

PfizerBioNTech Coronavirus Vaccine House of Representatives Vaccination Program Update



Sending Office: Office of the Attending Physician

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TO: All Members of Congress and Staff

FROM: Dr. Brian P. Monahan, Attending Physician

DATE: December 28, 2020

SUBJECT: **Pfizer-BioNTech Coronavirus Vaccine House of Representatives Vaccination Program Update**

As you may be aware, on December 12, 2020, the Food and Drug Administration granted an Emergency Use Authorization to the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID19 vaccine. Consistent with Presidential Policy Directive 40 (2016), the National Security Council has provided Congress (as well as the Supreme Court and Executive Branch agencies) with a limited number of COVID19 vaccine doses to meet long-standing requirements for continuity of government operations. The number of COVID19 vaccine doses provided to the Congress reflects a fraction of the first tranche of vaccines that have been distributed throughout the country.

In addition to ongoing vaccination of Members of Congress, and consistent with the theme of helping to ensure the continuity of government and support the operations of the House, there is a limited supply of the vaccine available to House staff whose job duties: (1) involve continuity of operations status; (2) require onsite presence necessary to support House operations; and/or (3) can reasonably be expected to involve in-person interactions as part of their job duties. Employees who occupy positions determined to make them eligible for the vaccine under these standards will be and/or have been notified of their status separately and provided with logistical information regarding the process for scheduling an appointment for the vaccination.

The Office of Attending Physician (OAP) is prepared to vaccinate two staff members from each Member's personal office, and four from each Committee Chair and four from each Ranking Minority Member. Please email your designations using the **OAP Critical Staff Template** form on our website ([LINK](#)) to COVAXscheduling@mail.house.gov. After you have submitted the information for your office, please ask the selected staff to contact the OAP directly (5-5421) to schedule their appointment. When scheduling an appointment, please ask your staff to ensure there are no potential scheduling conflicts. Additionally, please ask your staff to review their calendars to ensure that they will definitely be available to take the second dose from the Office of the Attending Physician 17 to 21 days after

receiving their first dose. If they cannot or will not be available to take the second dose, they should not make an appointment for the first dose.

In the meantime, all staff—regardless of whether they are informed of eligibility for vaccination now or in the near future – should maintain compliance with the status quo of exercising the precautions outlined by the Office of the Attending Physician for House employers and employees, including safety protocols (completing the self-monitoring questionnaire, wearing a mask, social distancing, etc.) and telework to the extent possible [OAP Pandemic Social Distancing Guidelines](#).

We will continue to keep the House community informed of further supply of COVID19 vaccine as it becomes available on a wider scale.

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