

Hello,

As you may know, COVID-19 vaccinations are being distributed and administered throughout Minnesota.

Vaccines are being administered in three main phases, with each phase having a subset of priority groups / populations. The state has moved into in Phase 1A, priority group 3 which includes vaccinating healthcare workers in homecare settings such as PCA Workers and Direct Support Professionals.

MDH has instructed home care agencies like Best Care to contact their local public health departments as a first step in determining a vaccination plan. Best Care has completed this step and we are awaiting information from public health on where Best Care can direct employees interested in getting the vaccine and how our agency can facilitate these efforts.

MDH has also given individual healthcare employees the option to contact MDH independently to learn options for vaccination by **filling out the MDH Health Care Vaccination Connection Form found [HERE](#)**. MDH will forward the employee's information to their local health department. The health department will reach out to the employee when there are vaccines and appointments available.

Phase 1A, priority 3 also includes vaccinating individuals living or residing in closed settings, such as hospitals and long-term care facilities and more recently, individuals 65 years of age or older throughout the state. Some healthcare systems and clinics have been given vaccine supplies and are implementing their own vaccine rollouts. People age 65+ can contact their doctor or health care office to inquire if their clinic has appointments to administer the vaccine or **utilize the state's vaccine finder site which can be found [HERE](#)**. It is important to note that some healthcare systems are choosing to vaccinate people age 75+. Best Care is working with MDH to obtain more information on how homecare clients are being prioritized within the state's vaccine rollout.

Minnesota is currently using the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines. According to MDH, there are not recommendations for certain populations (e.g., older persons or persons with immune disorders, etc.) to get one vaccine over the other. Per MDH, people will likely not have an option to choose between the two vaccines, since they are so similar and vaccine sites / clinics / providers may not have an option for which vaccine they get.

We have included links to resources regarding the vaccine rollout including the MDH main vaccine information page and information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines.

We will continue to send updates as we learn more.

Thank you,
The Best Care Team
651-330-2550

- Main MDH Vaccine Information Page: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/vaccine/index.html>
- CDC Pfizer Vaccine Page: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/Pfizer-BioNTech.html>
- CDC Moderna Vaccine Page: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/Moderna.html>