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GOVERNOR PARSON ANNOUNCES ADDITIONAL COVID-19 VACCINE DELIVERY CHANNEL IN MISSOURI

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MARCH 4, 2021

JEFFERSON CITY — During today's briefing at the State Capitol, Governor Mike Parson announced that pharmacies across Missouri will begin receiving prioritized shipments of the COVID-19 vaccine through a new State Pharmacy Program.

"With vaccine supply continuing to increase and more Missourians becoming eligible, we will now begin shipping vaccines to pharmacies in all regions and communities throughout the state," said Governor Parson. "Local pharmacies are a trusted health care resource for many Missourians, so distributing vaccines to as many pharmacies as we can will help expand accessibility by providing a vast network of capable providers in every community."

Starting next week, 15 percent of Missouri's weekly vaccine allotment from the federal government will be allocated to the state's pharmacy program.

The state has identified 161 pharmacies in 84 counties based on ability, location, and population. These pharmacies have the ability to administer 200 initial doses of COVID-19 vaccines per week and will consistently receive this number of doses in addition to booster doses for the next three to four weeks. To view the list of participating pharmacies, click here (https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/MOGOV/2021/03/04/file_attachments/1713780/Participating%20Pharmamcies.pdf).

The Missouri Pharmacy Association will submit orders to the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) on behalf of partnering pharmacies. Missourians are encouraged to use the state's vaccinator map (https://covidvaccine.mo.gov/map/) at MOStopsCOVID.com (https://covidvaccine.mo.gov/) to find participating pharmacies in their area or reach out to local pharmacies directly.

Allocations for each of Missouri's vaccine delivery channels will be adjusted accordingly to accommodate pharmacies. Delivery channels and corresponding allocations through the week of March 22 are as follows:

- High Throughput Health Centers: 35 percent
- Mass Vaccination Events: 15 percent
- Local Public Health Agencies: 15 percent
- Federally Qualified Health Centers: 15 percent
- Other Community/Enrolled Providers: 5 percent
- Pharmacies: 15 percent

Starting the week of March 29, the state will shift vaccine allocations to reflect unvaccinated eligible populations in each of Missouri's nine regions. Current delivery channels will be modified to incorporate those changes.

Also during today's briefing, Governor Parson outlined modifications to state sponsored mass vaccination clinics.

"While distribution is equitable based on population throughout each region, we do recognize that some Missourians are less interested in receiving a vaccine than others," said Governor Parson. "Vaccine interest is often highest in urban populations, so starting next week, we will begin transitioning mass vaccination teams to accommodate more events in the Kansas City and St. Louis regions."

Starting the week of March 8, mass vaccination teams will begin transitioning operations to include a larger presence in Region A (Kansas City) and Region C (St. Louis). Eventually, two teams will be operational in Region A and three teams will be operational in Region C. The state expects a full transition by April 1. This timeline will allow vaccination teams to complete booster clinics for previous Moderna and Pfizer events and transition to the single dose Janssen vaccine.

Both mass and targeted vaccination events hosted by the state will begin utilizing the Janssen vaccine as supply allows. This will help increase the scale and efficiency of state sponsored clinics as vaccination teams will not need to return to locations for booster (second) dose vaccinations.

Missourians are encouraged to visit MOStopsCOVID.com (https://covidvaccine.mo.gov/) to view the latest vaccine updates, find out when they are eligible for the vaccine, and locate available vaccinators in their area.

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