**COVID-19 Vaccine**

**General Information**

**COVID-19 Vaccination**

**Overview and General Information**

The spread of COVID-19 from the community and within the nursing facility has been challenging. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicate, “Making sure LTCF residents can receive COVID-19 vaccination as soon as vaccines are available will help save the lives of those who are most at risk of dying from COVID-19.”1

“Residents of long-term care facilities (LTCFs) are at increased risk of infection and severe illness from COVID-19. LTCF residents are adults who reside in facilities that provide a range of services, including medical and personal care, to people who can’t live independently. The communal nature of these facilities, which often have a population of older adults with underlying medical conditions, puts residents at increased risk. **All LTCF residents are recommended to get vaccinated against COVID-19.”2**

There are currently three COVID-19 Vaccines with FDA Emergency Use Authorization and have been issued interim recommendations by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices for the prevention of COVID-19 in the United States:

* Pfizer-BioNTech for individuals ≥12 years, two doses three weeks apart
* Moderna for individuals ≥18 years, two doses 1 month apart
* Janssen for individuals 18 years of age and older administered as a single dose

**F887**: COVID-19 Immunization guidance indicates, “In order to protect LTC residents from COVID-19, each facility must develop and implement policies and procedures that meet each resident’s, resident representative’s, and staff member’s information needs and provides vaccines to all residents and staff that elect them.”3

**Competencies which may be associated with COVID-19 Vaccine include but are not limited to:**

* Understanding of the various COVID-19 Vaccines with FDA Emergency Use Authorization
* Resident/Resident Representative and Employee Education
* Resident Assessment
* Proper use of Personal Protective Equipment
* Knowledge of Proper Hand Hygiene Practices
* Monitoring Following Vaccine Administration
* Observation and Management of Anaphylaxis
* Cleaning and Disinfection
* Reporting
  + Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS)
* Documentation

**References and Resources:**

1Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 Vaccination in Long-Term Care Facilities. January 5, 2021: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/toolkits/long-term-care/faqs.html>

2Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. What Long-Term Care Facility Residents Need to Know About COVID-19 Vaccination. Updated Apr. 30, 2021: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/LTCF-residents.html>

3Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. QSO-21-19-NH. Interim Final Rule – COVID-19 Vaccine Immunization Requirements for Residents and Staff. May 11, 2011: <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-21-19-nh.pdf>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Authorized in the United States. Updated May 14, 2021: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/clinical-considerations.html>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Different COVID-19 Vaccines. Updated May 13, 2021: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines.html>

United States Health and Human Services. Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS): <https://vaers.hhs.gov/>

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