Indian Health Service
All Tribal and Urban Indian Organization Leaders Call

JANUARY 6, 2022
Opening Remarks

ELIZABETH FOWLER
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR
INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE
Tribal and Urban Indian Organization Leader Call
January 6, 2021

LORETTA CHRISTENSEN, MD MBA MSJ FACS
CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER
INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE
Strategy 1 - Prevent

• Get vaccinated, including boosters!!!
• Continue to take all precautions!!!!
• The 3 W’s:
  • Wear a mask
  • Wait 6 feet apart
  • Wash your hands
Strategy 2 - Detect

- 3,644,317 tests have been performed, 9.2% positive
- IHS areas are in high transmission
  - The vast majority of these positive cases are the unvaccinated
- Current 7-day rolling positivity is 21.7%
- Home testing: QuickVue is available
Omicron

- Replicates at a high rate in the upper airway which increases the transmissibility
  - Coughing, talking etc. will send the aerosol into the space

- Vaccination is the best protection

- Public health measures always are protective
  - Will need better masks or double masks in close spaces

- Omicron is now 95.4% of our cases

- The vaccinations are effective at preventing severe illness, hospitalization and death

- The booster doses are very important
Strategy 3 - Treat

- Therapeutics: Monoclonal antibody therapy is available
  - Sotrovimab is effective against Omicron
- Critical Care Response Teams are still deploying
- The 2 oral antivirals are approved
  - Molnupiravir and Paxlovid
  - There is a limited supply at this time
  - Both are given in 5 day treatment
Strategy 3 - Treat

• FDA issued an EUA for Evusheld (tixagevimab/cilgivamab)
• This is a long acting pre-exposure prevention of COVID-19
• Must still get vaccinated
• For immunocompromised patients or those on immuno-suppressive therapy or severe adverse reaction to available COVID-19 vaccinations
• Protection for 6 months
Strategy 4 - Recover

• Continue to address trauma, behavioral health, substance use disorder, grief and loss
• Monitoring and care of those who have had COVID-19 who may have Post-Covid or long Covid syndrome
Vaccine Task Force
Vaccine Update

RADM Francis Frazier
Director, Office of Public Health Support
Indian Health Service
Recent Pfizer Changes

• **Booster Doses**
  • Now **boosters are expanded to include individuals 12-15 years.**
    • Everyone **12 years** and older should get a booster.
  • The **booster interval was shortened from 6 months to 5 months** for the Pfizer vaccine.
    • Everyone should get a booster **at least 5 months** after receiving a Pfizer primary series.

• **Third Doses**
  • Children **5 and older with weakened immune systems** should receive a **third dose** of Pfizer vaccine in their primary series, at least 28 days after the second dose.
  
  ◦ Data show that boosters help broaden and strengthen protection against Omicron and other variants. Expansion of the booster recommendations will provide optimized protection against COVID-19 and the Omicron variant.
COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations

• Everyone aged 5 years and older should receive a COVID-19 vaccine
  ◦ The CDC preferentially recommends the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines over the Janssen/Johnson & Johnson vaccine.
  ◦ If desired, the Janssen/Johnson & Johnson may still be used.

• If eligible for a booster, get one!
  • 12 years -17 years
    ◦ At least 5 month after a Pfizer primary series.
  • 18 years and older
    ◦ At least 2 months after a Janssen/Johnson & Johnson dose.
    ◦ At least 5 months after a Pfizer primary series.
    ◦ At least 6 months after a Moderna primary series.

• Boosters significantly reduce the risk of severe COVID-19 infection

• Any brand can be used as a booster – talk with your provider about which one is right for you
Administration Data – CDC Tracker

National Data from CDC Tracker as of 1/4/2022
• Total delivered 614 million
• Total doses administered 512 million
• At least 1 dose administered 244 million (73.8%)
• Fully vaccinated 206 million (62.2%)
• Booster Dose 71 million (34.7% of fully vaccinated)
Administration Rate 83%

IHS Data from CDC Tracker as of 1/4/2022
• Total distributed 2.54 million
• Total doses administered 2.03 million
• At least 1 dose administered 1,029,852 (49.4% of 2.1 million total pop)
• Fully Vaccinated 820,830 (39.4% of 2.1 million total pop)
• Booster Dose 194,809 (23.7% of fully vaccinated of 2.1 million total pop)
Administration Rate 80%

Notes:
• Data is pulled by CDC at 6am ET
• IHS data is sent at 1pm ET daily
• 2.1 million total population reflects AI/AN individuals, non-beneficiaries, health care personnel, and essential workers

Data Source: CDC COVID Data Tracker
Fully Vaccinated and Up To Date Definitions

• The definition of fully vaccinated remains unchanged.
  ◦ ≥2 weeks after receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose series (Pfizer or Moderna) or ≥2 weeks after receipt of the Janssen/J&J vaccine.

• The CDC is emphasizing being "up to date" on boosters
  ◦ Receiving the booster dose at the eligible time is considered being up to date
  ◦ CDC encourages everyone to stay up to date on vaccinations – is reflected on the CDC website, "CDC recommends that people remain up to date with their vaccines, which includes additional doses for individuals who are immunocompromised or booster doses at regular time points“
  ◦ Website: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html
Looking Forward

• Adolescents
  ◦ Moderna application for adolescents 12-17 years submitted to FDA, pending review

• Pediatrics
  ◦ Moderna for ages 6-11 years: 2022, exact timeline unknown for submission of EUA application
  ◦ Moderna for 6 months to 5 years: 2022, exact timeline unknown for submission of EUA application
  ◦ Pfizer for 2 to 4 years: delayed until "first half of 2022"
    ◦ Pfizer press release 12/17/21 indicated that the 2 to < 5 age group did not meet the pre-specified immune response
    ◦ No safety concerns identified; favorable safety profile observed
    ◦ A 3mcg, 2-dose series was studied
    ◦ Pfizer decided to expand the trial and study a 3-dose series option
All Tribal and Urban Indian Organization Leaders Call

• **Next Call:** Thursday, February 3, 2022 at 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

• **IHS Event Calendar:** [https://www.ihs.gov/ihscalendar/](https://www.ihs.gov/ihscalendar/)