

Johnson County Emergency Operations Center Johnson County Public Health Press Release 1/11/2021

COVID-19 Vaccinations Progressing

Johnson County Public Health's phones are ringing off the hook! We appreciate everyone's patience. If you get our voice mail, please leave a message and make sure your phone number is clear, and we will return your call as soon as we possibly can.

Here are some Frequently Asked Questions JCPH is receiving:

How many doses are available in Johnson County?

Johnson County Healthcare Center received 300 doses on Christmas Eve. These vaccinations went to healthcare workers within JCHC, Amie Holt residents, Vet's home, Willow Creek, and Agape. Johnson County Public Health received 100 doses on Dec. 28, and Jan.4. We expect to receive 100 doses each week of January, and after that, it is unknown what our expected shipments will be in February. Appointments are scheduled through Feb. 11 for this expected vaccine. Once we receive information from the Wyoming Department of Health on expected shipments of Moderna for February, we will continue scheduling appointments.

Your appointments are full for the Moderna vaccination? Is there a list to be notified when the next round is ready?

JCPH has no list. The doses of Moderna we have, are all accounted for. When we reach the next phase, we will push out information to everyone through local media, JCPH Facebook page, Code Red, and the county website.

What about the 2nd dose?

There is a plan from the WDH and CDC to send the second doses automatically. These will not be included in our doses we have already received. If you will be out of Johnson County when you are due for your second dose, you may receive it anywhere, as it is a federally provided vaccine. It would be best to contact the Public Health of Health Department of the place you will be to check their availability.

Who is eligible for the vaccination right now?

Johnson County is in Phase 1a and 1b consecutively, meaning healthcare workers, first responders, and those 70 years of age and older.

Will there be any vaccine available in Kaycee?

JCPH has scheduled a COVID-19 clinic in Kaycee and has filled all open appointments. Johnson County Healthcare Center will be offering the vaccine during their clinic time in Kaycee, but those appointments are filled as well. **Why is it taking so long to distribute the doses you have?**

At this time, Johnson County Public Health is the only provider vaccinating for COVID-19. There are 2 nurses available. We can vaccinate 40-80 people per day, depending on other duties as required, and responding to the pandemic in other areas. Looking forward, there may be mass vaccination clinics utilizing nurses from other agencies.

When will people under 70 who are at high risk receive the vaccine?

We must work through the priority groups. We are at Phase 1b, line #3. We will continue to work through the phases approved by the Wyoming Department of Health, who is currently working to confirm phase 1c. It may be possible that the next phase can be months away, and not to the general public until late spring or summer.

What is Code Red?

Code Red is the emergency calling system utilized by Johnson County Emergency Management. To sign up for this service, please visit the county website (johnsoncountywyoming.org). When you receive this call, it is because we are announcing to all residents what phase we are in.

Is this Code Red call specific to me?

This is not a call specific to you from JCPH. This is being used to let the public know what phase we are in. If you receive this call, it is informational only, and not canceling or making an appointment.

The Wyoming Department of Health is working to finalize Phase 1c. There is not an estimated date on when this information will become available, but all avenues will be used to inform the public in an accurate and timely manner. Johnson County Public Health in conjunction with the Emergency Operations Center is the official source to gather information about vaccine availability in Johnson County. Information from Johnson County Public Health will be announced via local media outlets, JCPH Facebook page, Code Red (mass text alert) system, and on our county website at <u>www.johnsoncountywyoming.org</u>. Please do not hesitate to call us to check the status of our vaccination efforts or with any questions about the vaccine.

Is the COVID-19 Vaccine Safe?

We understand there is a lot of information about the vaccine efficacy. Johnson County Public Health encourages residents to research about the vaccine, and look to credible sources for that information.

American Academy of Family Physicians COVID-19 FAQ Understanding and Explaining mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines Benefits of Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine

For the most up to date numbers of positive COVID-19 cases, please visit <u>health.wyo.gov</u> and click on COVID-19.

For the most current information, please visit <u>www.johnsoncountywyoming.org/covid-19</u>. COVID-19 response email for Johnson County: <u>jcwycovid19eoc@gmail.com</u>. For further questions, contact the Johnson County Emergency Operations Center: **307-425-6560**, or Johnson County Public Health: **307-384-2564**