

## MACDILL PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

TITLE: COVID Vaccinations on MacDill

**SUMMARY:** The 6th Medical Group has received a limited number of COVID-19 vaccinations. The vaccinations will be distributed in a phased approach in accordance with DoD guidelines. Phase 1 will include medical personnel, security forces, fire department and other first responders. For a detailed listing of those members in each phase, please see below.

For those who are in the highest priority category, The 6th Medical Group is working with your units to get you scheduled. For people with risk factors for severe infection, please work with your Primary Care Team to get scheduled. Once we have immunized the high priority volunteers, we will open up appointments to other beneficiaries and publish a dedicated telephone number for COVID-19 vaccine appointments.

Two shots are required, with at least 21 days in between. FLU shots or any other vaccines are not authorized 2 weeks before or after the COVID-19 Vaccine. If you have the choice to get the COVID-19 vaccination or the FLU shot, you are encouraged to take the very-limited COVID vaccination. It is not possible to get COVID-19 from vaccines. Vaccines against COVID-19 use inactivated virus, parts of the virus, or a gene from the virus. None of these can cause COVID-19.

The manufacture has not reported any significant safety issues with their vaccine. People have reported flu like symptoms, including muscle soreness, headaches, etc. If there are side effects, mostly they have been mild to moderate in severity. Safety Information sheets will be available to all vaccine recipients.

All Active component, Reserve component, TRICARE Prime and TRICARE Select beneficiaries, and select DoD civilians and contract personnel are authorized to receive immunizations from DoD in a prioritized order.

While accepting the vaccination is voluntary, it will dramatically reduce the chance that you will contract COVID-19 infection. Being vaccinated may also protect people around you, particularly people at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19. Achievement of community (herd) immunity is dependent on a high percentage of vaccine receipt by the entire population.

Those offered the first-available vaccines are considered to be in groups that are most in need of COVID-19 protection. Vaccinated people will be protecting themselves, as well as their families and all people with whom they interact. Evaluation of the first-available vaccine will continue, even after its pre-

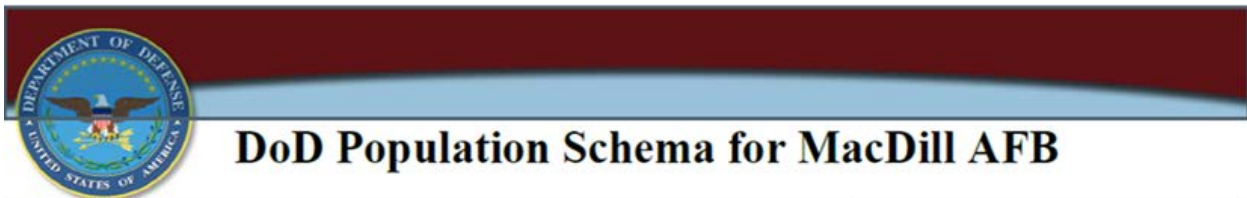
licensure release. The release of other vaccines cannot be fully predicted, so people who are offered the first-available vaccine are encouraged to receive this vaccine.

For COVID-19 Vaccine related questions, please use one of the following methods below.

1. Call the COVID-19 Vaccine line at 813-827-1918
2. Email the COVID-19 Vaccine Org box at usaf.macdill.6-mdg.mbx.immunizations1@mail.mil

For medical related questions, please contact your Primary Care Team by using one of the methods below.

1. Call the appointment line at 813-827-2273
2. Send a secure message through Tricare on Line  
<https://www.tricareonline.com/tol2/prelogin/desktopIndex.xhtml>



CDC Phase	DoD Phase Levels	Population Group
Phase 1a	<p>All healthcare providers, healthcare support personnel, and emergency services &amp; public safety personnel</p> <p>Healthcare and support personnel at Military Medical Treatment Facility (MTF) outpatient clinics, and ambulatory care facilities (including but not limited to dental clinics, medical homes, blood donation facilities, and counseling centers)</p> <p>Military, civilian, contractor personnel, students, and other hospital non-clinical staff authorized to receive vaccinations from DoD and who support patient care and are at heightened risk of exposure to individuals who have contracted COVID-19.</p>	<p><u>Sub-tier 1</u>                      - First Responders (i.e., Emergency Medical Services personnel, police, and fire personnel)</p> <p><u>Sub-tier 2</u>                      - None</p> <p><u>Sub-tier 3</u>                      - 6<sup>th</sup> MDG Personnel</p>
Phase 1b.1	Critical National Capabilities	- National leadership (senior staff), USSOCOM-national mission force personnel
Phase 1b.2	Personnel preparing to deploy to locations outside the United States/ DoD Beneficiaries ≥ 75 years	- Personnel scheduled to deploy OCONUS within the next 3 months and individuals on stand-by missions. This includes military, civilian, and contractor personnel authorized to receive vaccines from DoD. - DoD Beneficiaries ≥ 75 years
Phase 1c.1	DoD Beneficiaries ≥ 65-74 years those ≥ 16-65 with increased risk for severe illness as defined by CDC <sup>1</sup>	- DoD Beneficiaries ≥ 65-74 years - DoD Beneficiaries ≥ 16-65 with increased risk for severe illness as defined by CDC - Other critical and essential personnel are described as personnel whose work-related duties must be performed on-site and involve being in close proximity (<6 feet) to the public or to coworkers - Incarcerated and detainee populations
Phase 2	All persons aged ≥ 16 years not previously recommended for vaccination	- Healthy uniformed personnel (including new accessions, service academies) and beneficiaries and those not otherwise mentioned above authorized to receive vaccines from DoD.

The CDC and DoD Phases are very similar, with the DoD Phases being more specific and including certain military populations not described in the CDC Phases.