



BRISTOL BAY AREA HEALTH CORPORATION – INCIDENT COMMAND

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COVID-19 VACCINES

BBAHC has the following COVID-19 vaccines available in varying quantities: Moderna, Pfizer and Janssen (Johnson & Johnson).

Initially BBAHC opted to primarily employ the Moderna COVID-19 vaccination. This vaccine had storage, handling and transportation requirements that were most consistent with existing capabilities when vaccines were first released in December 2020.

In an effort to get as many people in the region vaccinated, BBAHC has recently added the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine as an option. This vaccine is the only COVID-19 vaccine available to those 16 and older. BBAHC is primarily using this vaccine for teens 16-17 years. BBAHC will also accommodate personal preference or those who need a second dose of Pfizer because they received a first dose elsewhere. Use of the Pfizer vaccine requires careful planning. Once removed from the freezer at the Vaccine Depot in Anchorage, BBAHC has only 5 days to administer it.

Additionally, the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine (Johnson and Johnson) recently received Emergency Use Authorization and has become available in Alaska. BBAHC has received a small amount of this vaccination. BBAHC is currently prioritizing those who are allergic to components in the Moderna vaccine or have travel requirements that prohibit timely receipt of a second dose.

Currently, all COVID-19 vaccines come in a multi-dose vial. Once opened, BBAHC has only a matter of hours to administer all doses in the vial. To avoid waste, careful planning and scheduling is necessary.

There are varying degrees of studied efficacy (effectiveness) with each vaccine. All vaccines have been shown to significantly decrease COVID-19 related deaths and severe disease.

If you are interested in receiving any of the vaccines BBAHC has available, please contact your local clinic or COVID coordinators at 907-842-9591.

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We provide quality healthcare with competence, compassion, and sensitivity to all residents of the 28 villages it serves within the Bristol Bay Region of Alaska.

For more information, go to bbahc.org.