



## DEEPER DIVE

### Group 2 – Older Adults

#### COVID-19 Vaccinations: Your best shot at stopping COVID-19

A tested, safe and effective vaccine will be available to all who want it, but supplies will be limited at first. To save lives and slow the spread of COVID-19, independent state and federal public health advisory committees recommend first protecting health care workers caring for patients with COVID-19, people who are at the highest risk of being hospitalized or dying and those at high risk of exposure to COVID-19. Keep practicing the 3 Ws—wear a mask, wait six feet apart, wash your hands—until everyone has a chance to get vaccinated.

Our goal is to vaccinate as many people as possible given the limited supply of vaccines. North Carolina moves through vaccination groups by aligning to federal priorities while empowering local health departments and hospitals with flexibility to move to the next priority group as they complete groups and have vaccine available.

#### 2 Older Adults

ACTIVE GROUP

**Group 2: The goal is to save lives by protecting North Carolinians who are at high risk of being hospitalized or dying from COVID-19.**

Adults 65 and older are eligible to be vaccinated in Group 2. There is no requirement to have certain qualifying chronic conditions.

We strongly recommend that vaccine providers prioritize people 75 years or older if local demand for vaccination is greater than vaccine supply. It is the responsibility of all vaccine providers to ensure equitable access to vaccines. This will mean taking intentional actions to reach and engage historically marginalized communities.

#### How do people who are 65 and older get their vaccine?

Because vaccine supplies are still limited, those 65 and over may have to wait, but they have one of the first spots to take their shot. If you are 65 and over—or assisting someone who is—here is how to take your shot against COVID-19:

- **Supplies are very limited.** Right now, very few vaccine doses are available.
- **You will likely need an appointment to get vaccinated.** You may have to wait to schedule your appointment to get your vaccine.
- **Your local health department or hospital can help you get your shot.** Because supplies are very limited right now, most doctors cannot provide vaccinations in their offices.
- **Find your local health department or hospital.** Visit <https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/findingyourspot>. Because vaccine supplies are very limited, providers on this list may have very little to no vaccine doses available when you contact them.
- **You can also call the COVID-19 Line 1-877-490-6642.** It's a free call.

The COVID-19 vaccine will be available to everyone for free, whether or not you have health insurance. You will need two shots to build up your immunity. You will get a printed card and email to remind you to come back 3 to 4 weeks later for your second dose. Your personal information is private and strictly confidential.