



January 5, 2021

Dear Family Members,

As you may know, the FDA/CDC has approved an Emergency Use Authorization for a COVID-19 vaccination. They have contracted with Walgreens Pharmacy to deliver the vaccine to our Assisted Living staff and residents at Kavod. This vaccination does requires a booster shot, so each participant will need to schedule two dates for vaccination – at least 21-28 days apart.

The dates for our clinics are as follows:

- **Wednesday, January 20, 2021 2 pm - 4 pm**
- **Wednesday, February 10, 2021 2 pm - 4 pm**
- **Wednesday, March 3, 2021 (tentative)**

I am providing the following for your review:

- Information from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (see below)
- A Vaccine Fact Sheet ([click here](#))

If your family member is interested in receiving the vaccination, please have them contact me at 720.382.7825 so we can ensure they are part of the clinic. Assisted Living staff will also be following up with all residents to ensure that everyone who chooses to be vaccinated will be served.

If you have any questions, please contact me at the same number, 720.382.7825.

Thank you,
Jennifer Grant
Director of Assisted Living

Information from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
(<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/>)

We understand that some people may be concerned about getting vaccinated once a COVID-19 vaccine is available in the United States. While these vaccines are being developed as quickly as possible, routine processes and procedures remain in place to ensure the safety of any vaccine that is authorized or approved for use. Safety is a top priority, and there are many reasons to get vaccinated.

Based on the recommendation from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), CDC recommends residents of long-term care facilities be included among those offered the first supply of COVID-19 vaccines. The communal nature of LTCFs and the population served puts the facility residents at an increased risk of infection and severe illness from COVID-19. By November 6, 2020, approximately 569,000-616,000 COVID-19 cases and 91,500 deaths were reported among LTCF residents and staff members in the United States, accounting for 39% of the deaths nationwide.

The benefits of vaccination are believed to outweigh possible risks. All COVID-19 vaccines were tested in clinical trials involving tens of thousands of people to make sure they meet safety standards and protect adults of different races, ethnicities, and ages, including adults over the age of 65. There were no serious safety concerns. The most common side effects were pain at the injection site and signs and symptoms like fever and chills. After a review of all the available information, ACIP and CDC agreed the lifesaving benefits of COVID-19 vaccination for LTCF residents outweighs the risks of possible side effects."

To help make important unapproved medical products, including vaccines, available quickly during the COVID-19 pandemic, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) can use what is known as an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA)external icon. Before any vaccine can be authorized for use under an EUA, FDA must determine that the vaccine's benefits outweigh possible risks.

Once people begin receiving COVID-19 vaccinations, CDC and FDA will monitor vaccine safety closely. The United States will use existing robust systems and data sources to conduct ongoing safety monitoring. An additional layer of safety monitoring has also been added that allows CDC and FDA to evaluate COVID-19 vaccine safety almost immediately. Learn more about COVID-19 vaccine safety monitoring.

For LTCFs in particular, CDC will work with pharmacies and other partners to report possible side effects (called adverse events) to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) external icon. Facility staff and residents' families are encouraged to also report any adverse events immediately.

CDC will work with pharmacies and other partners to provide communication materials to help LTCFs educate residents and their families about the vaccine, answer their questions about vaccine safety and other issues, and prepare them for vaccination clinics. For some COVID-19

vaccines, two shots are needed to provide the best protection, and the shots are given several weeks apart. Each recipient or caregiver will receive a vaccination record card to ensure they receive the correct vaccine for the second dose.

The COVID-19 vaccination will be an important tool to help stop the pandemic. Wearing masks and social distancing help reduce your chance of being exposed to the virus or spreading it to others, but these measures are not enough. Vaccines will work with your immune system so it will be ready to fight the virus if you are exposed. The combination of getting vaccinated and following CDC's recommendations to protect yourself and others will offer the best protection from COVID-19. Stopping a pandemic requires all the tools we have available. As experts learn more about how COVID-19 vaccination may help reduce spread of the disease in communities, CDC will continue to update the recommendations to protect communities using the latest science.