



ADAMS COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

108 East North Street
Friendship, Wisconsin 53934-9443

Phone ♦608-339-4505 Fax ♦608-339-4585 e-mail ♦adamshsd@co.adams.wi.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

1/26/2021

CONTACT

Leah Eckstein, Adams County Public Health Officer

608-339-4505 Phone

leah.eckstein@co.adams.wi.us

COVID vaccination of those 65+ begins in Adams County

Adults age 65 and older are now eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine per recently updated state government guidelines. Local health officials ask for patience as they begin vaccinating eligible individuals.

“According to census estimates, there are approximately 6,106 adults in Adams County who are 65 and older,” said Leah Eckstein, public health officer with Adams County Health and Human Services. “Vaccine supplies continue to be limited and strategically dispersed. It will take time to vaccinate everyone in this age group who would like to receive it.”

Both Adams County Public Health and Gundersen Moundview Hospital and Clinics will begin vaccinating individuals age 65 and older this week. There will be differences in how they administer the vaccine, including the criteria they follow.

Adams County Public Health will hold a vaccine clinic open to anyone age 65 and older **on Wed., January 27, 2021 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Town of Rome Fire Department.** They are offering the Pfizer vaccine with limited quantities available. Vaccines will be administered on a first come, first served, regardless of health condition. They will not be taking appointments and will not maintain a waiting list. Those attending are encouraged to bring a completed consent form to help expedite the process. The form is available online at co.adams.wi.us/covid-19.

Gundersen Moundview will vaccinate all individuals age 75 and older, regardless of health. They will vaccinate those age 65-74 who have health risks as defined by the CDC. These risks include cancer, chronic kidney disease, COPD, Down Syndrome, heart conditions, obesity, sickle cell disease, Type 2 diabetes and those with weakened immune systems from organ transplants or who smoke.

“Our vaccine supplies are limited so we have established eligibility criteria for the age groups,” said Brad Shaw, pharmacy manager at Gundersen Moundview. “We look forward to offering the vaccine to everyone over age 65 when we are able.”

Gundersen Moundview is administering the Moderna vaccine. They are currently offering limited appointments on weekdays and will hold larger vaccine clinics starting on **Saturday, January 30 and Sunday, January 31. All vaccines are by appointment only.**

Both Pfizer and Moderna vaccines require two doses. Individuals are asked to return to the same location (public health or Gundersen Moundview) for their second dose. They must receive the same type of vaccine as their first dose. Pfizer's second dose is given 21 days after the first. Moderna is given 28 days after.

The vaccines will be provided at no cost to individuals, no matter where they receive it. An administration fee can be charged for giving the shot, but this fee is paid by the individual's insurance or by the federal government for those without insurance.

Individuals who signed up on Gundersen Moundview's vaccine waiting list will be called to schedule their vaccine appointment as they become eligible (age 65+ and immune compromised). Current Gundersen patients may also learn they are eligible through a message in MyChart or they will receive a letter. To help prepare for community vaccinations, Gundersen encourages current patients to establish a MyChart account now if they have not done so already.

Both public health and Gundersen Moundview plan to hold additional vaccination clinics in the community. Future clinics will be advertised in local media and on Facebook.com/adamscountypublichealth and Facebook.com/gundersenmoundview as well as local websites. Individuals are encouraged to like the public health and hospital Facebook pages to get the most up-to-date information. COVID-19 information is also available at gundersenhealth.org/covid19 and dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine.htm

It will take many months to vaccinate all Wisconsin residents. Please continue to protect yourself and those around you by staying at home as much as possible, wearing a mask in public, staying at least six feet from others, and washing your hands frequently.

###