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NC Governor Roy Cooper

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Gov. Cooper Announces People with High-Risk Medical Condition in Group 4 Will Be Eligible for COVID-19 Vaccine Beginning March 17

People who have a medical condition that puts them at higher risk or who live in certain congregate settings eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine on March 17; Additional members of Group 4 eligible April 7

Today, Governor Roy Cooper and North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Mandy K. Cohen, M.D. announced beginning on March 17, people in Group 4 who have a medical condition that puts them at higher risk of serious illness and people who live in certain congregate settings will be eligible for vaccination.

RALEIGH

Today, Governor Roy Cooper and North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Mandy K. Cohen, M.D. announced beginning on March 17, people in Group 4 who have a medical condition that puts them at higher risk of serious illness and people who live in certain congregate settings will be eligible for vaccination. The rest of Group 4, which includes other essential workers will become eligible April 7. (See Deeper Dive (https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://click.icptrack.com/icp/relay.php?r=39781839&msgid=487905&act=20YB&c=1346310&destination=https*3A*2F*2Fcovid19.ncdhhs.gov*2Fvaccines*2Ffind-your-spot-take-your-shot*2Fdeeper-dive-group-4&cf=13425&v=b4e05ddbeb282dc74bb4c21f2467ef71e51d13c4e9b00e121157b831f21152ba__;JSUlJSUl!!HYmSToo!IYLY3THAGsncUpZoaZFYImmcZVYPdE0eSlU59sqc52lkuI_gYbg4wL4elIFw(

“This move to Group 4 is good news,” said Governor Cooper. “I know there are many efforts across the state getting vaccines to people as quickly and fairly as possible and I want our providers to know that their work is making all the difference.”

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) is in constant contact with providers across the state and surveys both their vaccine capacity and supply. The state was able to update its timeline today based on provider feedback and expected supply. As with previous eligibility changes, some vaccine providers may not be ready to open to Group 4 on March 17 if they are still experiencing high demand for vaccines in Groups 1 through 3.

“We are very fortunate to now have three tested, safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines that keep people out of the hospital and prevent

death from this virus," said Secretary Cohen. "With improving supplies, North Carolina can get more people vaccinated sooner and meet our goals to provide equitable access to vaccinations in every community in the state."

More than 1.1 million North Carolinians have been fully vaccinated as the state works with local health departments and providers to distribute this vaccine quickly and equitably. While supply is still limited, the increased federal allocation of doses is helping providers administer vaccines to more people.

North Carolina has continued to emphasize equity in the vaccine distribution process. In the last four weeks, more than 20 percent of the state's first doses have been administered to Black North Carolinians. On Sunday, Bloomberg News (https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://click.icptrack.com/icp/relay.php?r=39781839&msgid=487905&act=20YB&c=1346310&destination=https*3A*2F*2Fwww.bloomberg.com*2Fnews*2Farticles*2F2021-03-06*2Fone-u-s-state-s-laser-focus-on-data-helps-shrink-racial-vaccine-gap*3Futm_medium*3Dsocial*26utm_campaign*3Dsocialflow-organic*26utm_content*3Dbusiness*26utm_source*3Dtwitter*26cmpid*3Dsocialflow-twitter-business&cf=13425&v=2c6158012ab8017eae09574e919d2addb1bcfdbaad294efe6608099b6e2c33a3__;JSUlJSUlJSUlJSUlJSUlJSU!!HYmSToo!IYLY3THAGsncUpZoaZFYImmcZVYPdE0eSlU59sqc52lku North Carolina as the leader in the nation for reporting demographic data on who has been vaccinated down to the county level.

On Wednesday, Governor Cooper attended the opening of a federally supported community vaccination center opened in Greensboro, This site — one of just 18 sites nationally — will help the state continue its effort to reach more marginalized and