



WASHINGTON REGION

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Your COVID-19 vaccine questions answered

After many months, a COVID-19 vaccine is on the horizon. As we wait for the first vaccine to become available, please continue taking necessary steps to stay safe and healthy. Continue to wear a mask, wash your hands frequently, stay 6 feet apart, limit group gatherings, restrict nonessential travel, and remember to get your flu shot.

Meanwhile, you can hear the latest information on COVID-19 vaccines by calling [1-855-550-0951](tel:1-855-550-0951) anytime, day or night.

In addition, see answers to common questions you or your team may have:

- **Will Kaiser Permanente do its own evaluation of the safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines?**

Yes. When a COVID-19 vaccine receives an emergency use authorization from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, that vaccine will be released with safety and efficacy data. This data will be closely reviewed by our infectious disease and other clinical experts and by state and federal public health officials.

- **Who will be eligible to get the COVID-19 vaccine?**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will oversee distribution of the vaccine throughout the United States and will make recommendations about which groups of people should get it first. State officials will use the CDC's guidelines to decide which groups will get the vaccine first in their states.

Federal officials have announced that health care workers and residents of long-term care facilities should be prioritized for the first vaccinations.

There will be a limited supply available when the first vaccine is approved. We'll offer it to people who meet the criteria in each phase of the prioritization process.

- **Will there be a cost to Kaiser Permanente members for the COVID-19 vaccine?**

No. Kaiser Permanente won't charge its members for the vaccine. Vaccine doses purchased with taxpayer dollars are required by the federal government to be given at no cost.

- **Will there be a cost to employers for the COVID-19 vaccine?**

Vaccine doses purchased with taxpayer dollars under Operation Warp Speed are required by the federal government to be given at no cost, and there will be no costs for these vaccine doses that are passed to employers. Where applicable, claims for administering the vaccine to individuals will accumulate to an employer's utilization.

Please continue to check kp.org/coronavirus for the most current information on vaccines and COVID-19.

Thank you for your patience and persistence. Together, we'll continue to keep your workforce — and our communities — healthy and strong.

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