



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution for Phase 1B Populations to Begin in Holmes County**

[Holmes County, Ohio] – Beginning the week of January 19, the Holmes County General Health District will be collaborating with our local partners and emergency management agency to lead vaccination efforts under Ohio's COVID-19 Vaccination Program for residents in Phase 1B. Vaccine allocations to Holmes County continue to be very limited at this time (approx. 100 doses per week) and we ask for the public's patience with scheduling and changes as we move through each step of Phase 1B in the coming weeks.

Under Phase 1B, vaccines will be available to the following groups who choose to be vaccinated as supply allows. We will continue to try to accommodate and schedule each age group in weekly tiers beginning with those who are 80 years of age and older as announced by Governor DeWine, but vaccine availability cannot be guaranteed.

Tentative timing for vaccination distribution for Phase 1B includes the following:

- Week of January 19, Holmes County residents who are 80 years and older.
- Week of January 25, Holmes County residents 75 years and older, and those with severe congenital and developmental disorders
- Week of February 1, Holmes County residents 70 years and older, and employees of K-12 schools returning to in-person instruction
- Week of February 8, Holmes County residents 65 years and older will tentatively begin.

When a new age group begins, vaccinations may not yet be complete for the previous age group. Governor DeWine and the Ohio Department of Health have stated that it will take a number of weeks to distribute to groups included in Phase 1B due to the limited doses that are currently available.

The health department will begin scheduling vaccination appointments for those Holmes County residents 80 years and older starting on Thursday, January 14 for the week of January 19<sup>th</sup>. Please call 330-674-5035 to make an appointment for the 80+ group only. A location will be provided during the scheduling process. We ask that all individuals and caregivers wear a mask when attending their appointment.

Pomerene Hospital will also begin providing vaccines next week for those 80 years and old as supply allows. Please call (330) 674-1584 extension 1066 for more information.

More information about scheduling of additional groups will be provided through weekly updates on local radio, newspapers, the health department's Facebook page and by visiting our website at [www.holmeshealth.org](http://www.holmeshealth.org).

For weekly updates on COVID-19 vaccines via email, residents can also subscribe to our e-newsletter at by sending their name and email address to [newsletter@holmeshealth.org](mailto:newsletter@holmeshealth.org)

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