Vaccine Distribution Prioritization: Drilldown Framework

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Risk-based prioritization based on National Academy of Medicine Framework for Equitable Allocation of COVID-19 and CDC Advisory Committee Immunization Practice. Refined with input from the North Carolina Institute of Medicine Vaccine Advisory Committee. May be revised based on Phase III clinical trial safety and efficacy data and further federal guidance.

1a — Health care workers fighting COVID-19 & Long-Term Care

Health care workers at high risk for COVID-19 exposure based on work duties or vital to the initial COVID-19 vaccine response

- High risk of exposure is defined as those caring for COVID-19 patients, cleaning areas where COVID-19 patients are admitted, performing procedures at high risk of aerosolization (e.g., intubation, bronchoscopy, suctioning, invasive dental procedures, invasive specimen collection, CPR), handling decedents with COVID-19 and administering vaccine in initial closed or targeted vaccination clinics
- Population includes: nurses, physicians, respiratory techs, dentists, hygienists, nursing assistants, environmental services staff, EMT/ paramedics, home health workers, personal care aides, community health workers, health care trainees (e.g., medical students, pharmacy students, nursing students), morticians/funeral home staff, pharmacists, public health nurses and public health and emergency preparedness workers who meet the above definition of "high risk of exposure"

Long-Term Care staff and residents (e.g., Skilled Nursing Facilities, adult care homes, family care homes and group homes, individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities who receive home and community-based services and the workers directly providing those services)

1b — Adults at highest risk of severe illness and those at highest risk for exposure

Adults with high risk of complications per CDC and staff of congregate living settings

Migrant farm and fisheries workers in congregate living settings with 2+ chronic conditions* or age 65+

Incarcerated individuals with 2+ chronic conditions* or age 65+ and jail and prison staff

Homeless shelter residents with 2+ chronic conditions* or age 65+ and homeless shelter staff

Health care workers not included in Phase 1a with 2+ chronic conditions*

Frontline workers with 2+ chronic conditions* at high risk of exposure (e.g., firefighters, police, workers in meat packing plants, seafood and poultry not in congregate housing, food processing, preparation workers and servers, manufacturing, construction, funeral attendants and undertakers not included in Phase 1a, transportation workers, retail workers (including grocery store workers), membership associations/organizations staff (e.g., religious organizations), education staff (e.g., child care, K-12 and colleges) and workers in government, public health, emergency management and public safety whose functioning is imperative to the COVID-19 response)

Adults age 18+ with 2+ chronic conditions*

2 — Adults at high risk for exposure and at increased risk of severe illness

Migrant farm and fisheries workers in congregate living settings without 2+ chronic conditions*

Incarcerated individuals without 2+ chronic conditions*

Homeless shelter residents without 2+ chronic conditions*

Frontline workers at high or moderate risk of exposure without 2+ chronic conditions*

All other health care workers not included in Phase 1a or 1b

Education staff (child care, K-12, colleges) without 2+ chronic conditions*

Other adults age 18-64 with one chronic condition*

All adults age 65+ not included in Phase 1a or 1b

3 — Students and critical industry workers

Workers in industries critical to the functioning of society and at increased risk of exposure who are not included in Phase 1 or Phase 2

K-12 students (supported by data from clinical trials) and college students

4 — Everyone who wants a safe and effective COVID-19 vaccination

Remaining population

** Defined by CDC as increased risk for COVID-19: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html*