

Executive Office

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Notice Regarding COVID-19 Vaccine Administration

Thank you for your continued hard work and dedication on the front lines during this pandemic. Your resolve to care for your patients is saving lives and we are grateful for your unwavering commitment to those you serve every day.

As the COVID-19 vaccines are distributed, the Department of Consumer Affairs is supporting the State's effort to ensure that all providers follow the standards for allocating and administering COVID-19 vaccines. In particular, healing arts licensees must adhere to the current federal and state prioritization standards for allocating and administering COVID-19 vaccines in phases. The standards are available on the California Department of Public Health's website at the following link: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Drafting-Guidelines-Workgroup.aspx>

The Emergency Use Authorizations for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine and the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine issued by the federal Food and Drug Administration, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) vaccine provider agreement, each require vaccine administrators to comply with CDC vaccine management requirements, including prioritization recommendations. Additionally, to receive the vaccine, vaccination providers must enroll in the CDC's COVID-19 Vaccination Program and must sign and agree to the conditions in the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program Provider Agreement, which prohibits selling or seeking reimbursement for the vaccine and requires adherence to the federal prioritization recommendations.

There may be circumstances where COVID-19 vaccine may need to be redistributed. In these instances, vaccination providers may be allowed or required to redistribute vaccine, as approved by the Local Health Officer and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH).

Licensees must adhere to the vaccine requirements, and failure to do so, including distribution or administration of vaccine doses contrary to the phase structure identified in the federal and state guidelines, may subject them to discipline, up to and including revocation of licensure.

The CDPH will also be working with local health departments on compliance measures related to improper administration of the vaccine, including potential disenrollment from the COVID-19 Vaccination Program and/or CalVAX, thus preventing the ordering of additional COVID-19 vaccines and redistribution of COVID-19 vaccines to other compliant vaccination providers.

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Page 2

The intent of this communication is meant to bring awareness of these standards to healthcare providers as we work together in responding to this unprecedented healthcare crisis. As updated information regarding distribution and administration is released, the relevant licensing entity will continue to share information with you. Licensees are also encouraged to stay up to date on the COVID-19 allocation standards by checking back regularly at the website above.