



COVID-19 vaccine to be made available to all eligible Alabamians



As soon as mid-December, healthcare providers and the chronically ill in Alabama could begin receiving COVID-19 vaccine. U.S. Army Gen. Gustavo Perna, Chief Operating Officer of Operation Warp Speed, recently spoke with State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris about the rapid progress which will make it possible for an initial supply of vaccine products to be available in the state as soon as a vaccine is authorized.

Large amounts of vaccine from different companies have already been produced and stored while clinical trials are ongoing. Extraordinary precautions are taken to protect the stockpiles of vaccine, including armed guards. The federal government will allocate initial vaccine supplies to states and jurisdictions.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is expected to take about two weeks to review vaccine products. As soon as the FDA makes its review, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices will study the data and make recommendations. After the FDA confirms a COVID-19 vaccine is safe and effective and when an Emergency Use Authorization is received, vaccine kits will be shipped to several locations statewide and pre-positioned to provide immunizations in Alabama.

[Read the full alert from ADPH](#)

'Breakthrough Finding' Reveals Why Certain COVID Patients Die



Dr. Megan Ranney has learned a lot about COVID-19 since she began treating patients with the disease in the emergency department in February.

But there's one question she still can't answer: What makes some patients so much sicker than others?

Advancing age and underlying medical problems explain only part of the phenomenon, said Ranney, who has seen patients of similar age, background and health status follow wildly different trajectories.

[Read the story here](#)

2nd coronavirus vaccine shows early success in U.S. tests

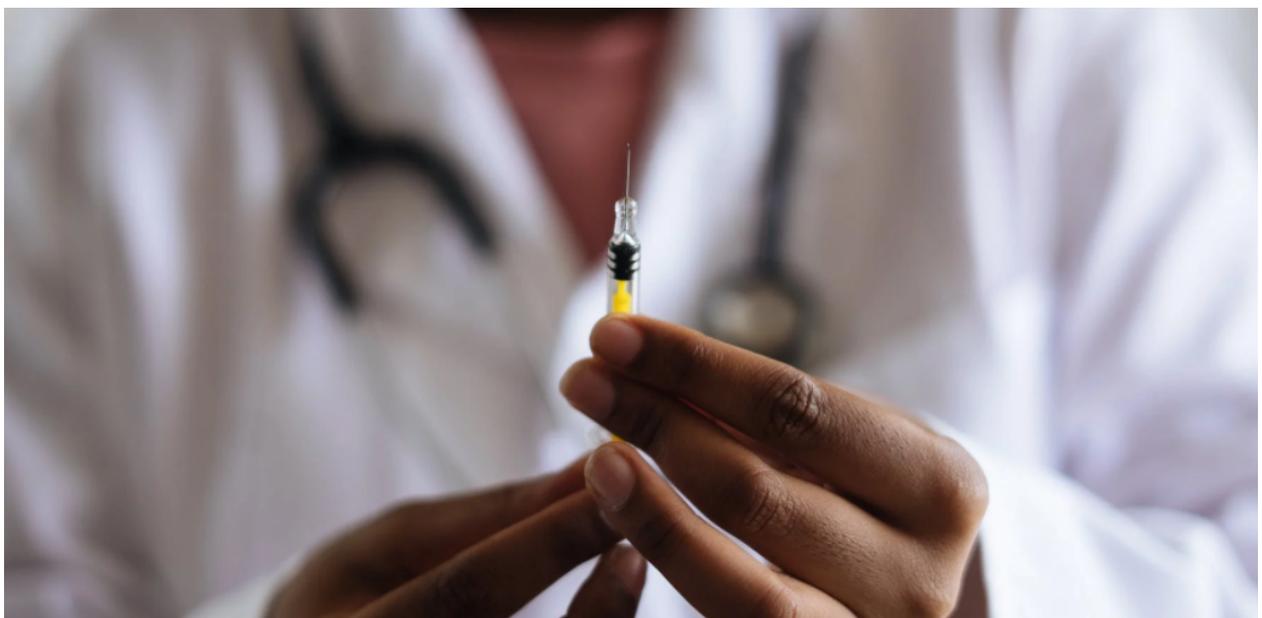


For the second time this month, there's promising news from a COVID-19 vaccine candidate: Moderna said Monday its shots provide strong protection, a dash of hope against the grim backdrop of coronavirus surges in the U.S. and around the world.

Moderna said its vaccine appears to be 94.5% effective, according to preliminary data from the company's still ongoing study. A week ago, competitor Pfizer Inc. announced its own COVID-19 vaccine appeared similarly effective — news that puts both companies on track to seek permission within weeks for emergency use in the U.S.

[Read the story from Alabama Daily News](#)

Get the protection offered by flu shots



As the COVID-19 pandemic continues this fall, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), and the Alabama Hospital Association have joined

forces to urge Alabamians to get vaccinated for the flu. They note that with the additional impact of COVID-19, it's more important than ever to get a flu shot and to get it early.

[See the full release here](#)

WHAT WE'RE READING

- [ADPH Announces COVID-19 Vaccine Plan](#)
- [U.S. hospitals to restrict Lilly COVID-19 antibody treatment due to limited supply](#)
- [Boosting access to mental health care during pandemic and beyond](#)
- [COVID-19 Fatality Rate Down 30% Since April, Study Shows](#)
- [Black, Hispanic and Native American people with COVID-19 may be four times more likely than others to be hospitalized, CDC data indicate](#)



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