



## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) - COVID-19 Community Vaccinations

**1. I'm interested in receiving a COVID-19 vaccine locally. What can I do to find out when and where I can get a vaccine?**

Currently Lower Umpqua Hospital District (LUHD) is hosting weekly events to vaccinate eligible members of our community. These events have been a combination of "invitation only," as well as walk-in clinics for populations prioritized by Oregon Health Authority. If you would like to be placed on a list to be notified, you may contact our COVID-19 Vaccine Call Center at 541-271-2175 Monday-Friday 9:00am-4:00pm.

**2. I just found out there was a vaccination clinic last week, and I missed it, because I was out of town. Why can't the community be notified sooner when there are events happening locally?**

LUHD gets notified early in the week of the number of doses they may be receiving. One of our staff members will drive to the pick-up location to accept the vaccine while maintaining all safety guidelines. Our Pharmacy team inspects the vials and confirms the expected number of doses we have for the week. Once we have the doses on site and confirmed, our call center will begin calling individuals to schedule a date/time for vaccination. Due to the large number of calls, if a person is unable to accept or return the phone call in a timely manner, the call center continues to work down the list. When the district receives an unexpected allotment of vaccines, they may host a walk-in clinic. This is advertised on social media and locally. Follow us on Facebook for upcoming events.

**3. I called two weeks ago and still haven't been contacted for a vaccine clinic.**

Event planners make phone calls to individuals on the list to be vaccinated. There are hundreds of people on the list, and they make calls according to the priority populations defined by Oregon Health Authority.

**4. I heard the hospital wasted doses of the vaccine?**

LUHD has not wasted any doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. There are often times when pharmacy staff is safely able to draw out more doses from the vials than anticipated. Even these doses are administered within the recommended time frame.

**5. Are you administering the Johnson & Johnson Vaccine?**

No. Currently we are administering Moderna and Pfizer vaccines.

**6. What can I do to prepare for when it is my turn to be vaccinated?**

Our events have a fast-track option for individuals who are able to show up with all of the necessary documents completed and ready for processing. This allows their appointment time to be very minimal, sometimes less than 20 minutes (even with the 15 minute post-vaccination observation period). We also have help available for those who are unable to download the documents. Please bring your ID/Driver's License and Insurance Card. Visit our website <http://www.lowerumpquahospital.org/covid> for more information on what documents to bring to make your visit quick and efficient.

**7. I heard you can get side effects from the COVID-19 vaccine, is that true?**

As more people are obtaining their second dose of the COVID19 vaccine, there has been increased questions in regards to side effects. We know that there are increased reports of side effects with the second dose. We see this in the initial phase 3 studies and we are seeing this is true in our local population.

After the first vaccine, your immune system is getting prepared or "revving" up to fight COVID-19. When you receive the second vaccine, your immune system responds as if you have COVID-19. Because the body has developed some antibodies against COVID-19 from the first vaccine, there is a more robust immune response to the second vaccine. The listed side effects of pain and swelling at the injection site, fatigue, headache, muscle and joint pain, chills, nausea, and fever are all immune responses. In fact, some of these are expected and is a signal that a good immune response has taken place.

It is not recommended to take Tylenol or NSAIDs (like ibuprofen) prior to getting the vaccine to prevent adverse reactions. However, if you have a robust immune response that is preventing sleep, eating, or normal activity it is safe to use Tylenol or NSAIDs if you do not have an allergy to those medications.

It is advised to contact your primary care office for non-urgent questions, but you may also direct non-emergent care to our local Same Day Clinic at 541-271-6309, Monday - Friday 9:30 am to 6 pm.