



HO-CHUNK NATION DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



COVID-19 Vaccine Frequently Asked Questions.....

1. What is the current status of vaccine development?

Currently COVID-19 vaccine is being developed by multiple companies. The COVID-19 vaccine development has been following the same safety measure and testing that all vaccines that are administered in the US must undergo. Vaccine trials have been taking place for months with success.

2. Will there be only one vaccine available?

Several COVID-19 vaccines are in development but only 1 or 2 will be available at first. These first vaccines are anticipated to require two doses to be the most effective. Doses initially will come in smaller batches until capacity is increased.

3. What does Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) mean?

During public health emergencies like the COVID-19 pandemic, medical countermeasures may be needed to prevent or treat the disease. A EUA allows the FDA to review a medical counter measure for use during a public health emergency. The FDA are able to allow specific use of a vaccine until the traditional vaccine licensure is complete and approved.

4. Are the vaccines for COVID-19 safe and effective?

Safety is the top priority of any vaccine development. The COVID-19 vaccine development has been following the same safety measure and testing that all vaccines that are administered in the US must undergo. So far, the first two vaccine candidates in the US have met and/or exceeded all safety and efficacy.

5. Will everyone be offered the vaccine right away?

Unfortunately no, there will only be limited amounts of vaccine available initially. Medical staff and those that are the most vulnerable or at risk for bad health outcomes will be prioritized. The Department of Health developed a priority plan specifically for the Nation, following recommendations from CDC, ACIP, IHS, and the State of WI.

6. What has the Ho-Chunk Nation (HCN) Department of Health done to prepare for the vaccine arrival?

The HCN Department of Health has been working on a vaccine distribution plan for quite some time. The distribution will be done similar to flu vaccination clinics we have run in the past. There are many factors we have considered such as vaccine procurement, vaccine storage, vaccine handling, and logistics of setting up a distribution event, registration, documentation, staff training, patient education, and many more items.

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