

KENT COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



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For Immediate Release

Health Department to Provide COVID-19 Vaccinations to Health Care Providers and First Responders

December 29, 2020— The Kent County Health Department has announced plans to roll out its COVID-19 vaccinations for health care providers and first responders, two populations identified in the State of Maryland's highest priority group- 1A. Read State of MD Vaccination Plan.

Starting December 29, 2020, Kent County health care providers (not affiliated with a hospital or long term care facility) and first responders will be the first groups to receive the Moderna vaccine. First responders include law enforcement officers, paramedics, EMTs, firefighters and crisis teams. The Health Department is already working with these groups to coordinate the vaccination efforts.

In Maryland, hospital health care providers have begun receiving the Pfizer vaccine through their health care systems, and pharmacies will begin providing the Pfizer vaccine to long-term care facilities.

Once most of the requesters in the highest priority group-1A have been vaccinated and vaccines are broadly available, the County will move to the next priority group, 1B, at announced clinics. Clinics will be announced on www.kenthd.org. Once more vaccines are broadly available with federal approval, and the County has vaccinated a significant proportion of Priority Group 1A and 1B, clinics will move to Priority Group 2 and then Group 3.

"While wearing masks, social distancing, and frequent hand washing greatly helps reduce your chance of being exposed to the virus or spreading it to others, these measures are still not



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enough to fully protect us. Vaccines provide the way out of this pandemic," said Health Officer Bill Webb. "Please continue to do your part to protect yourself, your family and your community. We can see the light at the end of the tunnel and now is the time to double down on our commitments."

For more information about the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines, visit the U.S. Food and Drug Administration website, <u>click here</u>.

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