Reactions to mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines found at <https://acaai.org/news/acaai-provides-further-guidance-risk-allergic-reactions-mrna-covid-19-vaccines>]

**19. Will receiving the COVID-19 Vaccine affect my fertility/ability to bear children?**

- a. Anyone pregnant or lactating that has questions about the COVID-19 Vaccine is encouraged to speak with their personal doctor for individual recommendations.
- b. The *American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists* recommends that COVID-19 vaccines should not be withheld from pregnant individuals who meet criteria for vaccination based on recommended priority groups. "The mRNA vaccines are not live virus vaccines, nor do they use an adjuvant to enhance vaccine efficacy. *These vaccines do*

*not enter the nucleus and do not alter human DNA in vaccine recipients. As a result, mRNA vaccines cannot cause any genetic changes.” [ACOG’s Practice Advisory.]*

**20. What were the ages included in Pfizer and Moderna’s Vaccine Trials?**

- a. Pfizer-BioNTech: 21.4% 65 years and older. Moderna: 25.3% 65 years and older

**21. After I have had the second dose of the vaccine and it is 2 weeks after my second shot, do I still have to wear a mask?**

- a. **YES.** Even though you have received your vaccine, most of the people around you have not. We know the vaccine prevents disease in the vaccinated person, but it still may be possible to transmit the disease to others, until the vaccine is in widespread use. Given the currently limited information on how much the mRNA COVID-19 vaccines may reduce transmission in the general population and how long protection lasts, vaccinated persons should continue to follow all current guidance to protect themselves and others.
- b. Wearing a mask, social distancing, and practicing hand hygiene protects those who have not been vaccinated, especially our consumers and other co-workers.

**22. What if I had COVID-19, or I took a test that showed I have antibodies? Should I get the vaccine?**

- a. Yes, even if you have had COVID-19, it is safe to get the vaccine. This can add additional protection without causing any harm. If you have had a test that shows you have COVID-19 antibodies, you should still get the vaccine. It is safe and can increase your protection from future COVID-19 infections.

**23. Who is paying for COVID-19 Vaccines?**

- a. If you choose to be vaccinated, it will be provided to you with no out-of-pocket cost. The U.S. government is providing the vaccine to all states at no cost, including Arkansas. So, the cost of the vaccine will not be billed. However, the vaccine provider will bill your insurance for the vaccine administration fee to cover their cost for giving the vaccine to you. If you have no health insurance, you will not be billed for the administration fee.

**24. Where can I research information about the COVID-19 Vaccine?**

- a. It is important to get your information from reliable sources, such as the CDC ([www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)), the Immunization Action Coalition (<https://www.immunize.org>), your facility’s medical director, and other providers so you can get accurate information. Social media is full of misinformation and opinions based on that misinformation, so be careful to look to reputable sources (such as those affiliated with academic institutions or non-profit professional organizations like AMDA) for information.
- b. Websites that end in .gov are government websites, ([CDC.gov](http://CDC.gov), [fda.gov](http://fda.gov), [healthy.arkansas.gov](http://healthy.arkansas.gov)) websites that end in .org are usually affiliated with non-profit and/or professional organizations ([acaai.org](http://acaai.org), websites that end in .edu are academic institutions)

**25. Who will be able to get the vaccine?**

- a. Phase 1-A is happening now, which means vaccine is available for health care workers, residents and staff of long-term care facilities and these high priority groups: EMS, fire and law enforcement who serve as first responders, primary care, urgent care, college/university student health center, K-12 health clinics and school nurses, dental clinics, pharmacies, home health, private care/personal care, hospice care, dialysis centers, corrections officers and blood donation centers You can visit the Arkansas Department of Health’s COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard for additional information.

**26. What are the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) requirements for the safety and efficacy of a COVID-19 vaccine?**

- a. FDA requires 50% efficacy of a COVID-19 vaccine, both Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna have reported efficacy rates greater than 90%. Many other companies are working on a vaccine and we expect that others will be approved by the FDA. FDA requires 8 weeks of safety data on the COVID-19 vaccine.

**27. When will we be protected after we get the vaccine?**

- a. Even when people receive the vaccine they will not be immediately protected and *will need to continue wearing masks, social distancing and practicing frequent hand hygiene*. These vaccines will require 2 shots, with a few weeks between each shot, and best protection will usually occur about 2 weeks after the second shot. While no vaccine is 100% effective, some of the vaccines proposed are anticipated to be more than 90% effective. This will greatly reduce your risk of getting sick with COVID-19 and spreading COVID-19 to your loved ones.

**28. Can staff who have been exposed and are in quarantine with no positive test get the vaccine?**

- a. Yes, *after* they have been released from quarantine. Individuals who have had a known COVID-19 exposure should not seek vaccination until their quarantine period has ended to avoid potentially exposing healthcare personnel and other persons to SARS-CoV-2 during the vaccination visit. Team members in quarantine may contact a community COVID Vaccine Pharmacy (<https://www.arrx.org/covid-vaccine-pharmacies>) and ask if they can make an appointment to receive the COVID-19 Vaccine onsite. Onsite administration of Vaccines are at the Provider's discretion.

## PROVIDER COVID-19 IMMUNIZATION CONSENT FORM

<b>For COVID-19 Provider use only</b> Clinic Name/Code: _____			
Location type:(clinic, health department, pharmacy, etc.,) _____			
Address: _____		City: _____ County: _____	
State: _____		Zip Code: _____ Date of Service: _____	

**Person Receiving Vaccine:**

**(Legal) First Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **MI:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Last Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Birth:**

**1. MEDICAL HISTORY: Complete the following questions for the individual receiving the vaccine. If you answer “YES” you may not be able to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.**

<i>*If YES and further guidance is needed, Refer to Pfizer website at <a href="http://www.PfizerMedInfo.com">www.PfizerMedInfo.com</a> or call 1-800-438-1985 for vaccine information on vaccine temperature excursions, efficacy, safety, stability, dosage, vaccine ingredients, mechanism of action and administration</i> <i>For overview for Vaccination Providers about Moderna COVID-19 vaccine refer to <a href="http://www.modernatx.com">www.modernatx.com</a> or call 1-866-MODERNA.</i>	<b>*YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
Have you had a previous COVID-19 vaccine? If yes, date?		
Have you had any vaccines within the previous 14 days? Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine should be administered alone with minimal interval of 14 days before or after any other vaccine.		
Do you have a fever today? Are you sick today? Do you have COVID-19 infection and are currently in isolation? Are you currently in quarantine for known exposure to COVID-19?		
Have you ever had severe allergic reaction (anaphylactic reaction) to any vaccine, vaccine component or injectable therapy? (including Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine) Such as difficulty breathing, swelling of your face and throat, fast heartbeat, bad rash all over your body, dizziness and weakness.		
Are you pregnant, breastfeeding or planning to become pregnant? Women in this group may receive Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, a discussion with your healthcare provider can help make informed decision.		
Are you immunocompromised or have HIV, cancer, chronic kidney, lung, heart disease, sickle cell, severe obesity, do you smoke or have diabetes mellitus? Are you receiving any immunosuppressive therapy? These individuals may still receive Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine unless otherwise contraindicated.		
Have you received monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma as part of COVID-19 treatment? Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine should be deferred for at least 90 days to avoid interference of treatment with vaccine-induced immune responses.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>NOTE:</b> Depending on vaccine type, a second dose of COVID-19 vaccine <b>may</b> be due in 21 days or 28 days after initial vaccine. Refer to your COVID-19 vaccination record card for second dose due date. Contact your PCP or your ADH Local Health Unit in 21 days or 28 days for more information. Keep your COVID-19 vaccination record card for your records for proof of initial vaccine date.</li> </ul>		

**2. RELEASE AND ASSIGNMENT.**

Please read the section on the reverse side of this form.  
The Providers Privacy Notice is available at the clinic site or accompanies this form.  
Then sign in the box at right.

**Please sign here**

My signature below indicates I have read, understand and agree to section **2. Release and Assignment** of the COVID-19 Immunization Consent Form and Vaccine Recipient Emergency Use of Authorization Fact Sheet (EUA).

**Signature of Patient/Parent/Guardian:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

