

COVID-19 Update



March 5, 2021

We continue to actively monitor the situation regarding the most recent coronavirus, known as COVID-19. In an attempt to keep you informed about the latest developments, we are sending out regular communication such as this to provide updates and answers to frequently asked questions. **We encourage you to share these updates with all members of your team, especially those who may not have regular access to email.** The latest all-employee communications and updated responses to FAQs can be found at:

<https://www.kindredhealthcare.com/employees/covid-19-updates>.

Dear Colleagues:

I hope this week's update finds you safe and healthy. As of this week, **I am pleased to report that approximately 62% of Kindred team members have received the first dose of the vaccine, and 55% of team members have been fully vaccinated.** As vaccine distribution expands, the process remains largely a state-by-state effort, but we are continuing to work closely with all state and local organizations to ensure we are prepared to distribute the vaccine to more of our teammates as soon as doses become available.

Throughout the pandemic, we have shared regular reminders about The HOPE Fund – Kindred's 501(c)(3) charitable organization that provides support to team members facing catastrophic events, ranging from natural disasters to unexpected medical issues. In light of the brutal winter storms that swept across Texas and several other states over the last few weeks, I want to take this opportunity to remind all of our team members that The HOPE Fund is available to those who may be facing significant financial challenges related to the pandemic or damage caused by recent extreme weather. **If you are a Kindred team member who has been impacted, please contact your manager/supervisor or your local HR representative so they can initiate a HOPE Fund request on your behalf.** If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to The HOPE Fund to help support our team members in need, please complete the payroll deduction form via one of the options below:



- To complete the form manually, please print the version of the form [found here](#), complete it, and return it via fax to **1-877-737-1924**.
- To complete the form electronically, access the form from Knect via the following link (please note you must be connected to the Kindred network to complete the form electronically):
<http://legacyhome.knect.com/content//FacMgmt/HOPE%20Fund%20Payroll%20Deduction%20Form%20REV%20050719.pdf>.

The Latest on COVID-19 Vaccines Available in the United States

Over the last two weeks, there have been some promising developments related to COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness and potential near-term availability.

In late February, several media outlets reported that results from a national immunization program in Israel have shown the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine to be close to 90% effective at "[preventing laboratory-confirmed infections](#)" of COVID-19, and 99% effective at preventing deaths from the virus. While additional studies are underway to confirm these findings, these early results are very encouraging.



*The best vaccine you can get is...
the one you can get first!*

In addition, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently issued Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for the [single-dose COVID-19 vaccine developed by the Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson](#). The company began shipping its vaccine in recent days and has stated it expects to deliver enough single-shot vaccines by the end of March to enable full vaccination of more than 20 million people in the U.S., working with the federal government to manage allocation and distribution. Earlier this week, President Biden announced that Merck, one of the world's largest pharmaceutical companies, will work with Johnson & Johnson to assist in production of the vaccine, a partnership that is expected to significantly increase the vaccine supply.

Clinical trials of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine have shown [the vaccine is extremely effective in preventing severe outcomes of COVID-19](#). That means all three vaccines currently authorized for use in the U.S. – Johnson & Johnson, Pfizer-BioNTech, and Moderna – are all outstanding vaccines that almost completely remove your chances of hospitalization or death from COVID-19. As vaccine distribution expands in the days and weeks ahead, we encourage all team members to get vaccinated when you have the chance, regardless of which manufacturer's vaccine is being offered. **Put more simply: The best vaccine you can get is the one you can get first.**

A Reminder to Remain Vigilant to Protect Our Patients and Each Other

As you know, Kindred is committed to strict safety practices and protocols in our facilities to ensure the health and well-being of our patients and our team members. Each of us also has a responsibility to take a similarly vigilant approach to safety in our personal lives so we can stay healthy and avoid endangering those we come into contact with when we return to work.

As some states begin to ease COVID-19 restrictions, including mask mandates, it is important to remember we still have to do our part to keep our patients and our coworkers safe. Our Core Value of Stay Focused on the Patient challenges each of us to:



Stay Focused on the Patient

- Be a passionate advocate for your patients
- Create the best patient and family experience possible
- Prioritize excellent patient care delivery above all else
- Support caregivers to deliver the best patient outcomes

We care for some of the nation's most medically complex patients across our care settings, so being passionate advocates includes adhering to standard safety measures both inside the workplace and beyond. As always, I appreciate your commitment to safeguarding the health of the patients who place their trust in us, your coworkers, and the most vulnerable members of our communities.

REMINDER: Healthy Steps Wellness Points Available for Vaccine Activities

Team members and their covered spouses/partners who participate in Kindred's Healthy Steps Wellness program now have the opportunity to complete two separate activities related to the COVID-19 vaccine to earn Healthy Steps Wellness points.

Activity #1: Understanding the COVID-19 Vaccine. Knowing the facts about the safety and effectiveness of the COVID-19 vaccine is important. This activity will allow you to watch a brief video and answer questions about the vaccine for a chance to earn 50 points.

Activity #2: #IGotTheShot. As the COVID-19 vaccine becomes more widely available in the coming weeks and months, you can earn 50 points by tracking when you complete one or both doses of your vaccination.

For more information and to participate in these activities, you and your covered spouse/partner can sign into your personal HealthySteps Wellness accounts on your computer or mobile device at www.healthystepswellness.com (team members may also access the site from www.KindredforMe.com without a separate login).

Submit Your Questions About the Vaccine

We have an email box where you can submit questions related to COVID-19 and the vaccine that you would like to see answered in a future edition of this newsletter. Please submit your question to COVID19EmployeeQuestions@kindred.com.

As always, thank you for all you do for our patients, our partners, and each other.

Regards,

Ben Breier
Chief Executive Officer
Kindred Healthcare

Responses to Frequently Asked Questions

Kindred has established a dedicated mailbox (COVID19EmployeeQuestions@kindred.com) to collect and answer any questions you may have.

For the full list of the most current responses to frequently asked questions and other updates, please check the following page on a regular basis: <https://www.kindredhealthcare.com/employees/covid-19-updates>