

Medical Association Update | January 19, 2021

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- There is a shortage of available vaccines in Alabama.
- ADPH is still awaiting official recommendations from CDC and the new presidential administration but based on the statements of Operation Warp Speed and CDC last week, there are currently approximately 2 million people eligible to receive the vaccine.
- Alabama has only received 370,000 doses.
- The Federal Government determines the quantity of vaccine that is allocated to the state.
- The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) has no input into the quantity allocated and is typically notified less than 24 hours before the vaccine is shipped.

- The quantity and timing of the shipments vary from week to week, making it difficult to form a concrete plan.
- There are over 225 approved provider sites to administer the vaccine but not enough supply to ship to all the sites.
- Last week there were 15-20 vaccine sites that had already exhausted their supply.
- All available vaccine sitting on shelves in County Health Departments is obligated to persons that have made appointments.
- As more vaccines become available, ADPH continues to work to ensure that more providers will have the supply to administer vaccines.

Read more alerts from ADPH

Guidance for Treating Outpatients Who Have COVID-19



The following guidance has been developed by Dr. David Thrasher with Montgomery Pulmonary Consultants, along with Dr. Michael Saag and Dr. Edgar T. Overton, both with UAB. They have treated well over 1000 patients as outpatients as well as inpatients and believe that the following is the best treatment protocol that physicians have right now.

- 1. Diagnose COVID as early as possible
- 2. All treatment is based on the time of Onset of Symptoms (not the date of a positive test)
- 3. Understand that COVID infection occurs in two stages:
 - a. Viremic phase (Day 1 10)
 - b. Immune Dysfunction Phase (Day 8 14)
- 4. Treatment is radically different based on the phase of the disease
 - a. Viremic Phase: Antivirals (Monoclonal Antibody)

- b. Immune Dysfunction Phase (immune suppression, for those with respiratory compromise and/or severe disease)
- 5. **NEVER use SYSTEMIC STEROIDS in the Viremic Phase** (days 1 8 to 10); They are Contraindicated
- 6. Monoclonal Antibody should be used as early as possible, but not after day 9 10; indications:
 - a. Age > 65 years
 - b. Immune-compromised state (either from a condition or from immunosuppressive treatment)
 - c. Obesity (BMI >35)
 - d. Diabetes Mellitus
 - e. Have chronic kidney disease
 - f. Age > 55 with
 - i. Hypertension
 - ii. Heart Disease
 - iii. Chronic Lung Disease
- Adjunctive therapy with acetaminophen, ibuprofen (or naproxen), guaifenesin, ondansetron, Imodium, inhaled albuterol, inhaled steroid, H2 blocker, and/or sleeping meds (e.g., melatonin) as needed PRN
- 8. There are no conclusive data supporting the use of hydroxychloroquine, ivermectin, vitamin supplements (B, C, or D), or zinc

Watch the interview with Dr. Thrasher & Dr. Saag for more info (Treatment information starts around the 16:00 mark)

Apply to Become a Vaccine Provider



The Alabama Department of Public Health has expanded the COVID-19 vaccine stratification to Phase 1b in their Vaccine Allocation Plan. Phase 1b includes persons of 75 years of age and older and other

Note: To become a provider, you must apply and be accepted through the ImmPRINT program, have the correct storage and freezer capabilities (-20°c), and order 100 doses at minimum. Please be aware that acceptance to become a provider is also dependent on the coverage in your area.

Please see further information on how to enroll in ImmPRINT by clicking the button below.

Download Instructions on How to Enroll

Ask the Expert



If you have questions about COVID-19 testings, treatments, vaccinations, or anything else, ask an expert!

All you have to do is submit your question(s) using the button below and we will find an expert in that field to answer.

Questions that have already been answered are linked here.

We will update this document as we get more questions and answers.

Ask a Question

WHAT WE'RE READING

- **Updated Vaccine Provider Toolkit** •
- 2020 Alabama Opioid Overdose and Addiction Council Annual Report .
- **Biden Unveils National 5-Point COVID-19 Vaccination Strategy** •
- Conspiracy Theories, Mistrust Take Root During Pandemic •
- CDC policy could cost Alabama COVID vaccines •



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