

# **All Member Call Agenda August 25, 2021**

- **Welcome**
- **LeadingAge town hall [call](#) on Thursday @ 3pm**
- **Advocacy Plan**
- **What We Know**
- **What We Don't Know**
- **Wrap-Up**

Email questions to [COVID19@leadingageohio.org](mailto:COVID19@leadingageohio.org)

# Advocacy Plan

- All-Member Call – let your voice be heard
- Shaping the guidance
- Sharing with ODH and LeadingAge
- Conversations already underway with Administration
- Talking points for member use

# What We Know

- President Biden Press Release & fact sheet 8/18/21
  - New vaccination requirements for long-term care workers.
  - Booster shots beginning 9/20/21, full approval, 8 months after 2<sup>nd</sup> dose.
  - Fully reimburse states for COVID-19 cost & National Guard deployment.

# What We Know

- August 12, CDC [guidance](#) on additional mRNA dose for immunocompromised
- [FDA has granted full approval](#) for COMIRNATY/Pfizer-BioNTech's COVID-19 Vaccine.
- CDC's [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices is meeting on Monday, August 30, 2021](#), to discuss its updated recommendation for this vaccine.
- CMS NH Stakeholder Call today @ 4pm  
[https://cms.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_WreK5eubQsqGIWbvr7wbpQ](https://cms.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_WreK5eubQsqGIWbvr7wbpQ)

# What We Know

- CMS [memo](#)
  - CMS & CDC developing emergency regulation
  - Interim Final [Rule](#) 5/13
  - QSO-21-19-NH (Pub 5/13, Effective 5/21)
  - NHSN reporting
  - QIN-QIO deployment for NH with low vaccination rates
  - Rule-making process, expects to issue in September

# What We Should Consider



## Interim Final Rule 5/13/21

- Medical contraindication
  - CDC has posted “Interim Clinical [Considerations](#) for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Authorized in the United States” describing these clinical situations.
- LTC facility staff to be those individuals who work in the facility on a regular (that is, at least once a week) basis.
- This description of staff differs from that in § 483.80(h), established for the LTC facility COVID-19 testing requirements and NHSN definitions.

# What We Should Consider



## Interim Final Rule 5/13/21

- As the nation continues to address the health impacts of COVID-19, we find good cause to waive notice and comment rulemaking as we believe it would be impracticable and contrary to the public interest for us to undertake normal notice and comment rulemaking procedures. For the same reasons, because we cannot afford sizable delay in effectuating this IFC, we find good cause to waive the 30-day delay in the effective date and, moreover, to make this IFC effective 10 calendar days after this rule is filed for public inspection in the Federal Register.

# What We Don't Know

How will staff be defined

- Agency nurses and aides
- Direct care staff/resident encounters or all departments
- IT staff
- Service providers/maintenance
- Ancillary services (lab, radiology, hospice, private duty aides, agency staff)
- Employees under 18, parental consent

# What We Don't Know

## Timeline for implementation

- Effective date of the rule
- Will compliance be defined by initial dose or fully vaccinated status

## Exclusions

- Religious preferences
- Medical contraindications
- Pregnancy and breastfeeding
- COVID recovered, antibody testing

# Lessons Learned

- Communicate, Communicate, Communicate
  - Keep stakeholders informed
    - FDA approval, mandate, anticipated rule
- Retaining the unvaccinated
  - Person Centered approach
- Screen current residents for immunocompromised
- Establish new admission screening to identify immunocompromised and process for offering
- Identify who's on first (8 months from 2<sup>nd</sup> dose)

# Lessons Learned

- Prepare to establish new hire screening and new admission screening for booster dose
- Establish ongoing 8-month rolling calendar
- Stay abreast of NHSN reporting changes  
<https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/ltc/weekly-covid-vac/index.html>
- Read LeadingAge Ohio newsletters for updates
- LeadingAge FAQ  
<https://leadingage.org/regulation/nursing-home-vaccine-mandate-faqs>
- LeadingAge letter to the Administration  
<https://leadingage.org/sites/default/files/LeadingAgeMandateLetter82321.docx.pdf>

# Q&A

- Can the COVID vaccine be given with the flu shot, pneumonia, Mantoux, etc.?
  - Coadministration of COVID-19 vaccines with other vaccines
  - COVID-19 vaccines and other vaccines may now be administered without regard to timing. This includes simultaneous administration of COVID-19 vaccine and other vaccines on the same day, as well as coadministration within 14 days.

[https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/covid-19-vaccines-us.html?CDC\\_AA\\_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fvaccines%2Fcovid-19%2Finfo-by-product%2Fclinical-considerations.html](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/covid-19-vaccines-us.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fvaccines%2Fcovid-19%2Finfo-by-product%2Fclinical-considerations.html)

# Resources & References

- White House Press Release & Fact Sheet
  - <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/page/3/>
- CMS policy & memo's
  - <https://www.cms.gov/medicare/provider-enrollment-and-certification/surveycertificationgeninfo/policy-and-memos-to-states-and-regions>
- Long-Term Care Facility Toolkit: Preparing for COVID-19 Vaccination at Your Facility
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/toolkits/long-term-care/index.html>
- Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Authorized in the United States
  - [https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/covid-19-vaccines-us.html?CDC\\_AA\\_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fvaccines%2Fcovid-19%2Finfo-by-product%2Fclinical-considerations.html](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/covid-19-vaccines-us.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fvaccines%2Fcovid-19%2Finfo-by-product%2Fclinical-considerations.html)

# Resources & References

- LeadingAge Vaccine Resources
  - <https://leadingage.org/covid-19-vaccine-information-and-resources>
- LeadingAge Tips & Toolkits page
  - [https://leadingage.org/vaccination-tips-and-tools?\\_ga=2.179054372.1849157096.1629843834-442437845.1612294595](https://leadingage.org/vaccination-tips-and-tools?_ga=2.179054372.1849157096.1629843834-442437845.1612294595)
- Invest in Trust: A Guide for Building COVID-19 Vaccine Trust and Increasing Vaccination Rates Among CNAs
  - <https://www.ahrq.gov/nursing-home/materials/prevention/vaccine-trust.html>
- Human Centered Recommendations for Increasing Vaccine Uptake
  - <https://www.aha.org/system/files/media/file/2021/06/Human-Centered-Recommendations-For-Increasing-Vaccine-Uptake.pdf>

# Additional Comments/Questions after our webinar

Email:

[COVID19@leadingageohio.org](mailto:COVID19@leadingageohio.org)