



Public Health Division

County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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Press Release

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COVID-19 VACCINE PLAN SUBMITTED

The Santa Cruz County Public Health Division is pleased to announce the submission of a COVID-19 Vaccine Plan to the California Department of Public Health.

The document details logistical plans to manage and distribute COVID-19 vaccines locally, in coordination with the local health care delivery system. Vaccine priorities will follow recommendations of The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, the federal Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, and California Department of Public Health (CDPH). The County's goal is to provide safe and effective COVID-19 immunizations to as many residents as want one. Vaccinations will help reduce COVID-19-related illnesses, hospitalizations, and deaths and to help restore societal functioning.

A limited initial delivery of COVID-19 vaccine may occur as early as next week, with distribution reserved for local hospitals. The Public Health Division cautions the public that widespread distribution may not occur for several months, and urges everyone to continue wearing face coverings and practicing social distancing.

Distribution to the general public will occur in coordination with the local health care delivery system through primary care providers, clinics, pharmacies and the County. Potential mass vaccination strategies include community drive-through points-of-distribution (PODs) and other pop-up facilities. No locations have been finalized at this time.

Using a phased and tiered approach, initial distribution will be offered to high-risk health care workers and first responders, following CDPH allocation guidance ranked order prioritization if supplies are limited. CDPH allocation guidance can be found at this link:

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/CDPH-Allocation-Guidelines-for-COVID-19-Vaccine-During-Phase-1A-Recommendations.aspx>



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Santa Cruz County