

FIGHT COVID-19 | GET VACCINATED



Date: December 14, 2020

To: All QHS Employees and Medical Staff

From: Jill Hoggard Green, PhD, RN, President and Chief Executive Officer
Jason Chang, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

Subject: **Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Arrives at QMC-Punchbowl**

Handwritten signatures in blue ink, one for Jill Hoggard Green and one for Jason Chang.

Aloha,

We have some exciting news to report, as our first shipment of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine arrived at The Queen's Medical Center's Punchbowl campus early this morning. The box, containing 975 doses, was carefully received and its contents were moved to our special freezer for safe storage.

We anticipate administering the first vaccine on Tuesday, December 15. Queen's is following vaccine distribution guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Hawai'i Department of Health. The first supply will be available to health care professionals who have the highest risk of exposure due to the work they do caring for COVID patients.

There will be an ongoing tiered approach to eventually offer all QHS employees the opportunity to receive the vaccine. When the vaccine becomes available for the phase you are in, you will receive an email notification with a link to schedule your appointment. More information on this process will be forthcoming. At this time, the vaccine is not mandatory for employees.

The federal government has granted Emergency Use Authorization for the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for people 16 years of age or older. A study showed it was 95% effective against the virus. The vaccine is actually two shots that are given 21 days apart. You can't get COVID-19 from the vaccine. The most common reactions were pain or redness at the injection site, fatigue, headache, chills, joint pain and fever.

People who receive the vaccine should continue to wear face masks, practice good hand hygiene and maintain physical distancing until enough vaccine is distributed to the general population and the COVID case numbers have significantly decreased.

For more information, please see the attached FAQ document. We'll also be posting updated information on the COVID Intranet site.

Mahalo.