

El Centro Family Health

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ecfh.org

Dear El Centro Patients:

An effective COVID-19 vaccine is now being distributed across the country, including New Mexico. These vaccines have been tested under strict guidelines. Studies show that the first 2 vaccines - Pfizer and Moderna – are approximately 94.5% effective in preventing COVID-19.

El Centro has already received Moderna vaccines and, in working with the State and Federal authorities, have distributed the vaccines first to the front line health care workers.

As more vaccines from Moderna arrive at our clinics, as directed by the New Mexico Department of Health, we will offer the vaccination to our established patients in the following order.

- 1. Patients 75 years old or older
- 2. Patients 18 years and older with an underlying medical condition making them at increased risk of severe illness from Covid 19.
- 3. Frontline Essential Workers
- 4. Other vulnerable populations

As numerous people want to be vaccinated – it will take some time before we receive and vaccinate everyone who chooses the vaccine. As more COVID-19 vaccines become available, more people will be offered vaccinations. We do not know when doses become available but we will continue to share information regarding the COVID-19 vaccine as we can.

In any case you should continue to observe the safety measures that reduce transmission – even after receiving the vaccination.

- 1. Wear a mask that appropriately covers your nose and mouth
- 2. Stay at least 6 feet apart from other people.
- 3. Wash your hands with soap and water regularly and/or use a hand sanitizer with at least 70% alcohol.

El Centro truly believes the COVID-19 vaccines will be effective in preventing the continued spread of COVID-19 and in keeping you – our patients – in a healthier position. To be vaccinated you must register through New Mexico Department of Health Vaccine Registration system. If you have questions, please go to https://cv.nmhealth.org/covid-vaccine/ or call 1-855-600-3453.

Thank you for trusting your health care to El Centro – we are in this together.

For more information go to the following links: https://cv.nmhealth.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/2021.1.8-DOH-Phase-Guidance.pdf