

**December 15, 2020**

**Attn: ETPP Eligible Post-Age 65 Retirees & Spouses Enrolled in the Retiree Healthcare Exchange with UnitedHealthcare**

**Re: COVID-19 Vaccination Update:**

UCOR has been informed from UnitedHealthcare (UHC) that the COVID-19 vaccine will be covered with a \$0 copay until December 31, 2021. At this time, UCOR is not certain that after 2021, the vaccine will continue to be a \$0 copay; however, UHC will continue to communicate to UCOR any updates throughout the year and as the vaccine becomes more readily available to all.

Below is a link to the CDC's website of who they are recommending as a priority for the vaccine prior to having large quantities of the vaccine to provide everyone.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations.html>

Below are some important facts for your consideration:

- COVID-19 vaccines are an important step in slowing the spread of the disease. UHC encourages people to stay informed on COVID-19 vaccines and to discuss vaccination with their health care providers. UHC will help those they serve find COVID-19 vaccine information and where to get the vaccination will be one of their top priorities.
- The U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) authorized the COVID-19 vaccine from Pfizer-BioNTech for emergency use among people age 16 and older. It requires 2 doses, given 3 weeks apart.
- Initially, there will be limited supply of the FDA-authorized COVID-19 vaccine with specific groups of people having access to the vaccine. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and state health departments will provide prioritization on which groups of people should get the vaccine first and where to get it. UHC members should go to their state health departments for information on local availability.
- UHC members will have \$0 cost-share (copayment, coinsurance or deductible) no matter where they get the vaccine and including when 2 doses are required, as outlined below:
  - For Medicare health plans, UHC members will have \$0 cost-share on vaccines at both in- and out-of-network providers through Dec. 31, 2021.
- UHC members who have questions about the COVID-19 vaccine should speak with their primary care provider or a health care professional regarding vaccine recommendations given their specific health conditions.
- UHC members should plan on bringing specific documents with them to get their COVID-19 vaccine, including their insurance card or Medicare insurance card as well as their health status information.
- Once a UHC member gets the COVID-19 vaccine, members should keep their COVID-19 vaccination documentation with them. UHC members should also keep their primary care provider informed of the COVID-19 vaccines they get.
- UHC members should not receive any bills for COVID-19 vaccines\* from their vaccination provider or UHC during the national public health emergency period. If a UHC member receives a bill, they should call the number on their UHC card and they can help them determine what to do.

There are several COVID-19 vaccines in late stage clinical development in the U.S. and globally. The following is a high-level status of approvals and timing for the current leading vaccine candidates.

As of Dec. 12, 2020, here is what we know:

Vaccine Type	Manufacturer	Status of Trails	Doses Required	Expected FDA authorization review
Messenger RNA	Pfizer-BioNTech	Phase 3 complete	2	Authorized for emergency use
Messenger RNA	Moderna	Phase 3 complete	2	EUA review in mid-December 2020
Viral vector	Astra Zeneca	Phase 3 in process	2	Expected early 2021
Viral vector	Janssen	Phase 3 in process	1	Expected Q1 2021
Protein sub-unit	Novavax	Phase 3 in process	2	Expected 2021
Protein sub-unit	Sanofi/GSK	Phase 1/2 results expected December 2020.	2	Expected late 2021

For additional information, please contact UnitedHealthcare at: 1-866-868-0605.