

Hospice and Palliative Care Resources for the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)



NHPCO COVID-19 Update – 12/14/20

NHPCO has created this update for hospice and palliative care providers to share recent news and helpful links. Please note, these Updates are published when there is helpful news to share.

*“Good people are set to fail in bad systems; let’s figure out how to keep everyone safe.” –
Dr. Mike Leonard*

Provider Update

Effective Tools for Practicing Self-Compassion and Self Care in the Time of COVID-19

This new, on-demand offering in the ANA COVID-19 webinar series provides important tools that all nurses can use to help maintain mental well-being while facing the ongoing challenges presented by caring for COVID-19 patients. This webinar is free for all nurses. Registration is required prior to viewing. A link to the 60-minute on-demand webinar will be emailed to all registrants the week of December 14. Registration is free for both ANA members and non-members. [Register for this webinar](#).

The Importance of COVID-19 Vaccination for Health Care Personnel

Based on recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, CDC recommends [health care personnel be among those offered the first doses of COVID-19 vaccines](#). Health care personnel include all paid and unpaid persons serving in health care settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients or infectious materials.

Post Vaccine Considerations for Health Care Personnel

Strategies are needed for health care facilities to appropriately evaluate and manage post-vaccination signs and symptoms among healthcare personnel (HCP). The [CDC has updated post vaccine considerations for health care personnel](#). The approach described in this document is intended to reduce the risks for disruptions in care and pathogen (e.g., SARS-CoV-2) transmission resulting from:

- unnecessarily excluding HCP with only post-vaccination signs and symptoms from work, and
- inadvertently allowing HCP with SARS-CoV-2 or another transmissible infection to work.

These considerations are based on the current understanding of signs and symptoms following COVID-19 vaccination, including timing and duration, and might change as experience with the vaccine accumulates.

CDC on Different COVID-19 Vaccines

As COVID-19 vaccines are authorized and then recommended for use in the United States, it will be important to understand what is known about each vaccine. The [CDC will provide recommendations](#) on who they recommend should and should not receive each vaccine and what to expect after vaccination, as well as ingredients, safety, and effectiveness.

When Vaccine is Limited, Who Gets Vaccinated First?

Because the supply of COVID-19 vaccine in the United States is expected to be limited at first, the CDC recommends that [initial supplies of COVID-19 vaccine](#) be allocated to health care personnel and long-term care facility residents. On December 3, the CDC [made this recommendation](#) which was based on recommendations from the [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices \(ACIP\)](#), an independent panel of medical and public

health experts. As vaccine supply increases but remains limited, ACIP will expand the groups recommended for vaccination.

Resources

Share Your Vaccination Story on Blog or Social Media

As part of the Faces of Caring campaign, NHPCO would like to share awareness of hospice and palliative care professionals who have been vaccinated in this first wave of COVID-19 vaccines that began today in the U.S. If you would be willing to send a selfie when or just after you are vaccinated, NHPCO would like to share via our social media channels – be sure to include your name and program. And if you would be willing to write a short piece on receiving the vaccination, NHPCO would like to consider it for publication in our Faces of Caring blog series. Email photos and or writings to communications@nhpco.org And if your organization is sharing social media post about vaccinations within our community, please tag NHPCO so we can track awareness. There is value in letting the public know that hospice and palliative care providers are among essential health care workers.

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