



December 18, 2020

COVID-19 Update: Vaccines

Dear Bayview Community,

We have all sacrificed so much this past year, fighting COVID-19 bravely and tirelessly. While we continue our herculean efforts, we are now getting ready for the next steps. Vaccination is a vital initiative and another step in our journey.

The question on everyone's mind is who is eligible for a vaccine in the federal response for [Phase 1A](#) of vaccine administration. We are grateful that the initial phase has prioritized residents in long-term care facilities and health care personnel. However, we discovered that while residents in skilled nursing, assisted living, and memory care will receive the vaccine, residents in independent living will not be eligible until a later phase. Here at Bayview, we are strong advocates for all our residents to be vaccinated in the initial phase and we find it disturbing that half our community will remain unvaccinated, assuming those that are eligible opt to be vaccinated. Bayview, LeadingAge Washington, and LeadingAge National have addressed this gap but to no avail. Rest assured, the group encompassing all adults 65+ will make its way into the phased sequence for vaccinations. We will continue to update you as we receive more information.

Here's a snapshot on what we know, and don't know about vaccinations:

What we know:

1. Bayview has contracted with CVS who is the fifth (5th) largest pharmacy in the United States to conduct our vaccination process.
2. The vaccine we will be given is the Pfizer vaccine.
3. CVS has reached out to us to determine the number of vaccinations we will need for the people that fall within "Phase 1A" of the national vaccination distribution plan.
4. People that fall within "Phase 1A" are:
 - a. All Bayview employees.
 - b. Residents of the Skilled Nursing Unit.
 - c. Residents of the Assisted Living Unit.
 - d. Residents of the Memory Care unit.
5. Vaccinations are NOT mandatory. However, it is strongly encouraged you receive your vaccination. Our goal is to filter accurate and reliable information to you at all times. Attached is a helpful fact sheet to help better identify accurate information regarding the COVID-19 vaccine.
6. Written consent will not be necessary for residents to fill out; however, the facility will be required to document "informed consent" in the resident's medical record about the risks and benefits of receiving the vaccine.
7. Employees will complete a consent form indicating if the employee wants to be inoculated or not.
8. Vaccinations will be given at the facility. A more detailed plan of how the clinic will function will be disseminated at a later date.
9. The vaccine is a two (2) step process. An initial vaccine will be given, then a "booster" vaccine will be given 21-days later.





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A POINT OF VIEW

10. Because the vaccine is a two (2) step process, CVS will hold three (3) clinic dates at Bayview to conduct the vaccination process. Each clinic date will be 21 days apart.
11. Employees and residents will be vaccinated in phases.
 - a. One-half of the employees and residents will be designated as “Group 1” and will be vaccinated on the first clinic day.
 - b. The second half of the employees and residents will be designated as “Group 2” and will receive their first vaccination on the second clinic day.
 - c. Group 1 people will receive their second vaccination on the second clinic day.
 - d. Group 2 people will receive their second vaccination on the third clinic day.
12. Side effects to the vaccine are mild. Any side effects experienced within three (3) days after inoculation means your body is reacting to the vaccine in a positive way to begin the process of building your immunity.
 - a. According to the FDA, most common reactions include infection site reactions (84.1%), fatigue (62.9%), headache (55.1%), muscle pain (38.3%), chills (31.9%), joint pain (23.6%), fever (14.2%).
13. The Pfizer vaccine does not contain a “Live” virus. You will not be able to get COVID-19 from the vaccine.
14. All current COVID-19 restrictions will still remain in place after vaccination. The positivity rate must decline before a de-escalation of restrictions can occur.
15. Vaccinated people can still spread COVID-19. Vaccinated people could carry the actual virus and spread it after vaccination. The vaccinated body or person will not react to the actual virus but may still expose others who have not been vaccinated.

What we do not know:

1. We still have not received notification of Bayview’s exact vaccination dates.
2. We do not know when Independent Living residents will be scheduled for vaccination.
3. We do not know the long-term side effects of the vaccine.
4. It is not known what effects the vaccine may present to pregnant or nursing mothers. It is recommended to consult the person’s Primary Care Physician prior to receiving the COVID-19 vaccination.

We are starting to see a light at the end of the pandemic tunnel. We will continue to update you as we receive more information. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

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