

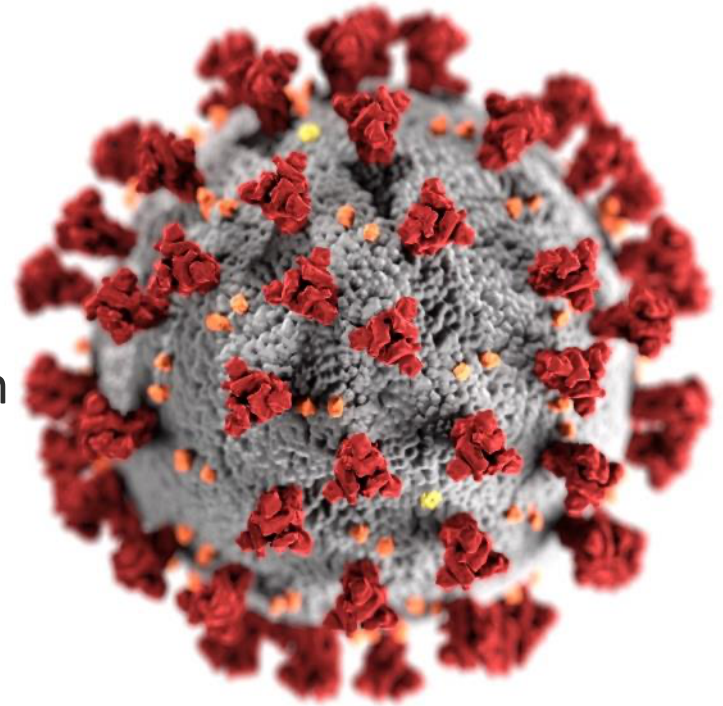
# New and updated COVID-19 public health information

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Assigned to Idaho Division of Public Health  
Indian Country COVID-19 teleECHO

February 22, 2021



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus)

# Updates from FDA

- FDA issued letter to health care providers on using ventilator splitters (2/9/2021)
  - Information on multiplexing ventilator tubing connectors (ventilator splitters) in situations in which no alternatives for invasive ventilatory support are available
- Consider non-invasive ventilation such as high flow nasal oxygen or positive pressure ventilation as a first option prior to using an authorized ventilator splitter
- If invasive ventilation using an authorized ventilator splitter is the only option:
  - Limit sharing of ventilation to 2 patients
  - Match patients based on similar ventilatory requirements
  - Limit duration of sharing ventilation to 48 hours
- Ventilator splitters that incorporate these features may reduce certain risks:
  - One-way valves in the breathing circuit
  - Flow restrictors or pressure regulators at each inspiratory limb of the circuit
  - Individual positive end-expiratory pressure (PEEP) valves
  - Inspiratory and expiratory tidal volume sensors
  - Pressure sensors

# Updates from FDA

- FDA issued emergency use authorization (EUA) for bamlanivimab and etesevimab administered together (2/9/2021)
- For the treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19 in adults and pediatric patients ( $\geq 12$  years of age) weighing at least 40 kg at high risk for progressing to severe COVID-19
- Not authorized for patients who are hospitalized due to COVID-19 or require oxygen therapy due to COVID-19
- EUA based on clinical trial (BLAZE) data in 1,035 non-hospitalized adults with mild to moderate COVID-19 at high risk for progressing to severe COVID-19
  - Participants randomized to receive a single infusion of bamlanivimab + etesevimab or placebo
  - Hospitalization or death: 2% treatment group vs. 7% in placebo group

# Updates from HHS

- Biden administration announces actions to expand COVID-19 testing (2/17/2021)
- HHS will partner with the Department of Defense (DoD) on a \$650 million investment to expand testing opportunities for K-8 schools and underserved congregate settings, such as homeless shelters, directly through new regional coordination centers
- HHS and DoD will make an \$815 million investment to increase domestic manufacturing of testing supplies and raw materials (e.g., filter pipette tips, nitrocellulose used in antigen point-of-care tests)
- CDC will invest nearly \$200 million to expand genomic sequencing capabilities for identifying new variants of SARS-CoV-2

# Updates from CDC

## Updates:

- National Forum on COVID-19 Vaccine
- Updated interim clinical considerations for COVID-19 vaccines

## MMWR:

- Vaccination perceptions and reasons for not vaccinating
- First month of COVID-19 vaccine safety data
- Decline in vaccination receipt among Medicare beneficiaries
- Identification of B.1.1.7 variant in Minnesota

# NATIONAL FORUM ON COVID-19 VACCINE

FEBRUARY 22–24, 2021



- CDC to host virtual forum on COVID-19 vaccination on Feb 22–24
- The Forum will facilitate information exchange on strategies to
  - Build trust and confidence in COVID-19 vaccines
  - Use data to drive vaccine implementation
  - Optimize and maximize equitable vaccine access
- Intended for practitioners focused on vaccine implementation and community groups that can champion vaccine uptake
- For agenda and registration link, please see <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/forum/index.html>

# Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Authorized in the United States

- Updated 2/10/2021
- New recommendations for preventing, reporting, and managing mRNA COVID-19 vaccine administration errors
- Clarification on contraindications and precautions related to PEG, polysorbate, or other mRNA vaccine components
- Delayed, local injection-site reactions after the first mRNA vaccine dose are not a contraindication or precaution to the second dose
- Fully vaccinated persons will no longer be required to quarantine following an exposure to someone with COVID-19 if they show no symptoms, with additional considerations for healthcare settings
- TB testing can be done before or at the same time as COVID-19 vaccination, or otherwise delayed for  $\geq 4$  weeks after completion of vaccination

## COVID-19 Vaccination Intent, Perceptions, and Reasons for Not Vaccinating Among Groups Prioritized for Early Vaccination — United States, September and December 2020

Weekly / February 12, 2021 / 70(6);217-222

- Data from adult ( $\geq 18$  years) respondents to internet surveys
  - 3,541 from Sep 3–Oct 1 survey
  - 2,033 from Dec 18 – 20 surveys
- Younger adults, women, non-Hispanic Black adults, adults living in nonmetropolitan areas, with less education and income, or without health insurance have the highest estimates of non-intent to receive COVID-19 vaccination
- Ensuring high and equitable vaccination coverage and addressing reasons for not intending to receive vaccination is critical

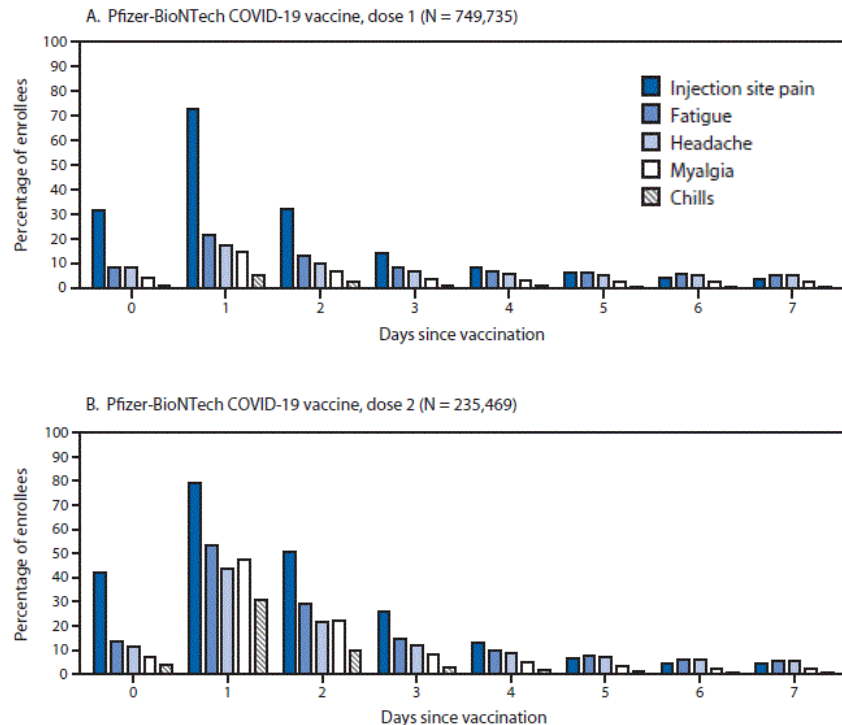
Main reasons for not intending to get COVID-19 vaccine (Dec 2020)	%
Concern about the side effects and safety	29.8
Plan to wait and see if it is safe and may get it later	14.5
Don't trust the government	12.5
Concern that the vaccine is being developed too quickly	10.4
Don't like vaccines	5.4
Plan to use masks/other precautions instead	3.7
Not a member of any group that is at high risk for COVID-19	3.5



# First Month of COVID-19 Vaccine Safety Monitoring — United States, December 14, 2020–January 13, 2021

Early Release / February 19, 2021 / 70

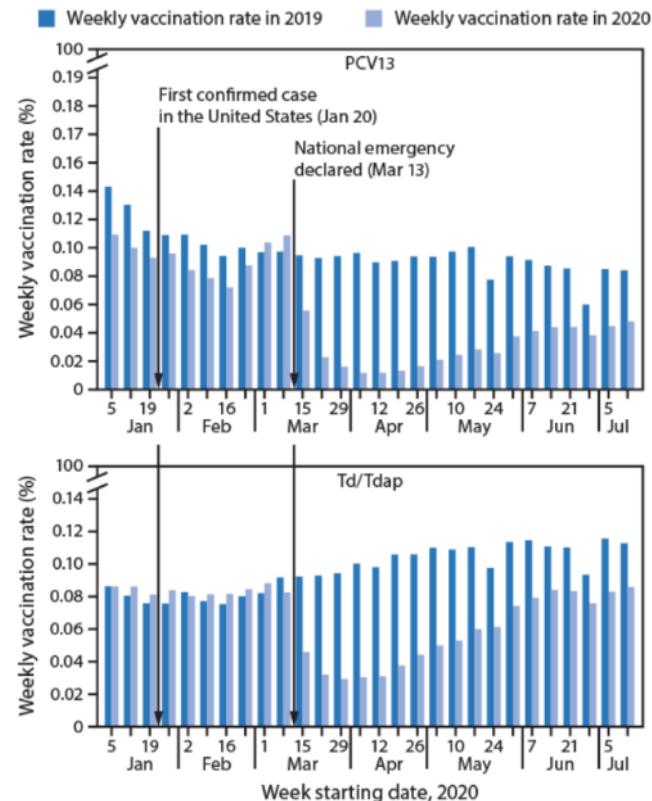
- 13,794,904 COVID-19 vaccine doses administered
- Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) received 6,994 reports of adverse events
  - Headache (22.4%), fatigue (16.5%), and dizziness (16.5%) most common
- v-safe enrolled 1,602,065 vaccine recipients
  - 50.8% received Pfizer-BioNTech, 49.2% Moderna
  - Injection site pain, fatigue, headache, myalgia, and chills most frequently reported
- Health care providers and vaccine recipients can be reassured about the safety of available COVID-19 vaccines. Counseling vaccine recipients to expect transient reactions might ease concerns.



## Decline in Receipt of Vaccines by Medicare Beneficiaries During the COVID-19 Pandemic — United States, 2020

Weekly / February 19, 2021 / 70(7);245–249

- Examined receipt of PCV13, PPSV23, Td/Tdap, RZV vaccines in adults  $\geq 65$  years during Jan 5–Jul 18, 2020, and Jan 6–July 20, 2019 using Medicare data
- By mid-April 2020, weekly vaccination rates dropped by 70%–89% below 2019 rates and recovered gradually from May–July
- Vaccination providers should emphasize the importance of routine adult vaccination to their patients to protect older adults from vaccine-preventable diseases during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.





## First Identified Cases of SARS-CoV-2 Variant B.1.1.7 in Minnesota — December 2020–January 2021

*Early Release* / February 17, 2021 / 70

- As of Feb 21, 2021, 1,661 COVID-19 cases of the B.1.1.7 variant identified in 44 U.S. states
- B.1.1.7 was identified in 8 specimens from Minnesota residents
  - age from 15 to 41 years
  - 3 had traveled internationally (West Africa and Dominican Republic)
  - 3 had traveled domestically (CA)
  - 1 household contact
  - 1 community exposure
- Timely genomic surveillance and disease mitigation strategies are critical for monitoring variant emergence and protecting public health

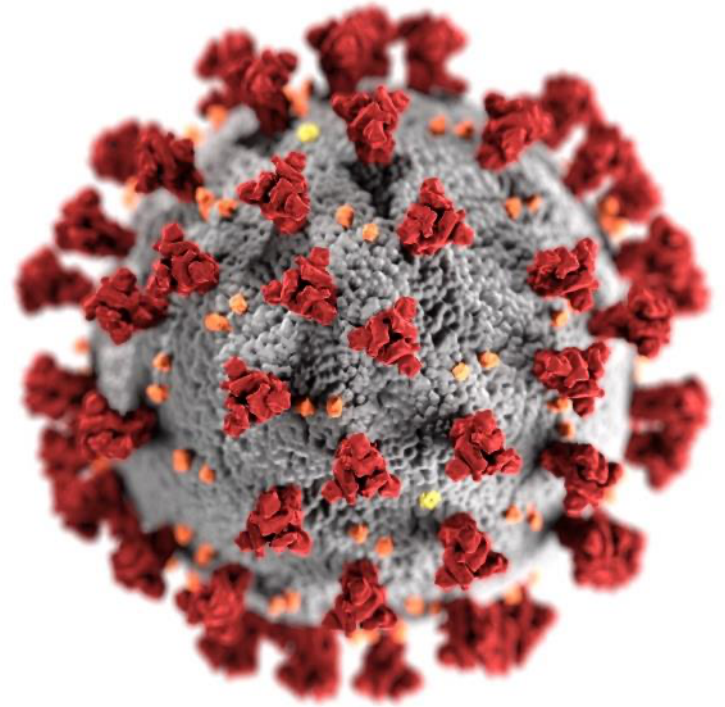
# References

## Updates

- <https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/letters-health-care-providers/using-ventilator-splitters-during-covid-19-pandemic-letter-health-care-providers> (Using Ventilator Splitters During the COVID-19 Pandemic - Letter to Health Care Providers)
- <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-fda-authorizes-monoclonal-antibodies-treatment-covid-19-0> (FDA announcement of EUA for bamlanivimab and etesevimab)
- <https://www.fda.gov/media/145801/download> (EUA for bamlanivimab and etesevimab)
- <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2021/02/17/biden-administration-announces-actions-expand-covid-19-testing.html> (Biden administration announces actions to expand COVID-19 testing)
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/forum/index.html> (CDC National Forum on COVID-19 vaccine)
- <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/clinical-considerations.html> (Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Authorized in the United States)
- [US COVID-19 Cases Caused by Variants | CDC](#) (reported cases in the US caused by SARS-CoV-2 variants)

## MMWRs

- Nguyen KH et al. COVID-19 Vaccination Intent, Perceptions, and Reasons for Not Vaccinating Among Groups Prioritized for Early Vaccination — United States, September and December 2020. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2021;70:217–222. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm7006e3>
- Gee J, et al. First Month of COVID-19 Vaccine Safety Monitoring — United States, December 14, 2020–January 13, 2021. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep. ePub: 19 February 2021. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm7008e3>
- Hong K, et al. Decline in Receipt of Vaccines by Medicare Beneficiaries During the COVID-19 Pandemic — United States, 2020. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2021;70:245–249. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm7007a4>
- Firestone MJ, et al. First Identified Cases of SARS-CoV-2 Variant B.1.1.7 in Minnesota — December 2020–January 2021. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep. ePub: 17 February 2021. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm7008e1>



For more information, contact CDC  
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)  
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

