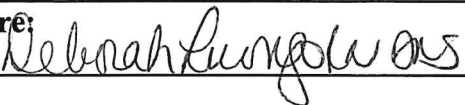


<b>Subject:</b> Covid 19 Vaccination of Residents	
<b>Authorized By:</b> Deborah Luongo, RN DNS	<b>Effective Date:</b> 12/23/2020
<b>Signature:</b> 	<b>Reviewed/Revised:</b> 9/3/2021, 10,21/21,1/7/22,1/26/22

**POLICY**

To prevent the spread of infectious disease and to decrease the morbidity and mortality associated with the SARS-CoV-2 virus, commonly known as COVID-19, this facility through the Federal Pharmacy Partnership approved by NYS will offer the Pfizer vaccine to all residents. Any new vaccine information will be dispersed as they become available.

**PROCEDURE**

1. Union Plaza Care Center has designated a Registered Nurse (RN) as the Vaccine Coordinator with support staff as needed.
2. The RN Vaccine Coordinator will be the liaison for Pharmacy partner that will be the Vaccine administrator.
3. All residents and resident representatives will be provided with education by the MD or RN COVID-19 vaccination utilizing the approved Food and Drug Administration EAU Fact Sheet for Health Care Professionals (HCP).
4. All residents and representatives will be provided with the EAU Fact Sheet for Vaccine Recipients.
5. The facility will obtain a signed consent form for the administration of the COVID-19 vaccine from the resident or the resident’s designated health care representative(s).
  - Telephone consent is acceptable licensed personnel signing as witness on consent form
6. The resident’s Primary Care Physician (PCP) will provide an order for COVID-19 vaccination following review of allergies, medications, and plan of care to determine if there are any contraindications.
7. For residents who are incapable of consenting for the COVID-19 vaccine and have no health care representative, two physicians may consent for and order the COVID-19 vaccine after reviewing the resident’s medical chart.
8. The facility will track consents, declinations, and vaccinations for all residents.
9. Residents who declined Covid 19 vaccine will be provided with education that they can request a Covid-19 vaccine at any time should they change their mind.
10. All new admissions and re-admissions will be evaluated by the nurse and/or physician for previous immunization and will be offered the vaccine as appropriate.
  - As of 4/15/2021 (NYSDOH), the facility will provide, or make arrangements, for all consenting new and re-admissions to receive a first dose Covid – 19 vaccine within 14 days of admission. Arrangements will be made for any subsequent doses as available
11. For any discharges, the resident will receive immunization card, if only 1 dose received in a 2 - dose series, a date will be provided to receive the 2<sup>nd</sup> dose either at facility or in the community should they choose.

12. The vaccine will not be offered or administered to residents with contraindications:
  - History of severe allergic reaction after a previous dose of the vaccine
  - History of severe allergic reaction to any ingredient of the vaccine
  - Residents with acute Covid-19 infection and still under isolation (can be vaccinated after resolution of infection)
13. Administration of the vaccine will be deferred in residents with acute respiratory disease, active infection, or acute febrile illness until resident has recovered.
14. As per CDC guidance the vaccine may be given to residents with the following conditions. The PCP will discuss any concerns with individual residents/representatives as needed.
  - History of non-medication allergies (food, dust, pets)
  - Persons with HIV infections, other immunocompromising conditions or who take immunosuppressive medication or other therapies.
15. The Covid –19 Vaccine may be given without regarding to timing of other vaccines (CDC, 5/14/2021) as offered by a physician.
  - If multiple vaccines are administered at the same time, each injection will be administered to a different injection site.
16. The Pfizer (21 days apart) and Moderna (28 days) vaccines are a two-dose series; both doses must be administered to be fully vaccinated. If Janssen vaccine is used it is a 1 dose series only ( Johnson & Johnson)
17. The facility will offer a booster dose to residents to align with ACIP and CDC’s recommendations as follows:
  - Pfizer and Moderna booster 5 months after receiving the 2<sup>nd</sup> shot in the primary series
  - J&J booster 2 months after receipt of the initial shot.
18. Primary doses of Covid vaccines are not interchangeable; therefore if a two series vaccine is used, the second dose will be the same as the first.
  - However, a single booster dose of any available COVID 19 vaccines may be administered as a heterologous booster dose following completion of primary vaccination with a different available COVID 19 vaccine. The eligible population (s) and dosing interval for a heterologous booster dose are the same as those authorized for a booster dose of the vaccine used for primary vaccine. (FDA 10/20/2021)
19. The facility Vaccine Coordinator/ designee will work with Pharmacy partner to provide immunization on established clinic dates.
  - The Vaccine Coordinator will ensure that consents for residents are in place
  - The Vaccine Coordinator / designee will accompany the pharmacy partner(s) in residents’ rooms and/or to the designated vaccination area.
20. Should vaccination be done in a dedicated area, the following will be adhered to:
  - Social distancing to be maintained between each vaccination station
21. The facility will maintain a list of “stand-by eligible “ individuals to be notified for open appointments for vaccine administration on short notice.
22. The Facility Vaccine Coordinator / designee will assign facility staff to always accompany the Pharmacy vaccine administrator.

23. Prior to vaccine administration the Vaccine Coordinator will validate that consent has been obtained, MD order received, and education has been provided.
- Should Union Plaza Care Center be administering the vaccine, transportation, storage, handling, and preparation of the vaccine will be adhered to in collaboration with the pharmacy partner and in accordance with the specific Covid vaccination recommendations for approved Covid vaccines. Union Plaza Care Center will complete all required reporting, including the Vaccine Tracker, HERDS survey, and CIR as applicable.
  - Instances when syringes will be pre-filled/pre-drawn:
    - A dedicated area will be utilized for vaccine preparation
    - Pre-filled/Pre-drawn syringes will be stored at the manufacturer recommended temperatures throughout the day
    - Administration of Pfizer vaccine within six (6) hours of dilution.
    - Administration of Moderna vaccine within twelve (12) hours of initial vial puncture.
24. After administration, assigned nursing staff will monitor the resident closely x 15minutes after administration and then every shift x 72 hours for potential side/adverse effects of the vaccine. If a resident has a history of anaphylaxis they will be monitored after immunization for 30 minutes. Potential side effects following the COVID-19 Vaccine that have been reported in clinical trials include injection site pain, fatigue, headache, muscle pain, chills, joint pain, fever, injection site swelling, injection site redness, nausea, malaise, and lymphadenopathy.
25. If a resident experiences post vaccination signs/symptom, as outlined above, PCP/NP will assess resident to determine if any treatment or follow up is needed.
- Post-vaccine side effects **do not** include cough, shortness of breath or loss of taste or smell. If a resident presents with sign and symptoms of COVID-19 infection, the facility will implement contact and droplet precautions, the resident will be tested for Covid-19 and influenza as a precaution.
26. As per CDC guidance, COVID-19 vaccination does not affect results of PCR or Antigen testing. For any resident testing positive during outbreak testing or if symptomatic, COVID-19 outbreak response will be initiated, including Transmission Based Precautions.
27. Any side/adverse effects will be documented in the medical record with MD notification and Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) follow up documentation. The **vaccination administrator** is responsible for MANDATORY reporting of reportable events that include
- Vaccine administration errors whether associated with an adverse event
  - Serious adverse events\* (irrespective of attribution to vaccination)
  - Cases of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome (MIS) in adults
  - Cases that result in hospitalization or death
28. The Pharmacy vaccine administrator is responsible for:
- a. Document the name of the vaccine, manufacturer information, Lot #, expiration date, site, and date of administration
  - b. The Pharmacy vaccine administrator will enter vaccination information into the NY State/ NYC Immunization Registry as required.

29. All Covid 19 consent forms, declinations, and administration forms will be scanned to Document section of EMR
30. The RN vaccine coordinator will be responsible for the printing and distributing of proof of Covid 19 vaccination cards
31. In accordance with CMS QSO-21-19 NH, the facility will report COVID 19 vaccination data via NHSN
32. Epinephrine will be available in the facility's emergency box(es) and in immunization area(s) for utilization in the event of severe allergic reactions.
33. Should resident develop acute distress, a "STAT" will be initiated, and a determination will be made to transfer resident to an acute care setting.
34. A list of residents who have refused the COVID-19 vaccine will be forwarded to the Director of Nursing Services (DNS) and Infection Preventionist for review and follow up as needed.