



INLAND REGIONAL CENTER

...valuing independence, inclusion and empowerment

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January 12, 2021

RE: Covid-19 Vaccination Update

To the Inland Regional Center Vendor Community:

The intent of this letter is to provide guidance regarding the State of California's Covid-19 Vaccination Roadmap and the January 8, 2021 Frequently Asked Questions provided by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) relating to the COVID-19 vaccines.

Currently there are two COVID-19 vaccines that have been approved by the FDA for emergency use and are currently being distributed - the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines. Distribution sites are currently in development, but some of the first sites will likely include the CVS and Walgreens pharmacies. Consent for the vaccine will be required by both pharmacies.

For clients living in licensed and vendored residential care facilities, as well as family home agencies, consent for treatment should be given by the client if they can make their own medical care decisions. As an example, if the client can consent for the influenza vaccine, they can consent for the COVID-19 vaccine. For clients that may not have the ability to provide informed consent, the individual(s) who make medical decisions for the client can provide the consent.

Current FDA guidance is that the vaccine may be contraindicated for clients with severe allergies. Therefore, it is highly recommended that a client's medical decision maker review the client's medical record and, if needed, consult with the client's treating physician prior to giving consent. After consent has been provided, and because the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines require two shots, the client's medical record must be updated to include the date and location of each shot, who provided the consent and which vaccine was given. It is important to note that both shots must be done using the same vaccine, i.e. you can't have one shot using the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine and the second shot using the Moderna vaccine.

If the client is conserved by DDS or Inland Regional Center (IRC), please inform the client's Service Coordinator so they can obtain consent from the IRC Executive Director. All clients conserved by DDS or IRC will require a clinical review, so documentation to include, but not limited to, the most recent medical records will be required and will need to be provided in full and in a timely manner.

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As for IRC's vendors and their staff, please review the DDS COVID-19 Vaccine [Frequently Asked Questions](#) and the websites for the [California Department of Public Health](#), the [Riverside County Department of Public Health](#) and/or the [San Bernardino County Department of Public Health](#) for up-to-date details.

As of this writing, most vendored providers and residents of long-term care facilities, to include intermediate care facilities and other licensed adult residential care facilities, can schedule the vaccine in Phase 1A, Tier 1. For vendored providers of direct community health services, such as supported living services, family home agencies, congregate living health facilities, home health care, respite workers, providers of applied behavioral analysis, independent living skills providers and providers of early start services, they can get vaccinated in Phase 1A, Tier 2. Again, please consult the websites for the Riverside County Department of Public Health and/or the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health (see links above) for more information on what phase/tier they are currently vaccinating and for scheduling purposes. Updates will be provided as necessary on the [IRC Service Provider page](#) of the IRC website.

We at IRC thank the vendor community for their service provision to our mutual clients, especially during these difficult times.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V. Toms".

Vince Toms
Community Services Director
Inland Regional Center