

Stay Vigilant!

The most important message we want to deliver this week is to act NOW and ensure your vaccine continuity plan is in place. We must all stay vigilant to slow surge of COVID-19 and do not want to slow down the pace of vaccinating. The “pause” on Johnson and Johnson (J & J) vaccine has not impacted our maintenance VaccPack program. Our Pfizer supply is strong and reliable.

Get protection after the 1st dose

Another reason to not delay vaccination is the significant value in early protection that is seen after the first dose of mRNA vaccines. There is merit to getting new admits vaccinated as soon as possible because there are indicators that the efficacy of Pfizer has early benefit with the first dose. A recent CDC published study confirmed that Pfizer partial immunization (≥ 14 days after first dose) provided preventive benefits with vaccine effectiveness of 80%.

Another analysis of safety and efficacy of the mRNA vaccines demonstrated a highly protective first dose at 7 days with efficacy at 68.5%. Beginning 14 days after the first dose, the efficacy increased to 92.6%. Although, research is ongoing, the likelihood of very early protection is strong enough to recommend moving aggressively to vaccinate quickly upon admission. The CDC still strongly recommends getting the full 2-dose immunization for maximum efficacy.

Unvaccinated residents had TRIPLE the risk of infection

Vaccinated residents and staff members in a Kentucky facility had a distinct advantage during a recent COVID-19 outbreak. The findings showed unvaccinated residents and staff had 3 and 4 times the risk of infection during the outbreak than vaccinated residents and staff members, respectively.

The facility had 90% resident and 50% staff vaccination rates at clinics using Pfizer. COVID-19 cases subsequently were identified in 26 residents (18 fully vaccinated) and 20 staff members (four vaccinated). COVID-19 vaccines were not 100% effective, but those that received the shots were much less likely to become ill or be hospitalized than the unvaccinated people who lived and worked on site.

In addition, vaccine was 87% protective against symptomatic illness among residents and staff and 94% effective against hospitalization among residents.

Vaccinations prevented secondary transmission

A larger study in 78 Chicago nursing homes, found that most fully vaccinated residents and staff were not infected by outbreaks following the vaccine rollout. Most that contracted COVID-19 did not have symptoms or severe illness. Post-vaccination infections did not lead to secondary transmission at these facilities.

Vaccination is essential to decreasing facility case counts

These new studies demonstrate that vaccination, and continued focus on infection prevention and control practices, are essential in keeping residents and staff safe and decreasing case counts in facilities.

Full findings from the [Kentucky study](#) and the [Chicago study](#) were published on the CDC's website.

<https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMc2036242>

Consonus Product by pharmacy location:

	California	Nevada	Oregon	Washington
Pfizer	•		•	•
Moderna		•	•	