

DBP DR.'S DESK – COVID-19 VACCINATION

Dr. Kevin Aister M.D. – DBP Medical Director

UPDATE
as of 1/29/2021

Vaccination process is underway, but very slow due to product availability.



Updates:

- **Vaccine Distribution News:**

- Vaccination process is very slow due to product availability, this is not only a US issue, but also a worldwide issue.
- Over 26 million have been vaccinated in the US, with AZ in the middle of distribution and administration of the vaccine.
- Infrastructure is being reviewed to allow for pharmacy and physician office distribution.
- Pfizer and Moderna are still the only vaccines being distributed.

- **Vaccine Manufacturing:**

- Both Astra Zenica (two dose) and Johnson & Johnson (single dose), are in clinical trials; however, it may be April/May before the trials will be put in front of the FDA for EUA-Emergency Use Authorization.

- **Transmission:**

- Pfizer and Moderna do claim immunity around new strains that are presenting. However, Moderna has initiated a clinical trial of their existing 2 dose vaccine by adding a third booster dose of vaccine. This trial is expressly being used to assess the immune response to mutating strains.
- Several scientific studies suggest that up to 60-75% of COVID viral transmission is from asymptomatic carriers. If substantiated, it will challenge disease containment.
- The vaccine prevents development of disease, but does not prevent viral transmission. That is the definition of “an asymptomatic carrier.”
- The new strains are reported as showing increased infectivity. However, the data does not support any increase in virulence.

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