

COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution

Updated March 2, 2021

Following updated guidance from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), Children's Hospital Colorado is preparing to vaccinate patients eligible in Phases 1B.3 and 1B.4 of the State's distribution plan. We continue to advocate for inclusion of additional high-risk conditions that impact children and young adults.

As of March 1, 2021, available COVID-19 vaccines are only authorized for use in people 16 years of age and older.

Phase 1B.3

CDPHE's guidance states that patients with **two or more¹** of the following conditions will be eligible for vaccination starting in Phase 1B.3.

Phase 1B.3 eligible conditions

- **Cancer:** Patients who are currently receiving treatment or have received treatment within the last month for cancer
- **Chronic kidney disease:** Patients with renal failure or chronic renal insufficiency, patients dependent on dialysis. Examples of chronic kidney diseases include nephrotic syndrome, glomerular disorders, and tubular or interstitial renal disease
- **COPD:** This may include patients with chronic respiratory failure, patients with chronic lung disease, patients who depend on a ventilator or BIPAP machine to breathe.
- **Diabetes mellitus:** Patients with type 1 or type 2 diabetes, patients with diabetes as a result of another condition
- **Down syndrome**
- **Heart conditions:** Patients with heart failure, cardiomyopathy, coronary heart disease, congenital heart disease, and valvular heart disease. May also include patients with pulmonary hypertension.
- **Obesity:** Patients with a diagnosis of obesity, with a body mass index (BMI) ≥ 30 for adults, or with a BMI ≥ 95 percentile for age for children
- **Sickle cell disease**
- **Pregnancy:** Pregnant patients were not included in COVID-19 vaccine trials, but the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) recommends pregnant patients be offered access to COVID-19 vaccination and encourages them to talk with their doctor about the benefits and risks of vaccination.
- **Solid organ transplant:** Patients with solid organ transplant including heart, kidney, liver, and lung transplants.
- **Unable to wear a mask:** This may include patients with intellectual disability, some patients with autism spectrum disorders, some patients with significant neurological or developmental impairment related to cerebral palsy or genetic disorders, and some patients with psychiatric disorders that make them unable to wear a mask.
- **Disabilities that require direct care in the home**

Phase 1B.4

CDPHE's guidance states that patients with any **one condition** listed in Phase 1B.3 above or any one condition from the expanded Phase 1B.4 list below will be eligible for COVID-19 vaccination. All Phase 1B.3 conditions are included as eligible conditions for Phase 1B.4.

Phase 1B.4 eligible conditions

- Moderate or severe asthma
- Cerebrovascular disease: Patients who have had a stroke or have another condition affecting the blood vessels in their brain
- Cystic fibrosis
- Hypertension or high blood pressure
- Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system): This includes patients who are immunocompromised from a bone marrow or stem cell transplant, patients with a primary immune deficiency, and people living with HIV. This also includes patients taking medications that suppress the immune system such as moderate or high dose steroids and other immune-modulating medications that may be used to treat rheumatologic conditions, auto-immune diseases, inflammatory bowel disease and some neurologic conditions.
- Neurologic conditions: This may include patients with seizure disorders, neuromuscular diseases, and inherited metabolic and genetic disorders that affect the brain and nervous system. This group may also include patients who have had a spinal cord injury or severe traumatic brain injury, patients with hydrocephalus, and patients with significant intellectual disability or developmental delay.
- Liver disease: This includes patients with chronic hepatitis from an infection, autoimmune, or inflammatory process as well as patients with fibrosis of the liver or chronic liver disease from other causes.
- Pulmonary fibrosis
- Thalassemia

¹ For Phase 1B.3, having two conditions would mean having medical problems that fit into two different **bold and underlined** headings among the conditions listed. For example, a person with leukemia (a cancer) and chronic renal failure (chronic kidney disease) would have two conditions for Phase 1B.3. A person with a glomerular kidney disorder (a chronic kidney disease) who is also dependent on renal dialysis (a sign of chronic kidney disease) would have one condition because both of those medical problems fall under 'chronic kidney disease.'