

Town of Middlebury
Emergency Management Bulletin
January 25, 2021

Bulletin Update

COVID Vaccination Call Center Open at Noon Today – 855-722-7878

According to DPS Commissioner Mike Schirling and feedback from folks who have registered on-line, the system appears to be working smoothly, as of around 10:30 this morning 6,000 registrations have already been received and vaccinations scheduled.

Call center for phone-in registrations opens at noon today:

The call center will open at noon today for anyone who is unable to register online or who needs to speak with someone in a language other than English. These Vermonters can call **855-722-7878**. Going forward, the call center hours will be Monday to Friday 8:15 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. and Saturday to Sunday 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

A reminder, the link for on-line registration (the preferable way to register) is:

<https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/getting-covid-19-vaccine>

Whether on-line or calling in, there are some conditions for registering:

1. You must be a Vermont resident
2. You are age 75 or older
3. Clinics will not accept walk-ins, you MUST register
4. If you set up an account when you got tested at one of the VDH testing sites, you can use that account information when registering.

From Porter Hospital- Additional Information On The Vaccinations

Vaccinations in this phase will begin January 27 at Health Department clinics and other locations around the state. Registrants will choose a location when making their appointment. There are no walk-ins. Appointments are required to receive a vaccine.

People who receive their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine will get either the Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine. Like when receiving other immunizations, most people will be asked to wait for 15 minutes after receiving the vaccine to watch for reactions. They will also be given information about side effects and how to report any adverse reactions.

After getting their first dose, clinic staff will help people make an appointment to receive their second dose. Getting fully vaccinated with both doses provides the best protection against the virus.

The COVID-19 vaccine supply from the federal government is still limited, which is why vaccinations are being rolled out in phases, beginning with those who are most likely to experience severe illness and death from COVID-19. The Health Department will provide more information about registration for the next eligible groups when it is available.

States are receiving roughly the same number of doses from the federal government, on a percentage of population basis. Vermont is a national leader in the rate of vaccinations distributed and administered. And Vermont is the first state in the country to have a higher percentage of its population vaccinated than the percentage of residents who have been infected with the virus.

It is important for Vermonters to know that other states that have broader eligibility strategies do not have a larger supply of vaccine. This has caused frustration, confusion, shortages and delays in these states. Vermont's age-banding approach is intended to avoid these complications, while protecting those most at risk of severe illness or death.

Weekend Stats

406 new infections were reported over the weekend, indicating that the current known active infections statewide is over 3,500. Imagine for a moment, with that number of known infections how many more infections have not been identified and are out there among us.