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Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 4:30 PM
To: MED-LIST@LISTS.UPENN.EDU
Subject: Vaccination Update

The health system is following the current CDC recommendations for COVID-19 vaccination. Penn Medicine began by offering the vaccine to our health care providers and staff working in our hospitals and practices. Invitations have also been sent to clinical faculty and staff in the dental and nursing schools, and we are starting to vaccinate medical, nursing, dental, genetic counseling and SP2 students who are assigned to clinical rotations. Vet school client-facing faculty and staff will be vaccinated as well as.

Clinical research coordinators and nurses have received invitations. Staff in research laboratories working with SARS-CoV-2 in BSL3 labs or processing specimens from COVID patients have or will receive invitations shortly.

We have started offering the vaccine to non-health care essential University workers (Penn police, security, food services, environmental services, child care, transportation, facilities, etc.).

PSOM faculty, post-doctoral fellows, staff, and students in clinical and basic science departments who are not engaged in patient care or enrolling patients in clinical research studies will receive invitations to schedule an appointment for the COVID-19 vaccine based on the CDC recommendations for Phase 1b. Persons 75 and older will be offered invitations, followed by those 65-74 years, and then persons with medical conditions at high risk for COVID-19 associated morbidity and mortality. Other high risk groups are being considered on a case-by-case basis. We understand that these guidelines are subject to change.

We ask for your patience as the health system is working as quickly as possible to vaccinate as many of our workforce while balancing the need to vaccinate our essential workers and members of our community who have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. We will continue to share updates.

Please note that while vaccines protect individuals from developing serious illness, it remains unknown whether vaccination will prevent them from transmitting the virus should they be exposed. Please continue to use PennOpen Pass; Penn Cares and COVID SAFE surveillance testing (as applicable); and practice mitigation measures: universal wearing of masks, maintaining physical distance, avoiding large crowds, and washing hands frequently.

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