

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH


Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH
Acting Commissioner



Ned Lamont
Governor
Susan Bysiewicz
Lt. Governor

BLAST FAX 2021-4

TO: Nursing Homes, Assisted Living Agencies and Residential Care Homes

FROM: Acting Commissioner Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH 

CC: Deputy Commissioner Heather Aaron, MPH, LNHA
Adelita Orefice, MPM, JD, CHC, Chief of Staff
Barbara Cass, RN., Branch Chief, Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch
Donna Ortelle, Section Chief, Facility Licensing and Investigations Section
Vivian Leung, MD, Healthcare Associated Infections & Antimicrobial Resistance Program
Kathy Kudish, DVM, MSPH, Immunization Program Manager and Deputy State Public Health Veterinarian

DATE: February 16, 2021

SUBJECT: Transition from Pharmacy Partnership to the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program

The attached document is for your attention.



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Hartford, Connecticut 06134-0308
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COVID-19 Vaccination in Connecticut Long-Term Care Facilities: Transition from Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program to the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program Interim Guidance – February 11, 2021

The [Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care \(LTC\) Program](#) has administered on-site vaccinations to the staff and residents of over 75,000 long-term care facilities across the United States at no cost to the facilities. This program has provided each LTC facility in Connecticut with three vaccine clinics for staff and residents to receive two doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine. The pharmacies cannot offer additional vaccination clinics after the third vaccination clinic. **If eligible and willing, residents and staff should receive their first dose of vaccine for COVID-19 at their facility's third and final vaccine clinic.**

- **Staff members who receive their first dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine at their facility's third clinic can receive their second dose at a community vaccination site. Please visit ct.gov/covidvaccine for more information.**
- **Residents who would like to receive their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine during their facility's third clinic should be able to do so. DPH will work with long-term facilities to help their residents receive second doses of Pfizer-BioNTech.**

The [Federal Retail Pharmacy Program for COVID-19 Vaccination](#) is currently launching and will be administering the Moderna vaccine to eligible individuals. This is a collaboration between the federal government, state and territories, and 21 national pharmacy partners and independent pharmacy networks. Long-term care pharmacies are participating in the program; more information about their participation is anticipated in the coming weeks.

For more information, please visit the vaccination program websites below.

1. CDC. Understanding the Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program:
<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/long-term-care/pharmacy-partnerships.html>
2. CDC. Understanding the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program for COVID-19 Vaccination:
<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/retail-pharmacy-program/index.html>



Phone: (860) 509-7929 • Fax: (860) 705-5429
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