COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO HEALTH AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
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PROVIDER HEALTH ADVISORY

Date: January 19, 2021
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COVID-19 Vaccine Update:
Answering Patient Questions about Vaccine in SLO County

This advisory provides information for San Luis Obispo County health care providers on:
- Vaccine appointments for SLO County residents age 75+
- Answers to FAQs about COVID-19 vaccine in SLO County
- Talking with Patients About the Vaccine
- How to become a provider of the COVID-19 vaccine
- How to get updates about COVID-19 vaccine in SLO County

Vaccine appointments for SLO County residents age 75+
On Friday, January 15, the Public Health Department opened COVID-19 vaccine appointments to SLO County residents age 75 and older. The 4,000 appointments available this week at Public Health vaccine clinics all booked within several hours. Vaccine supply remains very limited and we are only able to confirm the amount of vaccine we will receive about one week ahead of time.

If patients contact you with questions about vaccine appointment availability through the Public Health Department, please let them know:
- We are able to open appointments each **Thursday** for the following week.

- Appointments may become available throughout the week if others cancel.

- There is **not a waiting list** for vaccine in SLO County and there is no need for patients to contact the Public Health Department to add their name to a list.

- Residents can check appointment availability at www.RecoverSLO.org/VaccineRegistration.

While we recognize that many patients under age 75 also need vaccine, **we are not currently able to provide exceptions based on medical conditions, pending surgeries or other risks**.

Please remind patients:
- **Not to sign up for an appointment if they are not currently eligible**. People who are not eligible will be turned away, even if they have an appointment.

- **Not to walk up to vaccine sites**. People who walk up without an appointment will be turned away, even if they are age 75 or older. This is to make the experience safe and comfortable for everyone, including those who need extra assistance.

(continued)

Answers to FAQs about COVID-19 vaccine in SLO County
Please encourage your staff and patients to review our frequently asked questions about the COVID-19 vaccine in SLO County. These FAQs are updated daily and include specific local information: www.Recoverslo.org/VaccineFAQs

Talking with patients about the vaccine
CDC provides guidance for health care providers on talking with patients about the vaccine, answering their questions, and addressing specific concerns. You can find this information at: www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/hcp.

How to become a provider of the COVID-19 vaccine
Health care providers in SLO County are encouraged to enroll to receive doses of COVID-19 vaccine to administer to patients (when the patients are eligible) and to any health care staff who have not already received the vaccine. We recommend beginning the process now, as it involves multiple steps and levels of review. More details are available from the state at: www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/COVIDVaccineEnrollment.aspx

Questions? Email covidcallcenter@cdph.ca.gov or call (833) 502-1245.

For vaccine updates
For local updates on COVID-19 vaccine, we encourage patients and health care providers to:
- Regularly check www.RecoverSLO.org/vaccines.
- Sign up for email updates at ReadySLO.org
- Follow the Public Health Department on social media: Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook
- Watch the Public Health Department's weekly news briefing at: https://www.emergencyslo.org/en/daily-press-briefing.aspx
- Call the recorded Public Health Information Line at (805) 788-2903.