



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
Kate Brown, Governor

Oregon
Health
Authority

500 Summer St NE E20
Salem OR 97301
Voice: 503-947-2340
Fax: 503-947-2341

Memorandum

To: Health care and public health partners

From: The Oregon Health Authority

Date: January 20, 2021

Subject: COVID-19 Vaccine 2nd dose allocations and administration fees

This memo is to re-confirm key points regarding COVID-19 2nd dose allocations and vaccine administration fees.

Key Points

1. OHA orders 2nd doses on behalf of sites to match the delivered 1st doses*.
2. If doses were transferred from your site, then your site will need to plan to send 2nd dose allocation to the site that received the transfer.
 - Regular and good communications by your site to partners will be key
3. Continue to document transfers in ALERT appropriately, as the CDC requires.
4. While OHA will allocate appropriate amounts of second doses for sites, the state does not have a safety reserve of doses. The expectation is for vaccine sites to manage their inventory of vaccine to assure 2nd doses will be available.
5. No individual being vaccinated can be charged for the vaccine or administration fees.
6. Vaccine administration charges can ONLY be submitted to payers/insurers for payment.

For details regarding the key points above, please see below.

2nd dose order:

- **Currently, OHA is ordering prime and 2nd or “boost” vaccine doses on behalf of all sites**
- Pfizer 2nd dose allocations will be delivered 3 weeks after the first doses, while Moderna 2nd dose allocations will be delivered 4 weeks after the first dose.
- *While Oregon is still in a “push model” (e.g. 1st and 2nd vaccine doses are automatically shipped to sites), OHA will eventually switch to a “pull” methodology where sites will have to order and, once allocated, draw down their own doses. OHA will communicate the timing of this switch in advance.

- When an order is received, the site is responsible for separating out boost doses from prime (it is suggested sites store them separately to avoid confusion).
 - If a site, for whatever reason, is unable to use all boost doses they can be used as prime doses.
- It is important to note that prime and boost doses are not packaged/marked differently: they look the same.

COVID-19 vaccine transferring:

- Redistribution of vaccine must be tracked in Alert IIS and coordinated with the local public health authority (LPHA) or the receiving entity for awareness and coordination of vaccination sites. Redistribution should only occur to sites that are approved COVID-19 Vaccine Providers at the time of redistribution.

ALERT IIS documentation and inventory

- Sites receiving vaccine must reference the ALERT IIS to confirm the number of doses in each shipment.
- Once vaccine has arrived, accept the vaccine order transfer to add it to your ALERT inventory. This is a requirement.
- Using your EHR or reports from ALERT can help identify your need for 2nd doses based on the patients who received a first dose at the appropriate spacing.

Administration Charges

Providers are prohibited from charging any fees to any individual receiving a vaccine including any 'voluntary' fee. Providers may submit claims to public, commercial insurers and Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) for uninsured individuals. Medicaid reimburses providers at the rate of 100% of Medicare for vaccine administration which is approximately \$17 for the first administration and \$28 for the second dose.

- Information on Medicaid billing can be found here: <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/HSD/OHP/Pages/COVID-19.aspx>.
- Information on Medicare billing is available here: <https://www.cms.gov/medicare/covid-19/medicare-covid-19-vaccine-shot-payment>
- For reimbursement from HRSA for the uninsured, please visit [HRSA's COVID-19 Claims Reimbursement to Health Care Providers and Facilities for Testing, Treatment, and Vaccine Administration for the Uninsured](#) for more information including claim submission.