



Hello Jefferson County Community,

Jefferson Healthcare has received our first shipment of COVID-19 Vaccine! We are excited to have been selected as one of the first sites in Washington to receive our initial allotment of vaccine. This week we will begin Phase 1a of vaccination, which prioritizes those at highest risk of exposure including healthcare workers, first responders, and long-term care facilities.

The guidelines for vaccination prioritization are established by the Washington State Department of Health. In the coming days and weeks, we expect additional guidance from the Department of Health on the prioritization of our community members not designated in Phase 1a. In addition, we await more information about the timeline of future allotments of the vaccine and anticipate the supply chain will be clarified in the new future. More information can be found on our website.

Vaccinating as many community members in as timely a manner as possible is our absolute priority and we are committed to ensuring equitable distribution of the vaccine, starting with those populations most vulnerable to COVID-19. Please understand that we are managing many variables that are out of our control as we lead this critical mass vaccination campaign.

We ask that you do not contact the hospital or your primary care provider to be placed on a wait list for vaccination. When you are eligible to receive the vaccine per the guidelines defined by WA DOH, we will inform you by:

- Our website
- Our social media platform
- Local newspapers
- Email
- And in some case phone calls

Vaccinating our entire community will be a gradual process and your patience is much appreciated. It has been a challenging year for all of us but having access to a safe and effective vaccine allows us now to see the finish line. We appreciate all you have sacrificed to help keep our community safe over the course of the pandemic and ask that you continue to follow all recommended public health measures even after you have been vaccinated so that Jefferson County continues to be as safe as possible for all of us.

Sincerely,

Joe Mattern, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Jefferson Healthcare
R. Steven Butterfield, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Medical Group, Jefferson Healthcare
Tracie Harris, MD, Chief Medical Quality Officer, Jefferson Healthcare
Tom Locke, MD, Jefferson County Public Health Officer