1. Department of Defense (DoD) is following the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) priority guidelines for COVID-19 vaccine distribution.

2. TRICARE beneficiaries should reach out to their local military hospital or clinic, retail pharmacies, or local or state vaccine distribution sites to find out when and how the vaccine will be made available based on the phased distribution plan.

3. Adults ages 75 and older have been moved to Phase 1b of the U.S. COVID-19 Vaccination Program. Previously, adults ages 75 and older were part of Phase 1c. The DoD will accommodate all beneficiaries on the CDC priority list.
   a. Phase 1a includes healthcare, emergency, and safety personnel.
   b. Phase 1b includes essential workers and adults ages 75 and older.
   c. Phase 1c includes adults ages 65-74 and adults ages 16-64 with certain pre-existing medical conditions.

To learn more, visit: www.tricare.mil/covidvaccine
4. There are currently three vaccines authorized in the United States to prevent COVID-19. Two vaccines each require two doses to be fully effective, and the third requires a single dose. Beneficiaries should get their second shot as close to the recommended 3-week or 4-week interval as possible, as instructed by a health care provider
   a. For vaccines requiring two doses, beneficiaries should confirm they receive the same vaccine for both shots. This is because the COVID-19 vaccines are not compatible with each other.
   b. Beneficiaries need to bring their COVID-19 vaccination record card to their second dose appointment for verification. Beneficiaries are strongly encouraged to make a backup copy their COVID-19 vaccination record card for reference.

5. There is no cost to receive the COVID-19 vaccine at a network or non-network retail pharmacy. But, if a beneficiary goes to a civilian provider, there may be a cost for an office visit based on their plan.

6. Once the COVID-19 vaccination process is completed, beneficiaries should submit documentation to their provider so it can be added to their health record.

7. Beneficiaries are encouraged to stay connected to their local military hospital or clinic’s social media site, retail pharmacies, local or state vaccine distribution websites, and community news for the most up-to-date information about vaccine availability in their area.

**Additional Resources:**

- To learn about the DoD’s distribution plan, including the populations included in each phase and tier, visit: [www.defense.gov/Explore/Spotlight/Coronavirus/Vaccine-Availability/](http://www.defense.gov/Explore/Spotlight/Coronavirus/Vaccine-Availability/)
- For more information on the COVID-19 vaccine, as well as a list of commonly asked questions, visit: [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html)
- To learn more about local and state vaccine distribution plan, visit: [www.usa.gov/state-health](http://www.usa.gov/state-health)
- For local military hospital or clinic contact information, visit: [www.tricare.mil/mtf](http://www.tricare.mil/mtf)
- For updates about which local pharmacies have vaccine availability, visit: [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/retail-pharmacy-program](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/retail-pharmacy-program)