

From: [REDACTED]
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:56:14 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Good evening,

I am writing to you to make you aware of a group of people who should be considered for the next phase of vaccine distribution. We are a vulnerable group. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] These children have various diagnoses. My child is 4 years old and [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. Most parents like myself have opted to become full-time caregivers. Some children do qualify for private duty nursing. I personally have opted out of having nurses assisting us in the home because of the risk of getting COVID and would jump for the opportunity to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

We are a vulnerable group because if we get sick, who will be able to care for our medically complicated children? They may have to be admitted to a facility specialized to care for them. This may be a short term stay but what happens to our children if we pass away? We love our children and we always do what we believe is in their best interest. Parents/guardians getting a vaccine would protect them from getting ill as well. Please consider the parents and guardians of this specific group.

I have just found this opportunity to voice my opinion on who should be considered for group 1b today. I have sent a message to a support group with 243 members in the Racine, Milwaukee, Kenosha, and Waukesha area. Our children frequent Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. I am hoping that they will have time to write to you also, but if they cannot please keep us in mind. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rosa Seymour

From: [Bruce Neumann](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: "vaccine subcommittee" "Phase 1B"
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:52:00 PM

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I am questioning why age 70 was chosen as the cutoff for inclusion in Phase 1B, and why those who are immunocompromised are not included? I strongly recommend that those who are immunocompromised also be included in Phase 1B, as this group is at very high risk for serious illness or death, perhaps as much or even more than those age 70 and above.

Thank you for your consideration.

Bruce Neumann

From: [Cathleen Bleidorn](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:49:54 PM

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Please consider putting people with pre-existing conditions in this category. My daughter is [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] She is very vulnerable, has two boys in high school, a husband going to work every day, (all of whom could bring the virus home in spite of being very careful). She should get the vaccine quickly. Please!

From: [Kathy Goerman](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:44:25 PM

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RE: 1B classification for vaccination distribution.

Hello. I am writing to request that you please add a category of individuals to the 1B vaccination offering, young people who have advanced stage cancer or who are on chemotherapy. I am a cancer survivor and met many others on my journey. A young woman who I met, now a dear friend, who has greatly touched my life is [REDACTED]. She is in the last years of her life and is particularly at risk of dying if she were to contract COVID-19. She has to go to the hospital a few times a month, a place where she could be exposed to COVID-19. Currently, she will not be eligible to receive the vaccine for quite some time. Please from the bottom of my heart, add this group of individuals to the 1B phase of vaccine distribution and give her a chance to enjoy as much time as she can of life with the reassurance that she has been vaccinated.

Sincerely,
Kathy Goerman

From: [James Stupka](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: "vaccine subcommittee" and "Phase 1B"
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:40:27 PM

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I am a 60 y/o transplant patient on immunosuppression meds. My wife and daughter both work in schools and will get the vaccine but are more concerned about me. They have stated they would give up their dosage since I am the highest risk. I babysit my 2 y/o granddaughter every day. If anyone in the family gets it and gives it to me, I will die.

Kindof makes sense,
Thanks for your consideration.

From: [Lisa Davidson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Olson, Lisa A - DHS](#); [Graves, Kiva R - DHS](#); [Genz, Betsy A - DHS](#); [Benton, Anna C - DHS](#)
Subject: DSPN comments to SDMAC vaccine subcommittee on Phase 1b recommendations
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:33:49 PM
Attachments: image001.png
DSPN comments vaccine subcom 1.18.21.pdf

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On behalf of the members of the Disability Service Provider Network, please accept the attached comments regarding the proposed guidance for the next phase in vaccination.

Thank you.

Lisa M. Davidson | *Chief Executive Officer* | [DSPN](#)
608-661-2913 office | 414-403-1169 cell | ldavidson@dspn.org
16 N. Carroll St., Suite 300 Madison, WI 53703



From: [Alsteen, Maisie](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:20:58 PM

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To Whom it May Concern,

As a provider of individuals with disabilities, I support including people with disabilities in the 1B cohort of people to receive the COVID vaccine.

People with physical and intellectual disabilities, are at higher risk for serious or fatal illness from COVID-19 and feel that they should be placed in the 1B cohort to get the vaccine as soon as possible.

Thank you for including this particularly vulnerable population in the COVID vaccine priority group 1B.

Best regards,

Maisie Alsteen



Maisie Alsteen | Program Instructor
Direct 920.593.4386 (ext 625) | **Main** 920.498.2599 | **Fax** 920.498.2652
1673 Dousman Street | Green Bay, WI 54303
Email malsteen@aspiroinc.org | Web www.aspiroinc.org

Connect with us:



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From: [Julie Brooks](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:20:12 PM

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I am writing to you to request that Phase 1b prioritize those of us educators that are currently face to face with students. I am a school psychologist on the Milwaukee Public Schools initial special education evaluation team. The Department of Instruction is requiring that students continue to be evaluated for special education needs, even though MPS has been virtual this school year. My team and I conduct face to face evaluation of students ages 2-21. School psychologists conducting these evaluations must break social distancing guidelines and often are unable to have young or moderately disabled children wear masks in rooms with little to no ventilation. Testing sessions typically take 60-90 minutes. We also must use a series of manipulatives, demonstrating puzzles and use of other materials to students with intellectual, physical, sensory, and social-emotional disabilities. Testing sessions occur up to 4 times per day. I am asking that school psychologists (clinicians similar to school speech pathologists and occupational/physical therapists) be a priority in Phase 1b, along with EMTs, Fire-fighters, and Police. We understand that educators are in this phase of vaccination, but urge you to consider- at the very least, our evaluation team psychologists (n=40), as they see more evaluations per day than psychologists in any other district. Milwaukee is a hot spot for the virus. Please assist us in keeping our families and students with special needs safe. Psychologists were the only school-based clinician excluded from Phase 1a.

Thank you,

Julie Brooks
School Psychologist, EdS, NCSP
303-809-8527

From: [Elizabeth Cave](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Priority 1B Vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:19:27 PM

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Dear Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee,

I am writing to have school psychologists in MPS, particularly the approximately 25 of us on the Special Education (IEP) Evaluation Team, be a priority in Phase 1B, along with EMTs, Fire-fighters, and Police. School psychologists on the IEP Evaluation Team are among the extremely small percentage of staff who have been mandated to work with MPS students in-person on a daily basis since August. We evaluate for a range of disabilities, having to use tests that break social distancing guidelines. Oftentimes these evaluations are with children who may not be mask compliant or are transitioning from the Birth to 3 program and are too young for a mask. We often meet with multiple families in a single day, some of us in poorly ventilated rooms.

Milwaukee has always been a COVID-19 hot spot in the state and because of that, MPS has been closed to all in-person instruction. However, since the 20-21 school year began, the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) has not granted any leeway on evaluations for Special Education, so the IEP Evaluation Team members have been the only ones to meet with students in-person for an extended period of time to complete the necessary testing.

Our speech pathologists and OT/PT colleagues who evaluate these same students, have been provided with the opportunity to get the vaccine in Phase 1A. However, we were not and remain the only school based clinician excluded from Phase 1A. Families get these same types of evaluations in the community from psychologists in medical facilities that have already been granted the vaccine.

By virtue of the fact that DPI has said these evaluations from school based clinicians must carry on in-person separates us from other educators in which the state has made no mandates that teachers go in-person. MPS deemed in-person learning to dangerous for educators and students, yet we still have to do our role in-person. Please help keep the MPS school psychologists and all the families we work with safe and make us priority in Phase 1B.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Cave
MPS IEP Evaluation Team School Psychologist

From: [Abigail Leonhart](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee: Phase 1B Public Comments
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:16:12 PM

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Dear Vaccine Subcommittee,

I am writing to request that adults with compromised immune systems be included in Phase 1B of the Covid-19 Vaccine Rollout plan as this population is extremely vulnerable and high risk for sever complications if infected with Covid-19.

Thank you for your consideration,

Abby Leonhart

From: [Sarah & Matt Maio](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:13:21 PM

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Good afternoon,

I am writing today to encourage more open accessibility for those who are ready to get the COVID-19 vaccine, whether they fall in the 1B parameters or not. Especially those who have pre-existing conditions but are younger than 60, which still makes them highly susceptible to the virus. Not at the detriment of others, but if high-risk people are ready to roll up a sleeve please allow us access to an appointment as soon as possible.

Sincerely

Sarah Maio

From: [Carol Marshall](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:08:03 PM

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Hi,

I am [REDACTED] so my immune system is compromised. I also

[REDACTED]
I would like to recommend that people 65 and up who have underlying health issues be included in 1B,

Thanks,

Carol

From: [Stephanie Petersen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B (the vulnerable)
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:07:18 PM

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Dear Coronavirus Vaccine Committee,

I really think Wisconsin is missing the mark with the 1B group for the vaccine. I totally agree with people 70 and over, I personally think it should be the 65 that was originally talked about though. I also agree with the non-EMS first responders. Other than that I don't, the people dying are older people and those with underlying health conditions. Look at the numbers the state puts out. So we should be getting those the vaccine before giving it to people that likely will not end up in the hospital. Why would we give it to teachers and child care workers that many are young with no health issues. I would agree if it was just being given in those groups to older teachers etc and those that had health issues.

My husband is 49 years old [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] He has young kids at home and was told if he got covid it would not be a good outcome [REDACTED].
We have a friend that is in his 60's [REDACTED] and he again does not fall in your list but would most likely not make it right now if he got the virus. Why would you put these people at the bottom behind people that have no issues and will most likely be fine. Stop the pain and suffering help those that will put stress on our medical system and most likely have a greater chance of dying from the virus.

This helps the whole community use science and help the most vulnerable. My husband's job is supplying parts to the power grid in the US and around the world. He can not stay home and hide which is what some feel people that have issues should do. He was laying in the hospital after liver surgery and taking phone calls from a few hospitals that needed equipment for their transformers that supply power to their facilities. He was helping prioritize equipment as due to covid he was not getting all the parts he needed. Hospitals and government facilities always take priority with him. If he is sick it is a problem.

Last why you would give the vaccine to prisoners in this group is ridiculous. They are not going out to the community to spread it and they can be kept in their cells and quarantined. The elderly in nursing homes have no choice the prisoners made their choice. How about saving people that have can spread it and have to still work and pay taxes.

I really hope you take care of the vulnerable before blanket groups. I would give everything to get my husband vaccinated. The stress on our family since March has been so bad, my kids have stayed on line to protect their father. They don't go out, they don't hang with friends, their dad getting the vaccine affects everyone and for our family would be a huge game changer. I am 52 [REDACTED] but I would put my husband way before me as he is the most vulnerable. I have always thought we protect in this country, please protect the vulnerable.

Thank you for listening

Stephanie Petersen
[REDACTED]

From: CBECK2001@wi.rr.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID 1B and 65 with existing health issues
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:00:25 PM

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My sister [REDACTED]. Over the weekend I learned that Vets at the VA got the vaccine by virtue they were 65 and enrolled at a VA clinic. My sister and others like her should be at least as high up. No qualifier was made for vets that they had to have a pre existing condition, they just had to be vets at least 65 and registered with any VA clinic. The roll out is forgetting my sister who is 65 but not a vet. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Please fix this oversight. [REDACTED]

Thank you

Carol

From: [Tom Pitsch](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccination
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:58:51 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I am a prediabetic and 63 years old, and my wife and I want to go to Florida for the month of April, my question is will we be vaccinated soon so we can make flight and car rental arrangements. Thanks for everything you have been doing, very much appreciated!!

Thanks

Tom & Vicki Pitsch

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Dennis Doty](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: comment on vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B recommendations
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:57:25 PM

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I have read the Phase 1B recommendations and I do not see anything about people with immune deficiencies, such as transplant recipients who are on immune-suppression drugs. Such people are extremely vulnerable, and should be vaccinated in Phase 1B.

Sincerely,

Dennis Doty

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [John Treiber](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:56:23 PM

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My comment would be to open it up like other states that have given a vaccine to many more people. Please consider people aged 60 or at least 65 and older. Also people with disabilities who live in group homes of various types and sizes. They are also at greater risk of severe reaction to Covid.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

John Treiber

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [Molly](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccination comments
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:51:09 PM

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To Whom It May Concern

I am writing this to decision makers that are responsible for determining the populations that are included in specific vaccine distribution groups:

Individuals with Down Syndrome (Trisomy 21) have a death rate that is 8-10 times that of the general population, which has been documented in scientific and medical literature. This wonderful, loving, and vulnerable population has three copies of a gene on chromosome 21 (TMPRSS2) which is believed to be significantly involved in the replication of SARS-CoV-2.

Two articles that document many of the scientific explanations for this may be helpful resources: "People with Down Syndrome Face High Risk From Coronavirus" in Science, Vol 370, Issue 6523, pp. 1384-1385, dated 18 Dec 2020, and "COVID-19 and Down's Syndrome: Are We Heading For a Disaster?" in the European Journal of Human Genetics, Vol 28, pp. 1477-1478 (2020), .

I implore you to please include individuals with Down Syndrome in Vaccine Group 1B in the State of Wisconsin.

Thank you,
Molly Agnew Sievers PT, DPT, NCS



From: [Nikki Bissell](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:46:32 PM

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Hello,

I am writing in to have consideration of transplant patients included in this phase 1B. I am 40 years old [REDACTED]. I have done everything possible and have not contracted covid. I am scared now.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] But I lived, I fought hard, I was lucky. Please don't forget about us, I want to live life [REDACTED] Please don't let me potentially catch covid and chances slim I would make it. I would be happy to be a Guinea pig to that the vaccine. I weighed pro and cons and my best way to live is have the vaccine asap.

Please consider us, I have been basically a shut in unless I must go out. So many not wearing masks. I'm terrified.

Respectfully,
Nicole Bissell

From: [Accra Zuberi](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid Vaccination
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:35:05 PM

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To whom it may concern,

Please include people with pre existing conditions and who are also completeing chemo to join the mass vaccinations happening in Wisconsin. It could save my friends life, and could be the thing that allows me one more chance to see her again.

Accra Zuberi

From: [Matthew Stegmann](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee: Phase 1B Public Comments
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:33:19 PM

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Dear Vaccine Subcommittee,

I am writing to request that adults with compromised immune systems be included in Phase 1B of the Covid-19 Vaccine Rollout plan as this population is extremely vulnerable and high risk for severe complications if infected with Covid-19.

Thank you for your consideration,

Matthew Stegmann

--

Matthew Stegmann
Owner/Master Electrician
ECE Electric LLC
7626 Grinde Rd.
De Forest, WI 53532
(608) 419-0044
stegmann.ece@gmail.com



Virus-free. www.avast.com

From: [Abby Dreps](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:30:53 PM

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Hello,

I am writing as a school psychologist at Milwaukee Public Schools, the largest school district in the state. While MPS has been virtual this school year, we continue to conduct in person evaluations with students in every building. MPS has a centralized initial evaluation team, with approximately 50 evaluators (psychologists and speech pathologists), who have been conducting face to face evaluation of students ages 3-21 since August 2020. School psychologists must break social distancing guidelines and often are unable to have young or moderately disabled children wear masks. We also must use a series of manipulatives, demonstrating puzzles and use of other materials to students with intellectual, physical, sensory, and social-emotional disabilities. Psychologists assigned to the evaluation team test daily, multiple students per day. MPS currently has approximately 160 school psychologists. We are asking that school psychologists (clinicians similar to school speech pathologists and occupational/physical therapists) be a priority in Phase 1b, along with EMTs, Fire-fighters, and Police. Please understand that in the school system we function similarly as the state defined "health professionals." In fact, since August, school psychologists evaluate more students and spend more time completing in-person tasks than school nurses, occupational therapists, physical therapists, and children's health assistants, who have been defined as 1a. I urge the committee to consider the logistics of the school system when prioritizing vaccines for group 1b. Milwaukee is a hot spot for the virus. Please assist us in keeping our families and students with special needs safe. Psychologists were the only school-based clinician excluded from Phase 1a.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Abby Dreps

From: [carolyn kent](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee: Phase 1B Public Comments
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:26:24 PM

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Dear Vaccine Subcommittee,

I am writing to request that adults with compromised immune systems be included in Phase 1B of the Covid-19 Vaccine Rollout plan as this population is extremely vulnerable and high risk for sever complications if infected with Covid-19.

Thank you for your consideration,

Carolyn Stegmann

From: [Michael Greinke](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Re: Recommendation for COVID vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:08:15 PM

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Nice work!

On Mon, Jan 18, 2021 at 1:52 PM Bill Greinke [REDACTED] wrote:

To Whom It May Concern:

I am taking this opportunity to recommend that favorable consideration be made to set the minimum age limit at 65 rather than at 75.

My rationale for this consideration is that restricting the availability of the vaccine to only 75 and older misses the more significant group of elderly who are retired and more active in society which thereby makes them more susceptible to exposure of the virus; as well as being the larger grouping of the elderly that are more prone to major surgeries and procedures.

Since the first wave of vaccines included institutionalized elderly, you have already significantly addressed those 75 and older. Consideration must now be given to people like my wife and I who are each months yet from 75. She has undergone 2 surgeries and months-long physical therapy sessions in 2019-20. I'm scheduled for a hip replacement in 3 weeks for which my surgeon strongly recommends I do my best to get a vaccination prior to that surgery. We, as an example, are considered relatively healthy and active for our age yet we spend, on average, one day a week with some sort of medical appointment. And friends, who are in the 65 – 75 age frame report similar medical experience.

My point is that by cutting off those 65 – 74 you are not going to get the reduction in virus contagion and hospitalizations that you need to make a more complete and faster difference.

Respectfully,

William P. & Judith K. Greinke

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

--

-Mike Greinke

[REDACTED]

From: [Dale Herold](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee and Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:04:32 PM

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I agree with > 70 years old. I have cancer and it seems the only way I can get vaccinated quickly.

Work a little faster on the final approval of the groups. IT WOULD ALLOW LOCAL VACCINATION PROGRAMS TO ORGANIZE. It would also reduce the anxiety of the people waiting to get the vaccine.

From: tomkarinlager@gmail.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee - phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:03:47 PM

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Dear committee members,

I am providing comment regarding the composition of the **1B** vaccine group. Please give serious consideration to the inclusion of those in the **70+** age group. As stated by Jonathan Temte, co-chair of Wisconsin's vaccine subcommittee, "People hit 70, and we start having a preponderance of comorbid conditions." This puts that group of people at much higher risk of Covid complications and, even, death. Because of this, it is critical to protect this population by moving the vaccine age requirement downward to at least the age of 70 sooner, rather than later.

Bye for now
Tom Lager

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: madisun8@aol.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: VACCINE SUBCOMMITTEE PHASE 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:03:00 PM

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To the Members of the Vaccine Subcommittee:

I would like to urge the committee to strongly consider a Phase 1B priority for those seniors who are age 65+ **AND** who have multiple medical risk factors such as asthma and hypertension etc.

It seems to me that seniors in that category would have much higher risk of requiring hospitalization or experiencing death as they face the challenges of both age AND medical issues that are particularly sensitive to the virus. It appears that currently those seniors will now have to wait another 30-60 days until Phase 1C is implemented and yet we are in the most virulent time of the virus.

Thank you for your consideration.

Hollie Relles

From: [Pamela C.](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Corona Vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:59:19 PM

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Department of Human Services:

Good Afternoon

Thank-for the opportunity to express my views for Phase 1B vaccination , in Milwaukee Wisconsin.

I would hope the Department of Human Services take under consideration of the severity and urgency of High Risk Inindividuals,

I'm 67 years of age [REDACTED]

Please take under consideration the needs of Urgent High Risk Individuals to be included, in the immediate next phase for Ovid Vaccination. WE WANT TO LIVE TO!

If there is any further information, that you would like from me, please do not hesitate to call.
Thank-you.

Respectfully,
Ms. Pamela A Clark

[REDACTED]

From: [Riemersma, Meredith](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:58:52 PM

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Dear Vaccine Subcommittee-

I am petitioning you to include **people under the age of 70 who are receiving chemotherapy** in Phase 1B of vaccine distribution in Wisconsin. As you may know, chemotherapy weakens the immune system, making people more vulnerable to catching COVID-19 and to experiencing severe complications or dying from it.

I am writing because my friend [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Please consider prioritizing her and the many others in Wisconsin who are receiving chemotherapy so that they have a [REDACTED] and living out a healthy life.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

MEREDITH RIEMERSMA (*she/her/hers*)

[REDACTED]

From: [Scot Szalanski](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B Recommendations
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:57:53 PM
Attachments: image001.png

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To Whom it May Concern,

Age must be the over riding criteria for defining members of Phase 1B and **not occupation.**

Per CDC documentation age, not occupation. is critical in protecting citizens from death from the COVID-19.

Age group	All Deaths involving COVID-19 (U07.1)1	Deaths involving COVID-19 and Pneumonia, excluding Influenza (U07.1 and J12.0-J18.9)2
35-44 years	5,742	2,589
45-54 years	15,558	7,548
55-64 years	38,830	19,569
65-74 years	70,230	35,509

COVID-19 Provisional Counts - Weekly Updates by Select Demographic and ...
<https://www.cdc.gov/nvss/vsr/>

Chart from CDC clearly shows deaths for age group 65-74 are greater then the total number deaths for age group 35-64 regardless of the occupation they have.

CDC does not report on deaths by occupation.

As a result teachers under the age of 65 should not be ahead of population over

the age of 65.

Follow the Science.

Dr. Fauci, has stated as recently as January 2021, that the coronavirus acts very differently from the flu when it comes to children. With the coronavirus, children seem to have lower levels of infection than the broader community. In fact, it may seem almost counterintuitive, but it's turning out to be that way. Dr. Fauci stated we should do everything to get the children back in school.

Nowhere in all of Dr. Fauci's statements, is there a claim that children can go to school until teachers, and their supporting staff, are vaccinated.

Age NOT occupation must be considered as leading criteria for selection into Phase 1B because due to the high risk of hospitalization and death of the over 65 age the vaccination of this population will result in a twofold benefit, reducing overall hospitalization and reducing the mortality rate resulting from COVID-19 disease.

INCLUDE POPULATION OF AGE OVER 65 AS MEMBERS INTO PHASE 1B

Scot Szalanski
Franklin, WI 53132

From: [Carol Schoendorf](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:57:51 PM

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Dear Members,

I'd like for you to consider the elderly at risk, independently living in their own homes. My folks in Wauwatosa are 93 and 92 living in their own home. Capable to drive to and from stores and appointments, yet putting themselves at higher risk by doing so. Nothing has been spoken of regarding this elderly age group. They're lumped in with 74 and older. I feel they, and other elderly living independently like them, should be in the 1a group, or definitely a priority in the 1b group.

Respectfully,

Carol Schoendorf

Sent from my iPhone

From: [kwiesestudio](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:57:39 PM

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Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Please include people with compromised immune systems.

Thank you.
Karen Larson

Sent from my U.S. Cellular® Smartphone

From: [Maryann Lippert](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee and "Phase 1B"
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:56:07 PM

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Greetings –

I am advocating for a small but important subset of people to receive the Covid vaccine in the 1B cohort.

Persons who have received an organ transplant have medically suppressed immune systems and are at increased risk of simple opportunistic infections. Covid could kill them. Organ transplants take place to save a life, and increase both quantity of years of life, as well as improve the quality of life for the recipient. A *huge* amount of health care dollars are invested in an organ transplant – not to be rude with a focus on cost, BUT after a huge spend of both public and private funds on a successful transplant, it would be rather foolish to ignore this specific subset of the population. While the logistics of identifying organ transplant recipients on a population-based platform would be nearly impossible, I believe it could be accomplished by working with major health care systems who routinely follow these patients even years after transplant.

In our specific case, my husband, [REDACTED].
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. I believe I need to receive the Covid vaccine within his 6 month window in order to protect my husband.

Thank you,
MaryAnn Lippert

From: [SHERRY L REAMES](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee, Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:38:08 PM

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Dear public servants,

I am a retired teacher who has lived, voted, and paid taxes in Wisconsin for 43 years. I'm writing today to urge you to give a high priority to vaccinating prisoners in our state institutions and jails. Keeping these men and women safe is our responsibility so long as they are "in the care of the state." We know that, unlike most of us, they cannot protect themselves with anything like a quarantine or even a short distance from potentially infected people. Many of them are in precarious health already, with conditions like diabetes and high blood pressure. Whatever offenses they may have committed in the past, they are our fellow human beings, and they do not deserve to be treated worse than the residents of other long-term care facilities. Although I am 78 years old, I do not want to be vaccinated before prisoners can do so.

Yours sincerely,
Sherry Reames,



From: [Kadow, Jessica R](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:34:18 PM

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Hello,

I am writing to encourage you to include those with **underlying medical conditions** as a **priority group in Phase 1B**. I understand this opens up a large population and I wish one could go through their PCP to be put on a list...instead of in a mass clinic. Being born with a heart condition, having type 1 diabetes or being Black or Hispanic is a little different than “smoking” or “obesity” in most cases as far as lifestyle choices. I appreciate your time.

Jessica Kadow RN, BSN, CLC
Bilingual Community Outreach Nurse

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From: [Brenda Ganther](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B COVID Vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:32:43 PM

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To Whom It May Concern,

I feel the next group Phase 1B should include people over 55 and anyone who has the comorbidities that make them more at risk for COVID and complications. I find it disturbing that for months we were told that these people were the most vulnerable and now that the vaccine is available we have so many people wanting to jump to the front of the line. What happened to protecting our most vulnerable citizens, people age 55 and over and people who have comorbidities???? There is so much data that states these are the most vulnerable citizens. I hope the state of Wisconsin takes this into consideration when planning for Phase 1B.

From: [Jean Gibbs](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid 19 vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:32:34 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I am a [REDACTED] If I get Covid, I will not make it. I am upset about reading that prisoners will be vaccinated before people with preexisting conditions. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. This does not make sense to me or my family. I have only been out 3 times since March. I feel like a prisoner but I have not done anything wrong. I need to be here to help my daughter with her 2 children. Please reconsider this proposal.

Thank you

Jean Gibbs

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [REDACTED]
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b priority
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:32:00 PM

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To Whom It May Concern,

For phase 1b I believe that people over 70 should be the priority group. This age group is still the most at risk for complications and death from COVID. Many people in this age group have home health care workers or are exposed to risk when they have to travel out of their homes for doctors appointments.

Thank you.

Lynne Muller

Sent from my iPad

From: [Brian Ramsay](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee--Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:31:33 PM

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To Whom it may concern,

My name is Brian Ramsay, I am [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I contracted COVID-19, I would not survive.

I implore you to include those with severe underlying [REDACTED] conditions in the phase 1B list.

Thank you for reading this email and considering my request.

Best,
Brian Ramsay

[REDACTED]

From: [Chris Hinkes](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:30:22 PM

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By vaccinating the high risk people who end up in hospitals we would cut down people in the hospitals thus cutting down health care worker exposures which would reduce the chain spread of this COVID from the top down

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jack Cox](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:26:29 PM
Attachments: image005.png
image006.png

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Regarding age and disability threshold for vaccination, picking a hard age risk proxy as the primary discriminator is less appropriate effective than Medical conditions, as a person age 69 suffering cardiovascular disease, is at much higher damage3r to fatality than a healthy 70 year old. I would propose that anyone above age 65 suffering a medical condition be granted an equal, if not higher status than a person 70 in good health. These medical condition candidates should not be relegated to secondary status to be vaccinated only if excess vaccine is available.

In terms of education sector, I support that only those in DIRECT contact with the subjects be granted priority vaccination . This would preclude administrative staff at schools. This applies through higher education levels. Those in the direct line of teaching or contact with students deserve priority over those who do not.

Conversely, people whose jobs require them to work at a fixed station, whether at a machine or a research station or similar, should receive priority as they do not have an alternative workplace option, and must accept whatever risk may be inherent with that station.

Jack C. Cox, PE, D.CE, D.PE, D.NE

Sr. Principal | Director of Engineering

Board Certified in Coastal, Port and Navigation Engineering

Professor of Practice, Coastal Engineering, University of Wisconsin



434 S Yellowstone Dr., Suite 203
Madison, Wisconsin 53719

O 608 716 3128
M 608 556 5377
F 269 932 3542

*Listen to the rush of the waves,
See them charge the helpless shore,
Watch them batter the beaten land
And conquer it bit by bit.*

*Watch the wearied foe resist,
Hear her moan their fated meet,
See her sternly, stubborn, stand,
Yet slowly slip away.*

- Dennis Depcik

jcox@edgewaterresources.com

<https://linktr.ee/edgewaterresources>

From: [David Varney](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:25:52 PM

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Good afternoon,

Please consider those that have underlying lung conditions for Wisconsin's Phase 1B rollout. I have [REDACTED] if i contract COVID it would mean almost certain death.

My wife is [REDACTED].

Thank you,

David

David L. Varney
[REDACTED]

From: [Kathy Markeland](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Emily Coddington](#); [Zelenkova, Ramie](#); [White, Katie](#)
Subject: WAFCA Comments on Phase 1b Guidance
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:22:01 PM
Attachments: WAFCA Memo to SDMAC on Phase 1b.pdf

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Thank you for considering the attached requested additions/modifications to the Phase 1b vaccination guidance.

Kathy Markeland | Executive Director
Wisconsin Association of Family & Children's Agencies
16 N Carroll St, #750 | Madison WI 53703
wafca.org | o:608.257.5939 | c:608.576.9607



partnering to improve lives

From: [PETER LEEGE](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:20:26 PM

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Hello:

Just throwing in my 2 cents worth on who I think should be part of the 1b phase.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. I've been told by my doctor that catching the virus would likely be a death sentence for me. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Please consider adding high risk folks like myself to the 1B phase.

Thanks for your time.

Pete

Peter Leege
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Pamps Psychologist](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:16:33 PM

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Hello,

I am writing as the President of Psychologists Association of the Milwaukee Public Schools, the largest school district in the state. While MPS has been virtual this school year, we continue to conduct in person evaluations with students in every building. MPS has a centralized initial evaluation team, with approximately 50 evaluators (psychologists and speech pathologists), who have been conducting face to face evaluation of students ages 3-21 since August 2020. School psychologists must break social distancing guidelines and often are unable to have young or moderately disabled children wear masks. We also must use a series of manipulatives, demonstrating puzzles and use of other materials to students with intellectual, physical, sensory, and social-emotional disabilities. Psychologists assigned to the evaluation team test daily, multiple students per day. MPS currently has approximately 160 school psychologists. We are asking that school psychologists (clinicians similar to school speech pathologists and occupational/physical therapists) be a priority in Phase 1b, along with EMTs, Fire-fighters, and Police. We understand that educators are in this phase of vaccination, but urge you to consider- at the very least, our evaluation team psychologists and bilingual psychologists (n=40), as they see more evaluations per day than psychologists in any other district. Milwaukee is a hot spot for the virus. Please assist us in keeping our families and students with special needs safe. Psychologists were the only school-based clinician excluded from Phase 1a.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Catherine Cruz

President

PAMPS, AFT Local 4076

Psychologists Association of the Milwaukee Public Schools

From: [Jennifer Layton](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Re: Vaccine Subcommittee PHASE 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:16:26 PM

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My father is [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] CDC standards would have him in phase 1B, yet Wisc state guidelines would prevent him from being in this group.

He [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] People over 65 with numerous health issues need to be higher on your list. Not much difference between living in a care facility and being confined at a dialysis clinic hours every week.

[REDACTED] .. I ask you to remedy this oversight.

Regards,
J. Layton

From: [Mary Kinsley](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: ATTN: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:16:15 PM

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Could not be more frustrated with the COVID vaccine distribution policies and procedures here!

I'm 67 years old. My friends and relatives in other states who are younger than I am (65 year olds) or have some minor qualification (such as day care for a few children) have either already received the COVID vaccine or will be in the next 2 weeks.

I don't know personally know anyone here in Wisconsin who has received a vaccine! And you're still trying to decide on who is included in Phase 1B???

Even if there aren't as many vaccines as we are supposed to have, why is Wisconsin so far behind in making decisions and getting things moving??? How many more months will it take for you to decide who's included in Phase 1C???

People 65 and older, and those with compromised health, are the ones most likely to DIE from COVID. People will die because of your delays - I really hope I won't be one of them.

Sincerely,
Mary Kinsley

From: [Ella Schmitz](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: VACCINE SUB-COMMITTEE PHASE B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:10:17 PM

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I am hoping that phase be one to the following:

-teachers and support staff including substitutes

-65 years and older

-16 and older with underlying medical conditions such as diabetes heart conditions and asthma

Thank you for your time!

Ella schmitz

From: [tina kangas](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid-19 Vac.
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:08:56 PM

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I am a personal that [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I am very fearful and use the standard precautions as with seasonal cold and flu season.

As someone who worked in health care I understand the need for their protection.

But as a Wisconsin resident [REDACTED], I would appreciate some idea when I can expect the possibility be given the injection.

Thank You So Much for Your Time.

Regards, Tina Kangas (Stevens Point)

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [D.T](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: "vaccine subcommittee" "Phase 1B"
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:08:00 PM

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I request that you reconsider the Phase 1B administration to prioritize persons with severe pre-existing health conditions over persons in congregating living conditions. Specifically jail and prison inmates.

[REDACTED]

I have been trying to remain hopeful of getting the vaccination [REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

I have been a hard working, productive member of society and I feel that it is a death sentence to me if I am denied the vaccine over persons whom made choices in society to place them where they are.

I understand the fact of lack of social distancing in jails and prisons, although; I did not put them there. The healthy persons in these settings are likely to not be very affected by this virus. Needless to say, I am the one who is being punished.

I also understand that these are difficult decisions that need to be made, but please take my situation into consideration. My life depends on it!!!!

Thank You,

Deanna Tobak
[REDACTED]


From: [Karen Splittgerber](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee: group 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:06:18 PM

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People over 70 with underlying health conditions need to be in group 1B. These are the people who are least likely to survive the virus without it.

National news stories tell of the extreme difficulty in getting thru on websites or phone lines for an appointment.well, here in Ozaukee County we don't even have a website or phone number to call. We are that far behind in making preparations! No one has even begun to develop a list of recipients to notify when the vaccine arrives.

In Illinois, people in Lake County have been able to register (name, age, health conditions, occupation) since November and are now being notified of appointments according to their group. Here in Wisconsin, we are headed toward chaos with no one (physicians, pharmacies, health departments) wanting to even begin a registration process until the vaccine arrives.

Karen Splittgerber


From: [Kali Write](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee and Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:04:05 PM

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People with PRE-EXISTING conditions such as Type 1 Diabetes, etc.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [Chris Hinkes](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:02:44 PM

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Only high risk persons over 65 should be getting the vaccine then 65 and older then all at risk .This is the most screwed up thing I have witnessed in my life get people who can run operations in charge I was a paramedic for over 10 yrs come on people!!!

From: [Gene](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID VACCINE FOR VENTILATOR PATIENTS.
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:57:00 PM

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Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

We have [REDACTED]. These patients are presently classified 1C but should fairly be classified 1B and be able to get his shot at home like nursing home residents.

Gene & Mary Lou Selke
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [John Schenzel](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID response.
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:56:22 PM

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I understand the huge undertaking this vaccination process is. But I am very discouraged with the response and getting the vaccine into the arms. I [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] I do not agree with all the categories in the 1B.
I understand people in prisons are High risk but they have put themselves in prisons. Please re-look at one B and 1C and get the vaccine to us that have health conditions. We have been diligent about staying home since last March.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Arlene Hill](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine committee and Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:45:46 PM

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I respectfully ask that you please include age 70+ in phase 1B. I'm elderly [REDACTED]. We so need to get vaccinated so we can at least hopefully be around a little bit longer. I can't see my children or grandchildren unless I've been vaccinated completely. we are not alone but the elderly should still be in the priority group as previously intended since we are deemed most at risk.

I ask you please on behalf of the elderly.

Sincerely,
Arlene hill

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Pete Pokorny](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee, Phase 1B, and Type 1 diabetics
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:45:21 PM
Attachments: image001.png
image002.png
image004.png
image006.png
image008.png
image009.png
image010.png
image011.png

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Type 1 diabetics should be included in group 1B. If they contract coronavirus they are 3 times as likely to die from it.

thanks



Pete Pokorny
Preconstruction Services
950 Walnut Ridge Drive
Hartland, WI 53029
☎ 262-369-3564
📠 262-510-9197
✉ ppokorny@esigroupusa.com



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From: [T. Hundt](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b COVID-19 vaccine public comment
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:41:14 PM

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I don't understand why people who are at very high risk of dying if they get Covid-19 are not included in phase 1b regardless of age. As a 50 year old patient on hemodialysis at an in-center facility with multiple other complications and medical issues (like cancer), my immune system is very compromised. I am potentially exposed every time I go for treatment, especially since my center is a COVID-19 center that is treating people with COVID-19 from other centers across the state (which I don't understand why they are not being treated at their own centers instead of exposing us). Let's start using a little common sense and stop playing politics with peoples lives. If you know that someone is high risk of dying if they get COVID and a vaccine is available, they should be a high priority to vaccinate.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Bob Hudack](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine distribution 1B, subcommittee
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:40:33 PM

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I strongly support the recommendation of including those age 75 and older. This group is one of the most vulnerable and they have already given us, the younger generation, everything they have and this should not include their lives.

Bob Hudack

From: [Chris Burzak](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: who should qualify for stage 1B of covid vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:40:14 PM

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I am [REDACTED] I live in a private residence with my mother, [REDACTED].

I am her sole caretaker. I believe that anyone who lives with or takes care of a person over 70 should also be able to receive the covid-19 vaccine in stage 1B.

Thank you for allowing this input.

Chris Burzak
Milwaukee WI

From: [Sara Wartman](#)
To: [Janine Watts](#); [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: RE: Phase 1B Plan - Vaccine Subcommittee
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:36:54 PM

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Dear Janine Watts,

Thank you for including me, cc'd, in your email to the State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee. I appreciate being included in your feedback to the state so I can stay abreast of the needs of the community as well as continue to plan locally for Bayfield County. I also appreciate your understanding of the vulnerability of those 70 years of age and older and the possible negative consequences of holding large clinics with our current "Very High" levels of COVID-19 activity in Bayfield County and what combined clinics among age groups could potentially inadvertently cause for disease burden among our most medically vulnerable population.

Respectfully,

Sara

Sara Wartman, BSN, RN
Director / Health Officer
Bayfield County Health Department
(715) 373-6109



Learn more about Bayfield County at <http://bayfieldcounty.org>

Like our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/BayfieldCountyHealthDept>

“If you have health, you probably will be happy,
and if you have health and happiness,
you have all the wealth you need,
even if it is not all you want.”

-Elbert Hubbard

Please note:

If this is a COVID-19 or nursing related question, please contact one of our Public Health Nurses for a response. I am unable to provide a prompt response at this time. The following is contact information for our Public Health Lead Nurse for the COVID-19 response and Secondary Lead Nurse. Please email or call them if you have non-emergency questions. And of course, for all emergencies, please call 911. Thank you for understanding.

Becki Nelles, Public Health Nurse, Ph: 715-373-3322, Email: bnelles@bayfieldcounty.org
Holly Weber, Public Health Nurse, Ph: 715-373-3323, Email: hweber@bayfieldcounty.org

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-----Original Message-----

From: Janine Watts <jw2tx@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:29 PM
To: DHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov
Cc: Sara Wartman <SWartman@bayfieldcounty.org>
Subject: Phase 1B Plan - Vaccine Subcommittee

PLEASE give Covid vaccine priority in Phase 1B to 'People Above 70 years' for the first 2-3 weeks of vaccine administration, THEN move to the other groups noted in your Phase 1 plan. Rationale: People above age 70 years have a much higher death rate than the younger people in the other groups. If the 70+ group has to compete for appointments in the first few weeks with the younger groups, many more are likely to die should they come in contact with Covid.

Janine A, Watts, Ph.D. - Resident of Bayfield County, Wisconsin Emeritus Associate Professor
University of Minnesota, Duluth

From: [frank Tuerkheimer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [barbara.tuerkheimer](#)
Subject: comment on COVIT-19nvaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:31:38 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

It is an embarrassment that while other states are giving vaccines to the elderly Wisconsin is using this precious time to hold hearings on who should be included in group 1B and in what order. Friends and relatives of ours in other states, fitting the elderly definition, have already received their first shots. The CDC Guidelines make clear that senior adults should be at the top of the list, and for good reason. The PHMDC just reported that deaths in Dane County continue to center on those who are 70 and older, who make up 85.3 percent of all deaths. Following the CDC Guidelines is the surest way to attain the maximum affect in the quickest time. Holding hearings on what the order should be wastes time and gives weight to groups with political clout, a sorry substitute for the CDC's ranking based on data and science.

Barbara Tuerkheimer
Frank Tuerkheimer

From: [James Robertson Jr](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Please include individuals with Down syndrome in vaccine group 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:30:36 PM

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I am writing this to decision makers that are responsible for determining the populations that are included in specific vaccine distribution groups:

Individuals with Down Syndrome (Trisomy 21) have a death rate that is 8-10 times that of the general population, which has been documented in scientific and medical literature. This wonderful, loving, and vulnerable population has three copies of a gene on chromosome 21 (TMPRSS2) which is believed to be significantly involved in the replication of SARS-CoV-2.

Two articles that document many of the scientific explanations for this may be helpful resources: "People with Down Syndrome Face High Risk From Coronavirus" in Science, Vol 370, Issue 6523, pp. 1384-1385, dated 18 Dec 2020, and "COVID-19 and Down's Syndrome: Are We Heading For a Disaster?" in the European Journal of Human Genetics, Vol 28, pp. 1477-1478 (2020), .

I implore you to please include individuals with Down Syndrome in Vaccine Group 1B in the State of Wisconsin.

Thank you
Mary Robertson



Sent from my iPhone

From: [Susan Jelly](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Comments on vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:30:27 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Do it by age, and control who shows up by making it available like airlines call seat assignments, ie everyone over 95 the first week, everybody over 90 the next and so on. If your goal is to save lives and reduce the strain on hospitals, age is the only thing that makes sense. If your goal is to reduce transmission then getting the doses into arms as fast as you can should be a priority and figuring out which people are in a lot of complex groups will only slow the process.

Susan Jelly

Sent from my iPad

From: [Janine Watts](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Wartman, Sara](#)
Subject: Phase 1B Plan - Vaccine Subcommittee
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:29:32 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

PLEASE give Covid vaccine priority in Phase 1B to 'People Above 70 years' for the first 2-3 weeks of vaccine administration, THEN move to the other groups noted in your Phase 1 plan. Rationale: People above age 70 years have a much higher death rate than the younger people in the other groups. If the 70+ group has to compete for appointments in the first few weeks with the younger groups, many more are likely to die should they come in contact with Covid.

Janine A, Watts, Ph.D. - Resident of Bayfield County, Wisconsin
Emeritus Associate Professor
University of Minnesota, Duluth

From: [Im4bucky](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Priorities
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:26:35 PM

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Dear Wisconsin State Medical Advisory Committee,

[REDACTED]

When I ask our SSM Doctors about her chances of surviving a bout with COVID, the answers are straightforward, and clear. But, when I ask them about the chances of her getting a Vaccine,,,,, well,,,,, I understand their frustration.

My question is this:

Is someone, anyone, acting in "Advocacy" for Sue, and others like her?

[REDACTED]

It's my hope that the Committees Decision making process is not being influenced by Lobbyists like those hired by the Mink Farming Industry .

Thank You,

Sincerely,

Bruce Padley

[REDACTED]

From: [Judi Greinke](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: bgreinke@twc.com
Subject: Recommendations for vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:21:43 PM

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I am writing to you because I am very worried about [REDACTED] and many elderly who need to receive this Coronavirus vaccine as soon as possible. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

We would appreciate your consideration for the increase of elderly people getting the vaccine as soon as possible. There are so many elderly that need your attention. Please don't let us down. Thank you for your consideration,

Judi Greinke
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [theygo_wild](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1b comment
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:20:30 PM

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All inmates should receive vaccinations during phase 1b. Without question. Anyone who has been placed at a mental health institution or treatment center, inmate or otherwise, should also be vaccinated. It would be cruel and inhumane not to help these populations. This is a human rights issue, not a partisan issue.

Everyone who has an auto-immune condition, everyone who takes immunosuppressant or immunomodulating meds, and everyone with health conditions that put them at high risk for complications for the virus, regardless of age, should absolutely be included in phase 1b.

I take an immunomodulating medicine and I live with someone who has an immune condition and a lung disease. I currently have a painful infected broken tooth that the dentist wants me to get repaired immediately. To do this I have to have to be unmasked, mouth open, in a dentist's office for over an hour, breathing in the air. The dentists are not in full PPE. Other patients will have been in the room before me, unmasked. People like us who are high risk for complications shouldn't have to risk death whenever we or someone in our home receives necessary medical care. And we need more frequent medical care than the general population.

Another important reason to vaccinate people with compromised immune systems is that we are highly susceptible to infections, and, for example, have to avoid not only people who have chicken pox/shingles, but also people who have just been vaccinated for chicken pox or shingles, because they may be shedding the virus. This holds true with the coronavirus vaccine. CDC is advising that people who receive the vaccine may be carriers, and from what I understand this is especially true right after they receive the vaccine. So when someone with a suppressed or modulated immune system comes into close contact with someone who was vaccinated, they can contract the virus from that person more easily than the general public could.

Many high-risk people with major health conditions are front line workers whose jobs require them to leave the home, and they are unable to pay their bills if they don't work. It is unfair to deny them immunizations just because they are under age 65.

I also feel that people who are scheduled for surgeries or invasive medical procedures such as colonoscopies, dental work, transvaginal ultrasounds, etc, ought to be vaccinated prior to their appointments. Obviously in emergency situations that may not be feasible, but for pre-planned procedures, it just makes sense.

Thank you for taking the time to read my message.

From: jeannecrone@gmail.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Group 1b Covid vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:19:53 PM

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Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: [REDACTED]
Date: January 18, 2021 at 12:17:29 PM CST
To: DHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov
Subject: Covid Vaccine

Group 1b should include 65 and older as they account for 85% of the deaths. Deaths should drive criteria. Why would our healthy 26 year old teacher daughter get it before my 69 year old husband who is on oxygen for COPD, has heart condition and diabetes?

And quit waiting to finish one group before starting another. WI is an embarrassment with the lack of decision making!!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ray Smith](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Roll out 1B -1C
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:17:56 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

To whom it may concern:

After reading what is being recommended, I believe once emergency medical and police / prison guards are at 70% of anticipated inoculation Phase 1 B-- I believe 70 + and any one with immune compromised – High blood pressure , diabetes, and other issues that are high risk of death or severe outcome from Covid-19 should be allowed to be inoculated – also in this group should be inmates 65 and above also in elevated risk of complications /recommended by physician.

Regards

Ray W Smith

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: jeannecrone@gmail.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid Vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:17:38 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Group 1b should include 65 and older as they account for 85% of the deaths.
Deaths should drive criteria. Why would our healthy 26 year old teacher daughter get it before my 69 year old husband who is on oxygen for COPD, has heart condition and diabetes?
And quit waiting to finish one group before starting another.
WI is an embarrassment with the lack of decision making!!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Julie Santapoalo](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Distribution Opinion
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:16:20 PM

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With respect to your distribution plan... I feel quite strongly that we need to start with our law abiding, general population before giving priority to prisons, jails, mink farms (which is utterly ridiculous), etc. I also believe that other than the first-responders who come into contact on a daily basis with COVID patients, i.e. EMTs and nursing staff, NO other hospital staff should receive this vaccination in advance. I am not pleased hearing that hospital administrators, clinicians in NON-COVID facilities and back-office workers – particularly those in their 20s and 30s – have been receiving this vaccine prior to our seniors. We have to get real here. People in their 60s and above are dying at alarming rates. Start with your aging population... 70 and above, not 75 as we sometimes hear, and immediately include the significant number of individuals that have health issues such as asthma, diabetes, etc. Then pull in people ages 60 to 69. Following that... look at your death and recovery rates.

From: [Tracy Wick](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: tracywick@sbcglobal.net
Subject: "vaccine subcommittee" and "Phase 1B"
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:14:20 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I am hoping that we quickly get the rest of our senior and at risk population vaccinated in this next phase.

Our family (me, husband and 22 year old son) live with my [REDACTED] mother to enable her to live in the house she is used to.

[REDACTED]

If we had placed her in a facility she would have been in phase 1a. I would hope that as a state we are not going to penalize our seniors and most vulnerable that are able to stay in their own homes by delaying their vaccines and pushing this group to phase 1c.

Thank you,

Tracy Wick

tracy.wick@dynatect.com

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From: [Baird and Julie Stouffer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: 70+ vaccination
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:09:33 PM

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Dear Committee Members--

I wish to provide a comment regarding the composition of the 1B vaccine group. Please give serious consideration to the inclusion of those in the 70+ age group. As stated by Jonathan Temte, co-chair of the Wisconsin's vaccine subcommittee, "People hit 70 and we start having a preponderance of comorbid conditions." This puts that group of people at much higher risk of Covid complications and even death. Because of this is critical to protect this population by moving the age requirement downward to at least 70 sooner rather than later. I am one of those 70 yr old people who has a heart condition; to me it is critical to have this age requirement be at 70+.

Thank you for your consideration.

Julie and Baird Stouffer

Wautoma

From: [Tobias Enright](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid vaccination
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:08:25 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I would like to first take this opportunity to thank you and the entire committee for the heroic effort during this horrific pandemic. I would like to advocate for seniors 70 years and older to be the next group on the 1B list because of their high risk for more morbidity and mortality if they get infected.

As you know there's a new strain of COVID-19 which is more infectious than the previous strain currently in Wisconsin. Even though this strain may not be any more lethal than the current strain, I do want to emphasize that this strain will infect more people because it is more contagious. In view of this, more senior citizens will become infected and since they are in the category of higher morbidity and mortality with COVID-19 infections, this will be disastrous not just for the patients but also for our healthcare system with regard to overloading our hospitals and increasing dramatically the death toll.

Finally, I would like to recommend that a method be implemented to notify the patients when it is their turn to be vaccinated and what location they need to report to for vaccination. A county by county implementation method might be beneficial.

Thank you again for your dedicated efforts to help all the citizens of Wisconsin and I wish you all a happy, healthy and safe 2021. Tobias Enright MD

From: [Dawn Schmitt](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Please prioritize teachers in vaccine recommendations for Group 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:07:59 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

To Whom it May Concern,

As you consider who to include in the 1B phase for vaccines and how to prioritize those within it, I ask that you please place teachers as one of the top groups on the priority list. I understand there are MANY "essential workers" and groups at risk who deserve/need the vaccine and the number of vaccines are limited, so difficult choices must be made. But we need to protect our teachers as soon as possible so ALL students can get back in the classroom and teachers can feel more comfortable and safer being in their classroom. Teachers getting priority in group 1B for the vaccine will accomplish that goal and that is why I am writing to you today.

After police and firefighters, teachers should be considered the next group in 1B to have access, even before some of the other groups proposed in 1B. I understand the living situation of prisoners puts them at greater risk, but limiting vaccines to only prison staff and personnel and allowing no visitors until the vaccine becomes more widely available, will greatly minimize their risk and allow others to receive the vaccine, especially teachers who have a greater risk because they have prolonged contact with others every day for their job and physical distancing may not always be possible.

Appendix E outlines the rationale for including education essential workers in Group 1B and I completely agree with everything stated and believe giving them priority in 1B is highly justified. I appreciate the thoughtfulness, great attention to detail and research done by the committee.

Although alternative teaching methods may be available, "virtual only" schooling is simply not a long-term viable option and that is all that many students have been receiving for nearly an entire year. Every day I witness firsthand the social, mental, emotional and physical toll this is taking on my children. The benefits of having children in school not only positively impacts students but the community as well. This is exactly what so many of us parents, especially those in high school, have been relaying to school administrators as to why students need to be back in the classroom. We must focus all of our efforts on making this happen instead of continually finding reasons to keep them out of the classroom.

But this isn't only about the students. It is about the teachers too. They also need and want to be back in the classroom with their students. But they have concerns for their safety and those concerns are justified and should be addressed. Teachers currently in person are concerned for their safety and some feel forced to be there and fear for their health. Teachers in larger districts are very reluctant to return to the classroom due to safety concerns, so larger districts remain virtual only. The bottom line is, ALL teachers are concerned for their health and safety so we must make the vaccine available to them as soon as possible. Schools have thoroughly

developed safety protocols and mitigation strategies to minimize the risk as much as possible. But for many teachers, they still feel it is not enough. No one wants teachers to live in fear for their health and safety. That would not be good for students either and would prevent teachers from performing their best. We want teachers to feel some level of comfort being back in the classroom. And the vaccine would provide greater comfort AND keep them safe.

Although many schools throughout WI have reopened for younger grades, they are only now beginning to bring the upper grades back in person. And most are doing a hybrid, part-time model. And unfortunately, larger school districts, like Madison, Milwaukee and Racine (which combined make up at least 20% of all WI students), are continuing to remain "virtual only" for the 3rd quarter and likely the rest of the school year, if teachers are not vaccinated soon. So at least 50% of the 800,000 WI students are likely not receiving in-person instruction at all or are only in person part-time. The current education model is just not working and not a viable long-term option.

With many students being out of the classroom for nearly a year already, the negative impact this continues to have on them is extremely tragic. As the committee stated, our children are suffering. And every day they continue to be out of the classroom, their mental, emotional and physical health is more at risk. Students are unmotivated and disengaged. Mental health referrals have greatly increased. Depression, anxiety and more are growing concerns. Not to mention the physical health problems pediatricians are seeing with an increase in type 2 diabetes in children due to lack of activity.

Larger districts simply won't reopen without teachers being vaccinated despite many schools having reopened successfully and health experts supporting schools reopening. In Dane County where I live, case numbers, positivity rate and hospitalizations have continued to decline. Many area schools plan to return to in-person instruction for 3rd quarter or bring back additional grades. However, the Madison School District (MMSD), which has 26,000 students, is still facing huge resistance from teachers. My son is an 11th grader in MMSD and many parents of high school students are extremely concerned about the lack of education our children are receiving being virtual only. (In our virtual school model in Madison, high school students receive LESS THAN HALF the instruction time they would receive in a normal school year.) And the longer this continues, I fear the worse it will get. Our high school children do not have years of school left to "make up" for all of this lost instruction time. High school years are critical and students need to prepare for college, take the ACT, participate in extra-curricular activities to include on college applications and more. It is just not possible for high schoolers to be prepared for college with virtual schooling. Besides lack of instruction time, students are missing out on all of the social, emotional and mental development that comes along with being in school. Parents will always have a choice to remain virtual, but those of us who feel our children need in-person instruction, we feel we should also have a choice. And we simply won't get that choice until teachers are vaccinated.

One of the key components will also be mass vaccinations given to entire school districts at the same time. For example, the Madison Metropolitan School District has 4000 teachers/staff. It would be a huge challenge for schools to reopen if teachers in the district are randomly selected each week. It would take weeks, possibly months, before everyone would be vaccinated. When teachers become eligible for the vaccine, there needs to be a mass vaccination plan for larger counties and districts, similar to what Mercy Hospital has planned for the Janesville School District later this week.

So as you consider who receives the next phase of vaccines, PLEASE consider prioritizing teachers in group 1B so our children can get back into the classroom. Several states have already started vaccinating teachers. And President-elect Joe Biden has made it a mission of his administration to get all kids back in the classroom within his first 100 days. Let's have Wisconsin do our part to make this happen.

Thank you for your time,
Sincerely,
Dawn Schmitt



From: [REDACTED]
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee, phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:07:00 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

To vaccine subcommittee, please consider that older citizens make up a great proportion of deaths from covid. I'd like to see a gradual phase in with those above 80 first, then above 75, then 70, etc. that is; subdivide phase b further with elderly getting registration options based on age. Thank you. Roger and Barbara Sands

Sent from my iPad

From: [Annette Edwardson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase1B recommendations
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:04:50 PM

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I think family members who live with a frontline worker should be included in Phase1B. I know FL is doing this as my son is a pharmacist and working the clinics. My daughter is an RN in a hospital and lives with us. Granted she gets vaccinated but she can still be a carrier and bring it home to us and we are in early 60's. PLEASE help protect us and put us in Phase 1B. Thank you for your consideration.

>

From: [Aimee](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee "phase 1B"
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:00:49 PM

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Good morning -

In reviewing the recommendations for phase 1b, I am in full agreement that IRIS and Family Care recipients should be part of this group. I would like to suggest that individuals aged 16 and 17 who are currently on the CLTS waiver also be included in that group. Like IRIS and Family Care recipients, this group is higher risk due to their various disabilities. Additionally, most are attending school, programs, and therapies that result in contact with many people outside their home setting. This group is also smaller and easy to track with their connection to DHS. I understand that this would need to be under the approval of parents or guardians as well.

While it's understood that vaccines are in short supply at the moment, future consideration should be given to parents and caregivers of the birth to 18 disability community. The parents and caregivers are the lifeline for this community. May times if a parent or guardian becomes sick, it is nearly impossible to provide continuity of care for the child.

Thank you for your consideration,



From: [Linda Zimmer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: "vaccine subcommittee" and "Phase 1B"
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:53:39 AM

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Dear committee members,

I am writing to express my support for including disabled individuals with comorbidities in 1B COVID-19 vaccine phase. I am a member of the group. I am 59 years old and take medicine that suppress my immune system.

I have been following the rules. I have been keeping myself and my community safe. I have been isolated for so long I am depressed.

Vaccinated individuals are still able to transmit the virus, so I will still be in lockdown mode for months during/after 1B while waiting for the 1C phase.

I have been diligent while many people in Walworth county and our Chicago tourists have not followed the rules. Look at the COVID-19 numbers in Walworth County! I would not get an ICU bed if the hospitals are rationing care. My only option is the vaccine!!!

I would like to go shopping spend money and be able to have a vaccinated visitor/service worker in my life again. I am

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Linda Zimmer

From: [Rita Samolyk](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee" and "Phase 1B"
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:53:10 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Hi,

One group that seems to have been forgotten, and not addressed, are those between 65 and 69 years old, who have underlying health conditions. Many of us live alone and don't drive or have a vehicle, and have to ask for help getting to medical appointments and to get essential food, prescriptions and supplies. In addition, we have to put ourselves at risk, getting to necessary appointments. We can't even get a Covid test or the Covid vaccine for that matter, without increased risk.

We are the group who is asked to 'stay at home, and stop the spread', most often, and to not interact with family or friends, thus increasing of feelings of isolation, depression, and increasing the likelihood of other health conditions to develop.

Please consider lowering the age for Phase 1B to age 65, or at least those age 65, with underlying health conditions.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rita Samolyk

Sent from my iPad

From: djozefowicz@wi.rr.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b COVID-19 vaccine public comment
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:52:10 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Please include 65 & over, plus persons with medical needs ASAP.

From: [Terri Wagner](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:51:04 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Are you kidding me?? Prisoners are going to get the Covid vaccine before people ages 65-69...and some of those with pre-existing conditions? There is a reason why those people are in prison and it was totally on themselves, no one else! My husband and I have basically been held in detention since last March. We haven't been able to kiss our grandchildren and children. We have a new granddaughter born in February 2020 that doesn't know us, doesn't know our touch. We spend the majority of our days in our house now that it's cold out. We have been holding out hope for this vaccine for months and now it's being given to prisoners first? My husband [REDACTED]. We have to be more than careful about Covid! We did nothing to deserve the detention we have been in for almost a year. We didn't commit a crime. We shouldn't be punished by adding more time [REDACTED].
[REDACTED] T. Wagner

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Donna Bufkin](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: RE: Vaccine Subcommittee- Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:47:00 AM

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I believe it is critical that the age group 70 and older should be included in the Phase 1B group for vaccines for the virus. I hope it is taken under serious consideration. Thank you.

Donna

From: [Robert Widholm](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Priority Access for Parents/Caregivers of Children with Physical Disabilities
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:45:51 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

To: Members of the Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee

I write to ask that the subcommittee prioritize disabled individuals and their caregivers in the distribution of SARS-COV-2 vaccines in Wisconsin. In many other states across the nation (California, Illinois, Louisiana, Pennsylvania, and Virginia to name a few), parents and caregivers of individuals with disabilities have been included in Phase 1 of the vaccine distribution recognizing the 24/7/365 nature of the medically complex care that is provided in the home setting.

I ask that you include all caregivers of participants in the IRIS, Family Care, CLTS, and Katie Beckett programs alongside other essential health workers in Phase 1A. Please indicate that "caregivers" includes unpaid family members providing an institutional level of care to disabled individuals at home. While we are currently paid as "Supportive Home Care" through the CLTS waiver program to provide distance learning support during Covid, we have been unpaid for many years of institutional level care for our disabled child. Despite being unpaid for the majority of my child's life, my wife and I have been providing high level care throughout our child's life through the provision of g-tube feedings, administration of prescription medications, coordination of medical care with several specialty care doctors as well as physical, occupational and speech therapy in the home setting. The shortage of qualified care givers for the disabled in the state means that not only do we have provided all of this care on our own for 10 plus years, it also means that should we fall ill with Covid we do NOT have anyone capable of stepping in to provide the level of care our child needs.

Second, please explicitly include all participants in the IRIS, Family Care, CLTS, and Katie Beckett programs, along with yet-unvaccinated caregivers, in Phase 1B. DHS has all contact information for this group of individuals and I know many other parents in similar care giving situations who are highly motivated to obtain the vaccine.

Ethical distribution of the vaccine prioritizes these individuals for reasons including, but not limited to:

- Vulnerability to Exposure - Disabled individuals are vulnerable to exposure from unavoidable contact with caregivers
- Disproportionate Severity of Impact - Disabled individuals are more severely impacted by SARS-COV-2 and at greater risk of death from its complications
- Health Worker/Caregiver Shortages - Disabled individuals face a shortage of qualified, well-trained caregivers; SARS-COV-2 outbreaks among caregivers, including unpaid family members, exacerbate this already acute shortage
- Access to Critical Health Services - Disabled individuals with complex health needs disproportionately seek care and/or have been foregoing needed care in medical facilities and other settings where SARS-COV-2 is likely to circulate

Governor Evers ran on a platform of improving the lives of the disabled and their caregivers. Giving priority to these populations aligns closely with his platform.

I appreciate your time and careful consideration of this request. I am available for additional information and comment.

Robert Widholm



From: [TrieI2006](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:43:22 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Hi -

I want to know why you are not including the high risk medical condition people in phase 1B. These are the people who are at HIGHEST risk of dying.

Your talking about adding prisoners to this group which is not even close to being fair at all! They need to be in the same line as every other person in this state. If they have medical condition that makes them high risk they need to be in that category but not get it before me.

I take a risk every single day of being exposed by having to see doctors, nurses and visiting the hospital including the emergency room where I am very exposed since that is where the people with Covid go!

[REDACTED]
Even the people 65+ are not as high risk as the medical condition people! Yes a lot of them have medical conditions which put them at [REDACTED] but there are others where nothing happens to them [REDACTED]. So your even putting them ahead of us very high risk individuals.

You really need to put us people who are extremely high risk first!

Nina

From: [Germaine Seidler](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: 1b vaccine group
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:40:54 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Hello,

I am a

[REDACTED] I believe that seniors, over 65, with serious health issues should be part of the 1b corona virus vaccine group.

Perhaps, you can give the vaccine to all seniors over 75 and 65 to 74 year old with serious health complications.

Thank you.

Nola Germaine Seidler

From: [Dave Lemanski](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:34:33 AM
Attachments: image005.png

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Good morning and thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment regarding Phase 1B Covid vaccines.

I request you include individuals with disabilities as a Phase 1B priority category, especially those who live or work in congregated settings. Their care givers should also be prioritized for the COVID vaccine. According to the CDC, "...some people with disabilities might be at a higher risk of infection or severe illness because of their underlying medical conditions." Further the CDC is warning that if an individual has one of the below functional incapacities due to a disability, they may be at increased risk of becoming infected or having unrecognized illness. Many individuals with disabilities in Wisconsin who need extra assistance or accommodations would fall into this category.

- People who have limited mobility or who cannot avoid coming into close contact with others who may be infected, such as direct support providers and family members
- People who have trouble understanding information or practicing preventive measures, such as hand washing and social distancing
- People who may not be able to communicate symptoms of illness

Thank you for your consideration and hard work on this effort.



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www.crind.org

Dave Lemanski
President/CEO

1000 Lake Wissota Drive
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729
Phone: 715.726.7823
Cell: 715.559.0015
Fax: 715.726.7939
dlemanski@crind.org

YouTube Facebook LinkedIn



From: [Jacque English](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:25:27 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Greetings,

I am writing to encourage you to adopt the CDC recommendation to include people with high-risk medical conditions in the next phase (phase 1B) of Covid-19 vaccine distribution in Wisconsin.

As someone with [REDACTED] sease, I am regularly making decisions balancing my need for [REDACTED] with my need to reduce Covid-19 exposure. Access to the vaccine would mean [REDACTED].

Thank you for considering the prioritization of vaccine access for those of us with high-risk medical conditions. We are already balancing [REDACTED] and need your help in doing this as safely as possible.

Respectfully,
Jacque English
Oconomowoc, WI 53066

From: [Alan Johnson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: VACCINE SUBCOMMITTEE - PHASE 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:13:55 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear committee members,

I wish to provide a comment regarding the composition of the 1B vaccine group. Please give serious consideration to the inclusion of those in the **70+** age group. As stated by Jonathan Temte, co-chair of Wisconsin's vaccine subcommittee, "People hit 70, and we start having a preponderance of comorbid conditions." This puts that group of people at much higher risk of Covid complications and, even, death. Because of this, it is critical to protect this population by moving the vaccine age requirement downward to at least the age of 70 sooner, rather than later.

Thank you.
Alan Johnson
Appleton

From: [Andrea Byrum](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee. phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:13:28 AM

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I support including those age 70 and above in Phase 1b.

From: [Jennifer Widholm](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Priority Access for Parents/Caregivers of Children with Physical Disabilities
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:12:03 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

To: Members of the Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee

I write to ask that the subcommittee prioritize disabled individuals and their caregivers in the distribution of SARS-COV-2 vaccines in Wisconsin. In many other states across the nation (California, Illinois, Louisiana, Pennsylvania, and Virginia to name a few), parents and caregivers of individuals with disabilities have been included in Phase 1 of the vaccine distribution recognizing the 24/7/365 nature of the medically complex care that is provided in the home setting.

I ask that you include all caregivers of participants in the IRIS, Family Care, CLTS, and Katie Beckett programs alongside other essential health workers in Phase 1A. Please indicate that "caregivers" includes unpaid family members providing an institutional level of care to disabled individuals at home. While we are currently paid as "Supportive Home Care" through the CLTS waiver program to provide distance learning support during Covid, we have been unpaid for many years of institutional level care for our disabled child. Despite being unpaid for the majority of my child's life, my husband and I have been providing high level care throughout our child's life through the provision of g-tube feedings, administration of prescription medications, coordination of medical care with several specialty care doctors as well as physical, occupational and speech therapy in the home setting. The shortage of qualified care givers for the disabled in the state means that not only do we have provided all of this care on our own for 10 plus years, it also means that should we fall ill with Covid we do NOT have anyone capable of stepping in to provide the level of care our child needs.

Second, please explicitly include all participants in the IRIS, Family Care, CLTS, and Katie Beckett programs, along with yet-unvaccinated caregivers, in Phase 1B. DHS has all contact information for this group of individuals and I know many other parents in similar care giving situations who are highly motivated to obtain the vaccine.

Ethical distribution of the vaccine prioritizes these individuals for reasons including, but not limited to:

- Vulnerability to Exposure - Disabled individuals are vulnerable to exposure from unavoidable contact with caregivers
- Disproportionate Severity of Impact - Disabled individuals are more severely impacted by SARS-COV-2 and at greater risk of death from its complications
- Health Worker/Caregiver Shortages - Disabled individuals face a shortage of qualified, well-trained caregivers; SARS-COV-2 outbreaks among caregivers, including unpaid family members, exacerbate this already acute shortage
- Access to Critical Health Services - Disabled individuals with complex health needs disproportionately seek care and/or have been foregoing needed care in medical facilities and other settings where SARS-COV-2 is likely to circulate

Governor Evers ran on a platform of improving the lives of the disabled and their caregivers. Giving priority to these populations aligns closely with his platform.

I appreciate your time and careful consideration of this request. I am available for additional information and comment.

Jennifer Widholm



From: [Emily Tucker](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Group B1 prioritization
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:10:57 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

> Dear SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee,

>

> I strongly urge you to prioritize (1) people over the age of 65 and (2) people under the age of 64 with chronic medical conditions to be vaccinated for COVID 19 in group 1B. If these people contract covid they are at higher risk for developing more serious complications, immediate and long term side effects. That would place a higher strain on our healthcare workers and society if these people require more advanced medical care. That medical care could range from more expensive, more frequent and longer duration hospital stays. I feel promoting more vaccinations for these populations may help reduce that burden. This also lessens the stress and burden of families that have high risk family members. As well as those people in these categories who are essential workers.'

>


Thank you,

Emily Tucker
Madison, WI 53704

From: [Kristina Osborne](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:02:29 AM

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To Whom it May Concern,

 I support including people with disabilities in the 1B phase of people to receive the COVID vaccine.

People with physical and intellectual disabilities, including people with Down syndrome, are at higher risk for serious or fatal illness from COVID-19 and feel that they should be placed in the 1B phase to get the vaccine as soon as possible.

Thank you for including this particularly vulnerable population in the COVID vaccine priority group 1B.

Kristina

From: [Judith Stevens](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID vaccine Phase 1b recommendation
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:01:03 AM
Attachments: nejmc2011117.pdf

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Hello

Please put transplant patients into Phase 1b for COVID vaccines. The attached paper shows that 28% of kidney transplant patients with COVID died. As you know, transplant patients must take immunosuppressants. A 28% mortality rate is extremely high.

[REDACTED]

Every day we live in fear that he will get COVID before he can get vaccinated. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Thank you
Judith Stevens

From: [Katy Lounsbury](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:58:09 AM

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Please include attorneys for the Office of State Public Defenders to be “public facing essential workers.” These people are constitutionally required workers who interact face to face with inmates in prisons and jails. Their work is crucial to our constitutional functioning and their interactions with a high risk group (inmates) put the attorneys who are required to have face to face meetings with inmates at high risk as well. They certainly are public facing essential workers and should be identified clearly as such.

Thank you.

Katy Lounsbury

From: [Tim Lisowski](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: tlisowski@wi.rr.com
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:58:03 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

It is important that not only do all adults with multiple health issues receive their vaccine in phase 1B but also disabled individuals. Both have compromised immune systems and would be and are at high risk for extreme sickness or death from the virus.

Please consider request

From: [Mary Jo Johnson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee - phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:57:42 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear committee members,

I wish to provide a comment regarding the composition of the 1B vaccine group. Please give serious consideration to the inclusion of those in the **70+** age group. As stated by Jonathan Temte, co-chair of Wisconsin's vaccine subcommittee, "People hit 70, and we start having a preponderance of comorbid conditions." This puts that group of people at much higher risk of Covid complications and, even, death. Because of this, it is critical to protect this population by moving the vaccine age requirement downward to at least the age of 70 sooner, rather than later.

Thank you.
Mary Jo Johnson
Appleton

From: [snow.panker](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid-19 Vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:57:04 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

[REDACTED]. There are many people under age 70 that should come before a healthy 70 year old. Please lower your eligible age and consider medical issues.

Follow CDC recommendations or more people will die. Take your politics out of this and follow science.

From: [Charlene Gurney](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Next phase covid vaccination
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:53:41 AM

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DHSSDMAC,

Please consider placing home based ventilator dependent persons in the next group of people eligible for the covid vaccine. I work with several clients that are reliant on a ventilator to breath. Their medical conditions also include other problems including diabetes, renal insufficiency and heart disease. If they would contract covid, it could cause very serious outcomes.

They have numerous nurses that care for them 24hrs/day. Some of these nurses have been unable to obtain the vaccine as they are not affiliated with an agency, clinic or hospital. We have applied for the vaccine through Madison/Dane County Health Services but have not received notification as of yet that we can receive the vaccine through them. So this continues to place our clients at risk for contracting covid. Please consider placing them in the next phase for vaccination.

Thank you,
Charlene Gurney

From: [Jennifer Bartowitz](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccines for Individuals with Down Syndrome
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:48:53 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I am writing this to decision makers that are responsible for determining the populations that are included in specific vaccine distribution groups:

Individuals with Down Syndrome (Trisomy 21) have a death rate that is 8-10 times that of the general population, which has been documented in scientific and medical literature. This wonderful, loving, and vulnerable population has three copies of a gene on chromosome 21 (TMPRSS2) which is believed to be significantly involved in the replication of SARS-CoV-2.

Two articles that document many of the scientific explanations for this may be helpful resources: "People with Down Syndrome Face High Risk From Coronavirus" in Science, Vol 370, Issue 6523, pp. 1384-1385, dated 18 Dec 2020, and "COVID-19 and Down's Syndrome: Are We Heading For a Disaster?" in the European Journal of Human Genetics, Vol 28, pp. 1477-1478 (2020), .

I implore you to please include individuals with Down Syndrome in Vaccine Group 1B in the State of Wisconsin.

Thank you,
Jennifer Bartowitz

From: [Al Birr](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine , let's vaccinate people who really need it to stop pandemic . Front line needed protection but that doesn't stop pandemic. 65 and older and disabled of body organs that put them at high risk.
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:40:54 AM

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [cathy_herald](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: need to vaccinate the elderly
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:35:24 AM

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Since the elderly {65 and up] are at most risk of dying from covid 19, and the purpose of the vaccine is to save lives and hospitalizations, logic would tell you they should be a priority--- behind 1st responders, No time for politics. PLEASE consider.

From: [Ken Jensen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid vaccine list
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:30:19 AM

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The vaccine should be given to the oldest first - since the risk of death and hospitalization is related to age. The risk of death with an infection is 10 times greater at age 69 than under 40 yrs old. Your decision to put older individuals behind other politically active groups will lead to excess mortality. Hundreds or thousands of older people will die if they are not vaccinated first. Their deaths will be on your hands.

Prisoners first? Do we we now have an advantage by committing a crime in America?

Teachers risk in Scandinavian studies were 0.5 the risk (1/2 the risk) of the general population.

People who have had Covid are immune and probably will have no benefit from the vaccine and should have a vaccine delayed until all non infected people receive one (if the need one at all) as they have excellent antibody levels produced by the actual infection.

The way to save the most lives is to start at age 100 and go down by age. NO QUESTION
Do the right thing for Wisconsin! More people will die and more families will lose loved ones if you don't.
That will be hard for you to live with.

Every deviation from an age related distribution will increase the numbers of Wisconsin deaths.

Ken Jensen MD

From: [Christine Meyer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:29:34 AM

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What group makes up the biggest percentage of those in the hospital? I believe it is seniors with underlying conditions. Our hospitals are overloaded so I believe that population should be vaccinated right away. At least those 70 and older with health issues.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jan Kusko](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:29:07 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I implore you to include those individuals with pre-existing serious conditions and seniors 65 and older in Phase 1B of the Covid vaccination program. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. Please, please open up the list for people like me who can offer so much to our families yet and the general population. I, and many others, will be forever grateful. THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART. I have self quarantined since March 6, 2020. Jan Kusko, [REDACTED]

From: [Carl Wegner](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Comment to Vaccine recommendations
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:25:57 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

The State of Wisconsin should follow CDC guidelines and treat the elderly 75 years old and over as they are the most vulnerable.

--

Carl F. Wegner, CPA
Wegner & Associates
West Bend, WI 53095-2144
Cell: 414-651-5888

cwegner@carlmarleneassoc.com

<!--[if !supportLineBreakNewLine]-->

<!--[endif]-->

From: [Flaschberger, Sally - BPDD](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B Comments
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:21:54 AM
Attachments: Vaccine Subcommittee Comments Letter Final_2.pdf
Importance: High

January 18, 2021

Ms. Ann Lewandowski and Dr. Jonathan Temte
SDMAC- Vaccine Subcommittee
Department of Health Services
1 West Wilson Street
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Co-Chairs:

We are writing as organizations who support and advocate for the more than 75,000 people with disabilities and older adults who are eligible for the Medicaid long-term waiver under home and community-based services (HCBS) through Family Care, Family Care Partnership, PACE, and IRIS programs. The undersigned organizations deeply appreciate and strongly support the subcommittee's inclusion of Family Care and IRIS recipients as a separate priority group in the phase 1b vaccine group and urge the Department of Health Services to designate **all Family Care and IRIS members as a 1b priority group.**

A proportion of the people with disabilities served within these programs would have already been eligible for vaccine under group 1a due to their residential environment; however, a significant yet critical group has been left out: those participants who live in smaller congregate living settings and those who live in their own homes or supported apartments. This population includes people with a range of disabilities and chronic health conditions who are eligible based on their need for a nursing home level of care, much as frail elders in the program are eligible.

In Wisconsin, the death rate for people with disabilities accessing Wisconsin's long-term care system is higher than the general population of Wisconsin. As of 1/5/2021, the Department of Health Services reported 10.7 % death rate of members in long-term care contracting the virus compared to a 1% death rate for all people contracting the virus in Wisconsin. ^[1]

Recent data indicates that people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) are at higher risk for acquiring the coronavirus and early data also suggests a higher risk of death and increased disability due to the virus. A recent FAIR Health white paper which analyzed a massive number of insurance claims documented that across all age groups, people with intellectual disabilities have the third highest risk of COVID-19 death. ^[2] The data also demonstrated that people with IDD have a greater mortality risk than people with heart failure and chronic lung disease. The paper highlights the death rate among all patients with COVID-19 was 0.6%. But, for people with developmental disorders it was 1.22% and 3.37% of those with intellectual disabilities.

In addition to these statistics, there are multiple risk factors for people with disabilities in the long-term care system that should be considered in your decision-making process.

1. People in long-term care disproportionately live at congregate settings. Congregate settings include licensed and unlicensed homes in Wisconsin. This would include assisted living, 1-2/bed or 3-4 bed adult family homes, and community based residential facilities (CBRF). People in these setting are often unable

to make decisions regarding who and how many outside people provide supports and services, often in intimate proximity that does not allow for physical distancing, putting them at higher risk of exposure. Individuals who live in group homes or other congregate residential settings should be considered at equivalent risk to older adults who live in congregate settings. Many settings that are not formally licensed through the state Division of Quality Assurance, but which are still congregate in nature have not been notified they are eligible for vaccination schedule and many verified 1a congregate settings have yet to be vaccinated. This comment also supports the subcommittee's recommendation that residents of smaller licensed or certified congregate settings be prioritized in phase 1b regardless of their participation in either Family Care or IRIS.

2. People in long-term care disproportionately attend daily services in congregate settings, including adult day care, day service centers, and sheltered workshops. They also use congregate transportation, such as buses, to get to those settings. These settings bring together people with disabilities and care providers from many different households, increasing the risk of contracting the virus. While many have policies in place to mitigate risk, it is often impossible to eliminate all risk.
3. People in long-term care who live in their own homes or supported apartments are still at great risk of contracting COVID-19. The nature of their support needs is such that most of these people have multiple caregivers providing hands on care to them. Although technically covered under phase 1a, most of these workers are not connected to any health care system and do not have ready access to the vaccine. Thus, even though nearly 30% of health care workers have been vaccinated, almost none of those are in the care force that supports the IRIS and Family Care population living in non-congregate settings. Vaccination under phase 1a that was supposed to protect this vulnerable population (by protecting its care force), has not been implemented at this time leaving both the caregiver and the person they serve vulnerable.
4. People in long-term care receive personal and supportive care services from paid and unpaid caregivers that put them at higher risk due to close contact during these supports. Paid caregivers may also be working with multiple individuals at multiple locations, increasing the risk of spreading the virus between individuals.
5. People in long-term care are often supported at home by elderly parent caregivers who are also at high risk of contracting the virus. Elderly caregivers may be at higher risk of contracting the virus and death resulting in the person with the disability at risk of being placed in a nursing care facility due to lack of support.
6. Some people in long-term care often have limited ability to follow the recommendations of the CDC to reduce the potential for contracting and spreading the virus, including mask wearing, adequate handwashing, and physical distancing. Sensory issues, receptive and expressive language disorders, inability to assess safety risks are all typical symptoms of intellectual disabilities that make it far more likely that this population will be unable to comply with basic preventative protocols. The largest national survey of Direct Support Professionals (completed by the University of MN and the National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals - 9,000 DSP's) indicates that approximately 40% of the people supported by DSPs have either only fair or poor social distancing practices. [\[3\]](#)
7. People in long-term care are experiencing extreme social isolation. Many people with disabilities living in congregate settings or sheltering at home have not been allowed to leave their homes, visit with family and friends, or continue their employment. Many do not have access to phones or other technology to remain virtually connected to family and friends. For many people, this has led to increased mental health concerns, escalated behavioral challenges and the need for additional supports and services in their residential settings. For people in this group this is more than just the typical lack of social contact a person without intellectual disability is experiencing during this ordeal. Social and community integration experiences are typically written into IRIS and Family Care care plans. For this group, being able to experience the larger world is treatment-not recreation or entertainment.
8. People in the long-term care system are eligible for a nursing home level of care but have been able to live in the community with supports and services. To qualify for Wisconsin's long-term care waiver

services, an individual must be found eligible to need a nursing home level of care. This group of Wisconsinites would have fallen into 1a if they were not being cared for in the community under the home and community-based waivers.

In addition to the risk factors listed above, people in long-term care are easily identified for vaccine delivery. The Department of Health Services already has access to their location, health conditions, and the service systems that deliver their care. These members and participants have monthly contact with a care manager or IRIS consultant who can help them gain information on how to receive a vaccination, where to receive the vaccine, and facilitate reminders when the second dose needs to be administered.

We would respectfully ask that you include the entire population in the Medicaid long-term waiver under home and community-based services (HCBS) through Family Care, Family Care Partnership, PACE, and IRIS in the 1b priority group.

Sincerely,

Beth Swedeen, Executive Director Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities	Lisa Pugh, Executive Director The Arc Wisconsin	Survival Coalition, Co-Chairs Kit Kerschensteiner, Lisa Pugh, and Beth Swedeen
Leann Smith DaWalt, PhD, Director University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD), Waisman Center	Qiang Chang, PhD, Director Waisman Center, and Waisman Center Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Center (IDDRC)	Lea Kitz, Executive Director Disability Rights Wisconsin
Joel Kleefisch, Government Affairs Manager A-Team Grassroots	Kirsten Cooper, Executive Director Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin	Kirsten Engel, Executive Director Autism Society of South Central
Emily Levine, Executive Director Autism Society of Southeastern Wisconsin	Todd Costello, Executive Director Community Living Alliance	Lisa M. Davidson, CEO Disability Service Provider Network (DSPN)
Wes Martin, Board Chair Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources, Inc. (GWAAR)	Trista Brandt, Board Chair InControl Wisconsin	Cindy Bentley, Executive Director People First Wisconsin
Lisa Schneider, Executive Director Respite Care Association of Wisconsin	Marion Holmberg, Leadership Team SAVE IRIS, Wisconsin's Self Direction Advocates	Marit C. Waack, Executive Director The Arc Eau Claire, Inc.
Liz Morrell, Executive Director The Arc Fond Du Lac	Julie Briggs, Executive Director The Arc Greater Columbia County, Inc.	Anna Stevens, Executive Director The Arc-Dane County
Serryn Erickson, Executive Director	Robert Kellerman, Chair Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network	Jennifer Felty, Co-Chair Wisconsin APSE(Association of

The Arc-Dunn County	(WANN)	People Supporting Employment First)
Jessica Smith, CSW Wisconsin Association of Benefit Specialists	Maureen Ryan, Executive Director Wisconsin Coalition of Independent Living Centers, Inc.	Barbara Katz, Co-Director Family Voices of Wisconsin
Sarah Bass, Board Chair Wisconsin Long-Term Care Workforce Alliance	Todd Costello, Board Chair Wisconsin Personal Services Association	Kenneth Munson, CEO Community Care, Inc.
Mark K. Hilliker, CEO Inclusa, Inc.	Thomas H. Lutzow, CEO Independent Care Health Plan (iCare)	Jennifer Harrison, COO Lakeland Care, Inc.
Joe Arzbecker, CEO Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, Inc.	Maria Ledger, CEO My Choice Wisconsin	Shanna Jensen, President TMG
Mary Kessens, President and CEO APTIV	Cynthia Brown, President and CEO C Renee Consulting and Management Group	Dawn Nuoffer, Executive Director Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin
Tracy Nelson, CEO East Shore Industries, Inc.	Jennifer Felty, Director Headwaters, Inc.	Julie Strenn, CEO and President Opportunity Development Center Inc.
Sara Satterfield, Program Director Opportunity, Inc.	Erin Schultz, Executive Director SOAR Fox Cities, Inc.	Derek Kruempel, Executive Director Southwest Opportunity Center
Pete Condon, President The Arc Green County		

I have also attached a copy of the letter. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this communication to me at 414-704-8248

Thanks,
Sally

Sally Flaschberger
Project Manager-Living Well
Co-Leader Partners in Policymaking
WI Board for People with Developmental Disabilities
(608) 266-5038
Sally.flaschberger@wisconsin.gov

[1] [Medicaid Adult Home and Community-Based Services: COVID-19 Data | Wisconsin Department of Health Services](#)

[2]

FAIR Health White Paper. Risk Factors for COVID-19 Mortality among Privately Insured Patients: A Claims Data Analysis. November 11, 2020.

[3] <https://publications.ici.umn.edu/community-living/covid19-survey/results-dsp-covid-19-experiences>

From: [Matt Rosner](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:17:31 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Hello,

My name is Matt Rosner, and I live in Slinger, WI. I am writing in support of the recommendation to include IRIS and FamilyCare participants in Phase 1B of COVID-19 vaccinations.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

It is critical that vulnerable people [REDACTED] prioritize to receive the vaccine as soon as possible. Please allow IRIS and Family Care participants to be vaccinated in Phase 1B.

Thank you for your consideration.

--
Matt Rosner

[REDACTED]

From: jma6112@centurytel.net
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:16:19 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Subcommittee: I would like you to push for People age 70 and older for this phase. Also their spouses if have extenuating health issues regardless of age Thank you!!

From: [Linda Leonhart](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee -phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:15:29 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Please include immune compromised individuals in phase 1b.
Thank you!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Mackenzie Schneider](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Please Include Individuals with Down Syndrome in Vaccine Group 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:10:52 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I am writing this to decision makers that are responsible for determining the populations that are included in specific vaccine distribution groups:

Individuals with Down Syndrome (Trisomy 21) have a death rate that is 8-10 times that of the general population, which has been documented in scientific and medical literature. This wonderful, loving, and vulnerable population has three copies of a gene on chromosome 21 (TMPRSS2) which is believed to be significantly involved in the replication of SARS-CoV-2.

Two articles that document many of the scientific explanations for this may be helpful resources: "People with Down Syndrome Face High Risk From Coronavirus" in Science, Vol 370, Issue 6523, pp. 1384-1385, dated 18 Dec 2020, and "COVID-19 and Down's Syndrome: Are We Heading For a Disaster?" in the European Journal of Human Genetics, Vol 28, pp. 1477-1478 (2020), .

I implore you to please include individuals with Down Syndrome in Vaccine Group 1B in the State of Wisconsin.

Mackenzie Schneider, DMD

Family Dentist | Schneider Family Dentistry | 262-763-6921
A.T Still University | Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health Class of 2020



From: [Monica Andres](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee - Group 1 B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:10:08 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Good Morning,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public commentary. Unfortunately, I find Wisconsin's vaccine rollout to be shameful, not acceptable and an embarrassment. At this point in the pandemic, we should be focused on inoculating. Not still debating who to vaccinate.

Throughout the entire pandemic we have wisely been asked to follow science. High risk populations have hunkered down at home for almost 1 year. Had groceries delivered or opted for curbside pickup to reduce risk of transmission. Wore masks, washed hands and kept a distance on the RARE occasion when it was essential for them to leave the house.

Now when it's leadership's turn to follow science, there is a complete disconnect. Like other states and following updated federal government guidance, we need to follow science and vaccinate 65 and up. Along with those with underlying health conditions making them at a greater risk for complications. This will help reduce the burden on our overwhelmed health care systems.

Clearly, those still debating this issue are not in the high risk groups that have been stuck at home for almost 1 year. Our high risk populations are struggling with mental health issues from isolation. They are also putting off medical appointments out of fear of contracting COVID.

Let's go back to following science. Protect those at greatest risk for complications. Please stop debating. Start vaccinating! Other states have pharmacies vaccinating. Large venues set up for vaccinating. There is absolutely no reason why we shouldn't be doing the same. The virus is mutating. Please give those who have followed your direction of staying home hope by offering vaccinations, now!

Kind regards,
Monica Andres

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Rock&Joan Riedle](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Comment on phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:09:30 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

States that are doing the best at getting vaccines into arms are trying to vaccinate everyone over 65. I think we should at least vaccinate over 65 with underlying health issues.

From: [\(null\) khoefer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Recommend for 1B Covid vaccinations
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:09:16 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I recommend that the committee consider dropping age to 65 for individuals with comorbidity conditions ie diabetes obesity heart disease respiratory disease immune compromised . At higher risk than just a healthy 70 year old. Most recent CDC guidelines should be followed. Thanks Karen Hoefer

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Bob Mindock](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:08:57 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Vaccine Subcommittee,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]."

I am requesting that the Phase 1b group be expanded to include **all Family Care recipients** with intellectual or developmental disabilities, rather than just those in substitute living facilities. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

The current version of Phase 1b does not clearly indicate all Family Care recipients will be eligible for the vaccine as it discusses the majority live in substitute care living facilities. Therefore, I am requesting that this be clarified to include **ALL IRIS and FAMILY CARE** recipients as described in Appendix B of the SDMAC – VDS Phase 1b recommendations.

Thank you.

Robert B. Mindock, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Alyson K](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:04:01 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Please include people with diabetes and obesity in phase 1B. Thank you.

Best,

Alyson Kalhagen

From: [Tana Fauske](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public comment on vaccination/covid
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:03:09 AM

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As a disabled person with numerous health issues (including autoimmune disorder), I do not believe people should be forced to take a vaccine which could cause serious reactions.

It should be a personal choice made the the individual, bases on their medical history.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Tana L Fauske
Janesville, Wi

From: [Kurt Foss](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee -Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:03:08 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

As a senior (70) living in Fitchburg, I am eager for my opportunity to get vaccinated for Covid-19. Ditto for my wife, who is a year younger. We have seen some states already lowering the 1B age to 65, and have heard incoming President Biden now urge the same 65+ cutoff as vaccine availability will be accelerated in the near future.

We urge WI to do the same. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] We have taken every precaution to stay safe, but now with a new strain that's more infectious, we need to get the vaccine as soon as possible. Lowering the 1B age to 65 would be very helpful for seniors like us.

Kurt Foss
[REDACTED]

From: [Danny Villanueva](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:02:56 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I believe saving lives should be the #1 determining factor. Based on the DHS Wisconsin statistics, as of today, people over the age of 70 make up 79% of total COVID-19 deaths. It should be without debate that this group be next in line. Once this portion of phase 1B is complete, death rates will drop dramatically. Thank you.

Best,

Danny Villanueva Jr.


From: [Willems Van Dijk, Julie A - DHS](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: Question
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:58:40 AM

From: Dan Egan <egandp@ameritech.net>
Sent: Friday, January 8, 2021 10:04 AM
To: Willems Van Dijk, Julie A - DHS <julie.willemsvandijk@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Question

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I thought high risk individuals were going to be vaccinated sooner. If there is a possibility of vaccination sooner could you please let me know how I can that.

[REDACTED]

Thank you, Dan Egan
鑽榆DZ

From: [Vicki Taylor](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Older Population - COVID-19 Vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:57:16 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Hello,

I am interested in when the vaccine will be made available for the older population in Wisconsin. They are the ones dying from COVID and yet they are not getting vaccinated. We are vaccinating healthy people that will, for the most part, not lose their life without the vaccine, unlike the older people. From the group of older folks I know, at home, being taken care of by family members, not in a nursing home, they are depressed, high blood pressure and giving up. That's on the state for not getting their vaccine to them early. We vaccinate the people taking care of the older, critically ill COVID patients when we could eliminate the COVID patients by giving them the vaccine first. If we stop the flow, it trickles to end the issue. Where is the science in vaccinating backwards? Old people should have been phase 1A. Some states have vaccinated their older *population* and healthcare and doing great with the vaccine. The unified state approach is costing lives.

Thanks for your time.

Vicki Taylor

From: [Julie Beutler](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:52:46 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Hello,

. Please let me know when we will be available for the vaccine.

Thank you

Sent from my iPad

From: [kjnsn7](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid - 19 vaccinations
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:41:05 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I haven't heard anything about getting those who are most vulnerable due to medical conditions (COPD, Asthma, MS, Diabetes, etc.) being in the line up to get vaccines. If these individuals are the most vulnerable to succumb to death by this virus why are they not in the first phases of the vaccine protocol. The vaccines could easily get distributed to those doctors who specialize in treating those conditions (pulmonologists etc.) and they could get those patients immunized. The way the distribution is set up at the present time, it looks as if an individual who has these medical conditions, if they are not elderly, would have to wait until the general public gets immunized. It seems odd that individuals who are, along with the elderly, at the most risk of dying from the virus due to their medical conditions have to wait as long as the general public.

[Sent from the all new Aol app for iOS](#)

From: [Michael Mueller](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee" Phase 1B Recommendations
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:40:40 AM

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If you look at the population that are ending up in hospitals and morgues, that should be first up. I appreciate that there are groups out there that work with the public and may appear at risk, but what percentage of those groups are actually ending up seriously ill? The other piece is if you look at the rollout for 1A there has been a problem with finding enough people to vaccinate in a timely manner. Many are still hesitant to receive the vaccine. So, rather than risk having doses wait many administrators have been slipping vaccines to others who are not on the 1A list. For example, last week my mother, in assisted living, was vaccinated. I assume because others were reluctant to get it. That's not a bad thing, she is 95 years old. There just needs to be some flexibility. When I was in Army training at the rifle range, they taught us, when there's an overwhelming enemy, it's rapid fire, center of mass.

Thanks for listening.

M. Mueller

From: [Marty Peck](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid 19 Vaccine Priority
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:40:32 AM

Caution: Message from external sender Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Committee Members...

Priority consideration should be given to those who are most likely to require hospitalization or have serious consequences from the disease. I have not heard of a category given to those of us that are elderly **with** preexisting conditions. Personally, I am over 65 and have COPD, which I have been told puts me in a significantly higher risk category. It is unfair people with less risk of serious complications be prioritized ahead, although I do agree that EMS and medical personnel should be the top priority.

A rating system might help establish fair priority. I am surprised that this isn't being done. Those over 65 might get 2 points, those over 75 3 points, those over 85 4 points, those with a blood type predisposed to serious side effects may get another point, those with lung conditions another 2 points, diabetes 2 points, etc.

We've been dealing with the disease long enough to know that masking, gloves and sanitizing can be sufficient for many front-line workers such as clerks and garbage handlers. While everyone feels it is important that they be vaccinated ASAP, those at the highest risk of serious complications should be prioritized.

Thanks!

Marty Peck
CLD, IALD, LC, MIES
Principal
Creative Lighting Design & Engineering, LLC
N140 W13843 Cedar Lane
Germantown, WI 53022
262.242.4432
www.cld-e.com



From: [Caitlin McCarthy](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B Recommendation
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:38:17 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Good morning,

Thank you for all of the work you are doing in bringing this life-saving vaccine to the people of Wisconsin!

I am writing to recommend that individuals living with front-line workers should be included in Phase 1B due to exposure risk at home. As a resident physician in Milwaukee, I regularly see and treat patients with covid-19. My partner does not work in medicine, thus I (and many of my colleagues in medicine) fear the possibility of bringing home the virus and him getting gravely ill or unknowingly spreading it further. It would greatly benefit the general public - and the tired healthcare providers - to vaccinate their live-in family members as soon as possible.

Thank you for your consideration,

CJM

--
Caitlin McCarthy, MD
Psychiatry PGY1, Medical College of Wisconsin
she/her/hers

From: [DHS COVID VACCINE PUBLIC](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: Vaccine Roll out
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:31:45 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Kim <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:10 AM
To: DHS COVID VACCINE PUBLIC <DHSCOVIDVACCINEPUBLIC@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Vaccine Roll out

I saw a news piece indicating we could provide feedback. [REDACTED]!

I understand getting schools open, but by the time you get enough vaccines doses it will be the end of the school year.

WHY ARE WE BEING PUSHED SO FAR BACK?

Kimberly LaBonte

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kathleen Schreihart](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B Recommendation
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:29:33 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Committee Members:

[REDACTED]. I realize that there are many, many people in our County who need to be vaccinated with the SARS-Covid-19 vaccine before me since they are the first responders and healthcare workers, who are working in the front lines fighting this awful virus everyday.

I also know that the elderly need the vaccine before anyone else. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I have isolated myself in my home since learning of SARS-Covid-19 in February 2019, only going out for needed physician appointments, and twice to visit my mother. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Everyday on the news, there seems to be a new group of people that want to be added to Category 1B—from truck drivers to postal workers... and I beg you:

PLEASE please, think about those of us who might be hit the hardest and potentially die if we caught this awful virus.

Us who sit in our homes [REDACTED] and wonder if we might be next if a family member brings home the virus when delivering our food for us.

Please reconsider keeping those of us with SERIOUS comorbid conditions (of ANY age) in Category 1C and place us instead into Category 1B.

I appreciate your time in reading this.

Thank you, and God bless you and Keep You Safe.

Kathleen Schreihart

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Hatfield Kresch, Makenzie](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:28:30 AM

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Hello,

I'm writing to support that frontline workers' household members should be priority due to their significant exposure risk. As a resident, I work at all the hospitals and also work for Psychiatric Crisis Services, which is also a significant exposure due to the population served there and generally no testing of patients. Even if I take the utmost precaution (which I do), my family is at baseline of a much higher risk than others. I can't avoid others and it's hard to maintain social distancing with patients.

Thank you,

Makenzie

Makenzie Hatfield Kresch, MD

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [Earthspirit Farm](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b, vaccine subcommittee
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:26:41 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I believe the elderly...those over 75...should be vaccinated next since they are more likely to die if they get Covid. Jean Bawden

From: [Linda Redding](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee and "Phase 1B"
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:23:12 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

To Whom it May Concern,

[REDACTED] I support including people with disabilities in the 1B cohort of people to receive the COVID vaccine.

People with physical and intellectual disabilities are at higher risk for serious or fatal illness from COVID-19 and feel that they should be placed in the 1B cohort to get the vaccine as soon as possible.

Thank you for including this particularly vulnerable population in the COVID vaccine priority group 1B.

Linda Redding
Hudson, WI

From: [Harry Anderson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid19 group 1b recommendations
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:19:08 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I recommend that Group 1B is expanded to include those over 65 years and those with pre existing serious medical conditions.

Harry Anderson

Sent from my iPhone

From: [jerrym99](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine sub committee, phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:17:39 AM

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Hello,

I feel that those folks with underlying health conditions such as diabetes, previous cancer, and current heart issues should receive the vaccine before most other regular citizens. Also, all vaccine should be given through appointments with either their pcp or specialist. This would eliminate the problems created with the long lines at sites.

Thank you

Sent from my U.S.Cellular© Smartphone

From: [DHS COVID VACCINE PUBLIC](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: Timeline for Covid vaccines specifically 3 groups: 1)- seniors over 80, 2)- people with chronic autoimmune diseases at any age, 3) anyone 60 or older
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:16:16 AM

From: Deb DuChateau [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, January 17, 2021 3:02 PM
To: DHS COVID VACCINE PUBLIC <DHSCOVVIDVACCINEPUBLIC@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Timeline for Covid vaccines specifically 3 groups: 1)- seniors over 80, 2)- people with chronic autoimmune diseases at any age, 3) anyone 60 or older

I'm writing with my hope to impact your decision making for who should be prioritized in the next phase of the vaccine rollouts.

1- Seniors over 70 have dominated the fatalities of this horrible disease. With many seniors also having other medical challenges it is imperative we protect them. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] With so many of us having parents or grandparents who rely on family for support, emotionally and socially for running essential errands it is vital.

2- [REDACTED]

3. I'm also recommending anyone 60 or older to be vaccinated soon because of the increased risk due to age and preexisting medical challenges that many face. Oftentimes, those in their 60's are also very involved in supporting very senior parents or even spouses who are at increased risk.

Thank-you for considering my input.
Sincerely,
Debra DuChateau

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Melody Doyle](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID Vaccine Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:07:15 AM

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I believe we should prioritize next the most vulnerable to extreme illness and/or death. This being people over 70 and those with preexisting conditions no matter where they live, where they work or their race.

From: [Kelly Schwab - Sr. Account Executive](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: phase 1B vaccine subcommittee
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:04:52 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Hello-

The 70 and over should absolutely be the next group that is vaccinated.

They are the most at risk and have had the most adverse effects.

While I understand the concerns for teachers and child care workers in all the data we have from the last 9 months school has not been a spreading environment for the virus.

Please protect the valuable and vulnerable in our state.

In many, many states across the US this group has already been vaccinated and Wisconsin is lagging behind.

Thank you,

Kelly Schwab

Kelly Schwab

[REDACTED]



The information contained in this message is intended solely for the individual to whom it is specifically and originally addressed.

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From: [Kathy Kozicki](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:03:42 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Please! Please! give vaccines out to people 60 and older . I just heard that phase 1a was going to take months on Fox 6! Months? Are you kidding me?
We should be vaccinating 24/7. People are dying! My 88 year old mother lives with us and she is waiting months? Please. I see people on the news that are 20's, 30's getting vaccines when they have little risk of dying from getting Covid. Please give it to people who have a high risk of dying.

please.

Kathy Kozicki

From: [Julie Pekarske](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public comment for COVID19 recommendations for Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:59:27 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

DHS,
I recommend for COVID19 vaccine phase 1B:
Individuals 65 and older, anyone with heart, lung, kidney, diabetes and immunosuppressive conditions, store workers, school staff/teachers, , and bus drivers.
Julia Pekarske
Zip 53186

From: [Rick](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vacations
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:56:27 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

People that have had transplants should be next on the list for vacations.
Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sarah Neville](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: 1b COVID Vaccine Allocation Comment
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:55:52 AM

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To Who This May Concern-

I am writing today about the concerns I have regarding 1b allocation of the COVID19 vaccine. [REDACTED]

After reading the proposed allocations, I'm sorry but you've got to be kidding me that we're vaccinating PRISONERS over those under 65 that are high risk with severe medical conditions. We haven't been able to lead any semblance of a normal life since March. I'm all for vaccinating the guards and staff but those prisoners made the choice to be jailed.

I can't stress how much the pandemic has hit me and those under 65. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] y entire family works in the health care and on the front lines and I haven't seen them since May. [REDACTED]. So when I see that those under 65 who are high risk aren't even INCLUDED in this next round, I was appalled and in tears. You're in essence killing those who might get sick by pushing us off.

The majority of teachers and grocers other essential workers are healthy individuals (and most grocers are under 25 years old) who have a high rate of bouncing back if they catch it. Half are working from home such as Milwaukee Public Schools and Green Bay School District. If those high risk under 65 catch it, it's a death sentence. Those are the people at the bars and family gatherings not even listening. Even the CDC included us in the next round so why aren't you listening to the scientists instead of you, a politician.

Please be smart and include those under 65 who are HIGH RISK in the 1b allotment. Our lives depend on it. By choosing us for the next round, you would by default include those high risk essential workers. Please do the right thing and don't kill anyone else under the age 65 that's high risk.

Thank you,
Sarah Neville

From: [Richard](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Distribution Recommendation
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:54:35 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

My recommendation is that vaccine distribution and dissemination should **FOLLOW THE SCIENCE**.

Priority should be those groups and individuals have had the highest **INFECTION** rates. An additional consideration should be for those that have had the highest **MORTALITY** rate.

It should not be prioritized by profession **UNLESS SCIENCE SHOWS** that profession has shown a high rate of infection.

If the goal is to slow down or halt the spread of the virus, we need to focus on those that are at the core of the virus spread.

Richard Cox


From: [Zellner, Amie](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee and Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:50:12 AM

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To Whom it May Concern~

I am writing for additional consideration of who may be included in Phase 1B of the COVID 19 vaccination schedule. I realize there are limited vaccines available, and a considerable amount of the population who you are considering as high priority. I encourage you to include **high risk medical conditions** in the Phase 1B group. Anxiety is high for most people, however,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

would encourage you to allow the ability, based on physician recommendation, that patients in this group also be allowed in 1B if vaccines are available.

Thank you for your consideration,
Amie Zellner

From: [kwojs12](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid 19 Vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:49:31 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Please follow the federal government guidelines and open up vaccine availability to age 65+ and those with high risk medical conditions. Thank you.

Ron and Kathy Wojs
Muskego, WI

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From: [Nancy Stevens](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:38:35 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Subcommittee:

Having read the Recommendations for the Priority Group 1B, I would like to comment on the age group recommendation for people above 70 years of age. In the Recommendations, it states that the public comments should address the impact the pandemic has had on the sector. This is addressed in the Recommendations, particularly for the elderly living in assisted living or congregate settings. There would be no argument that this is a priority group. My concern is that there are a number of senior citizens who are living in their own homes, who are in their 80s and 90s, who are living with numerous health conditions that are listed in your Recommendations under "Medical Conditions." They require daily assistance and therefore, are also at risk because they necessarily come into contact with others from whom they receive assistance. Excluding this group from prioritization does not seem equitable.

My concern is that there should be some prioritization given to these elderly citizens who are living at home, but are very fragile based on ages well past age 70 who also have one or more of the medical conditions listed in the Recommendations document. Thank you for the opportunity to make a comment on this important matter.

Nancy Stevens

From: [Walter Wiplinger](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee" and "Phase 1B"
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:32:57 AM

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the 1B group should include

- People over the age of 70

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sami sobhani](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: To whom it may concern
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:32:56 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

As the parent of an individual with a disability, we support including people with disabilities in the 1B cohort of people to receive the COVID vaccine.

People with physical and intellectual disabilities are at higher risk for serious or fatal illness from COVID 19 and feel that they should be placed in the 1b cohort to get the vaccine as soon as possible.

Thank you for including this particularly vulnerable population in the COVID vaccine priority group 1B.

Manzur Sobhani



From: [Carolyn M Kiley](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public comment
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:29:40 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

[REDACTED]. Please do not put a 23 year old fire fighter in front of me for the COVID-19 vaccine.

Carolyn Kiley

[REDACTED]

From: [Sandi Kohrt](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: VACCINATION
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:25:36 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I strongly suggest that people over 70 be next for the vaccine. [REDACTED]. We have not been anywhere in 10 months, Even cancelling all our medical appointments. We NEED the vaccine and for it to be given in a safe environment. Thank you.

Sandra Kohrt
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

From: [Kowol, Mary-Anne](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:23:41 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Good morning,

As an addiction specialist I would like to advocate for patients with active addiction receiving the vaccine:

- Addiction weakens the immune system.
- Studies show that people with addiction want to take care of their health as evidenced by patients reaching comparable Hep C cure when offered in low threshold clinics.
- The act of obtaining substances offers limited options for social distancing
- housing may be marginal and not allow for distancing
- they may use public transportation more frequently
- they frequent the ED and put other members of the public at risk
- my patients do better with face to face recovery meetings and many tell me they held "secret" meeting through the pandemic
- Viventhealth would be a great option to offer the vaccine
- sober living places as well

A recent review by Dr Nora Volkow pointed out that people with addiction are more likely to develop COVID and they are sicker.

Best regards,
Dr Kowol

Mary-Anne Kowol MD
Assistant Professor
Addiction Psychiatry Fellowship Director
Medical College of Wisconsin, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health
414.955.7240

From: [AA DJ](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Extremely high risk vaccine needed!!
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:23:13 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Hi, I am writing to your committee with the hopes that you will consider adding people like myself who are in the extremely high risk "category".

[REDACTED]

I am BEGGING YOU to please consider adding in people who are in a extremely high risk

[REDACTED]

Thank you very much for your time on this and I hope you will consider it carefully. If you have any questions or need to contact me please feel free to email me back at this email or call me on my cell phone at [REDACTED]

Thank you,
Douglas Becker

From: [Patrick Young](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: "vaccine subcommittee" and "Phase 1B" in the
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:21:31 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I support people in family care and iris should be on the 1B prioritization list. People with physical and intellectual disabilities, including people with Down syndrome, are at higher risk for serious or fatal illness from COVID-19 and they feel that they should be placed in the 1B cohort to get the vaccine as soon as possible.

Thank you for including this particularly vulnerable population in the COVID vaccine priority group 1B.

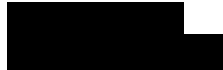
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Joan Riedle](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Comment on phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:20:48 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Please follow the national recommendation and include individuals 65 and older in Phase 1B. In particular, those between the ages of 65 and 70 with underlying medical conditions are at great risk.

Thank you
Joan Riedle



From: [Julie Barganz](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B - Vital statistic
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:20:12 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Committee Members,

I am making a plea for your committee to include individuals 65 and older in your 1B rollout. Based on statistics this group can't be ignored. You may check it out for yourself on the CDC website under COVID-19 Hospitalization and Death by AGE it shows that the age group 65 – 74 years old when compared to 18 – 29 years old have a 90x GREATER DEATH RATE and 5 times greater hospitalization rate. The next highest rate among 50 to 64 years old as when compared to 18 to 29 years old is 30x higher and 4 times as likely to be hospitalized. If this vaccine is intended to save lives, it would be irresponsible to leave them out of this next rollout.

Sincerely,
Julie Barganz

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Ralph Watral](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:18:41 AM

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Please include 70 + year old's !!

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Donna Acker](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Phase B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:17:53 AM

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PLEASE include seniors over 65. This is where most deaths are coming from and it breaks my heart to be losing friends and family. I have two elderly siblings in Florida that have received their first injection over a week ago. What is our problem....don't you care? If you need leadership advice please contact Governor DeSantis. He seems to be having no problem. Please save those seniors 65 and older. I beg of you.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Anthony Johnson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Next Group 1b for Covid-19 Vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:13:33 AM
Importance: High

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Hello:

I have noticed that People with underlying medical conditions are not in the Next Group 1b for the Covid-19 Vaccine. I do not understand the logic in that, since we are getting severe disease and death from it. Shouldn't we be next in line to avert hospitalization? This just doesn't make sense to me. I feel like we should be the highest priority but instead it feels like we are being thrown under the bus. I am 56 years old and I have Asthma, Diabetes Type II and High Blood Pressure. I work in the Manufacturing Industry doing office work and I can only work from home 2 – 3 days per week. I hope you will reconsider the order of the vaccinations especially now that the more aggressive strain has been found in Wisconsin.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Anthony W. Johnson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Donna Ellenbecker](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:12:41 AM

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I would like to see residential programs that were promised the vaccine already get their vaccine e before adding others to the list. I would like community day service participants in long term care added to the list no matter where they reside. If they participate in group long term care settings they should be included.


Donna ellenbecker

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Julie Dawson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Healthy young adults that are not Tier 1A or 1B vaccinated with their parents?
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:57:42 AM

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I am confused as to why some healthy 18-22-year-olds, that are not frontline workers and do not qualify in tier 1A or 1B, are being vaccinated with their parents. Their parents may qualify for the vaccine, but why are you also vaccinating those at the lowest risk? At the same time, I have seen pharmacists commenting on Spectrum News that they are receiving vaccine doses and are searching to find people to give them to.



Please get this fixed immediately. Set up a website similar to county testing sites. Notify 1B individuals where vaccines will be available and then let the vaccine sites set up their own appointment system. Find the quickest way to connect these groups so that those most vulnerable receive the vaccine.

Thank you
Julie Dawson

From: [David Helman](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Groups to be included in Group 1B of COVID-19 vaccination
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:48:29 AM

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Dear Sir or Madam:

Group 1B in Wisconsin must include people with 2 or more comorbidities (as defined by CDC) that put them at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19.

Sincerely yours,
David N. Helman, MD

--



From: [Tom Halter](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public comment
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:43:58 AM

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I would recommend the general public of any age with medical conditions be added to the next phase of vaccines. This could be accomplished by supplying doctors with the vaccine and allow doctors office to administer to their patients with underlining conditions.

I also feel the general public, where there has been more than 5000 deaths, should not be later than prisons where there has been 5 deaths. Why are criminals of all ages being listed in 1b? The priority should be to save the most lives, not to target confined living space.

I also recommend that the vaccine distribution and communication of, should have a very friendly web site that the general public can go to and input their own personal information and get on the list or an appointment at a local facility for the vaccine. I have found the DHS web site to be very confusing and unable to find out information regarding rules or even just general info regarding general public recommendations regarding vaccine procedure. Another thought is local tv ads or public announcements educating all of Wisconsin citizens on vaccine roll out progress and also give directions on what and how people are to do. Maybe use income tax system to send out a very detailed information sheet.

People need to know the State of Wisconsin and DHS have developed a plan that will get every Wisconsin Citizen that wants a vaccine, vaccinated ASAP. Especially if the federal government is going to be supplying more product. We need to be ready to go 24/7!!!

Thank you
Tom

Sent from my iPhone

From: [heysus1763](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:43:10 AM

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I support the inclusion of people 70 and above in Phase 1B. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I also am hopeful that those over 65 with underlying conditions such as mine would be considered. [REDACTED]

Thank you for all your hard work and for considering options for inclusion in Phase 1B.

Susan Jans
Shorewood, WI

Sent from my iPad

From: [Susan Buchino](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee & phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:06:52 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Please consider including people with serious illnesses in phase 1B.

[REDACTED]

Thank you,
Sue Buchino
Marshall, WI

Sent from my Galaxy

From: [Janet Hohlbein](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:04:18 AM

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Hello,

I believe the groups that you are proposing, Seniors, IRIS and Family Care recipients, congregate living, public-facing essential workers, non-EMS first responders, non-frontline health care personnel and mink husbandry, are the right groups to be in phase 1B. I also believe that people with one pre-existing condition should be considered as they have a higher risk of complications from the virus. And a higher risk for long term complications. Teachers and university educators and support staff should definitely be in phase 1B. The spread to local communities as college students return to school is a real concern for me. I have family and friends who work with student athletes who have a much higher risks of contracting the virus and bringing it home to other family members and their child's care providers.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to voice my opinion.

Janet Hohlbein

From: [Jeff & Linda](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:32:36 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I am writing to plead with you to prioritize “individuals with health conditions” to receive the vaccine in Phase 1B **before** prisoners. The prisoners are incarcerated as consequences of their illegal actions and now they will be rewarded with my husband’s vaccine and other law abiding citizens that have health issues. The people with health conditions are prisoners in their own homes due to the pandemic. They risk their lives every time they go to their clinic appointments and for lab work.

I agree that security guards and other staff working in the prisons receive the vaccine but **not** prisoners. I feel the prisoners should be at the bottom of the vaccine list.

PLEASE add people with health risks to the Phase 1B list!

Sincerely,
Linda Reckner
Stratford, WI

From: [Kathy Varese](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Include Individuals with Down Syndrome in Vaccine Group 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 6:04:34 AM

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I am writing this to decision makers that are responsible for determining the populations that are included in specific vaccine distribution groups:

Individuals with Down Syndrome (Trisomy 21) have a death rate that is 8-10 times that of the general population, which has been documented in scientific and medical literature. This wonderful, loving, and vulnerable population has three copies of a gene on chromosome 21 (TMPRSS2) which is believed to be significantly involved in the replication of SARS-CoV-2.

Two articles that document many of the scientific explanations for this may be helpful resources: "People with Down Syndrome Face High Risk From Coronavirus" in *Science*, Vol 370, Issue 6523, pp. 1384-1385, dated 18 Dec 2020, and "COVID-19 and Down's Syndrome: Are We Heading For a Disaster?" in the *European Journal of Human Genetics*, Vol 28, pp. 1477-1478 (2020), .

I implore you to please include individuals with Down Syndrome in Vaccine Group 1B in the State of Wisconsin.

Thank you,

Kathy Varese


From: [Reba Meindl](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine for individuals with Down Syndrome
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:52:23 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I am writing this to decision makers that are responsible for determining the populations that are included in specific vaccine distribution groups:

Individuals with Down Syndrome (Trisomy 21) have a death rate that is 8-10 times that of the general population, which has been documented in scientific and medical literature. This wonderful, loving, and vulnerable population has three copies of a gene on chromosome 21 (TMPRSS2) which is believed to be significantly involved in the replication of SARS-CoV-2.

Two articles that document many of the scientific explanations for this may be helpful resources: "People with Down Syndrome Face High Risk From Coronavirus" in Science, Vol 370, Issue 6523, pp. 1384-1385, dated 18 Dec 2020, and "COVID-19 and Down's Syndrome: Are We Heading For a Disaster?" in the European Journal of Human Genetics, Vol 28, pp. 1477-1478 (2020), .

I implore you to please include individuals with Down Syndrome in Vaccine Group 1B in the State of Wisconsin.

Rebecca Meindl



From: [Tom Nielsen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 11:36:56 PM

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Greetings,

Nearly all the medical articles I have read suggest those age **60 or above** are at significantly increased risk of severe COVID or death from COVID.

Accordingly, I would suggest the current Phase 1B recommendation of "People over the age of 70" be modified to "**People over the age of 60**".

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas M. Nielsen



From: djiteach2@aol.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee--Phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 11:32:47 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Hello, thank you for the opportunity to express my opinion regarding phase 1b. I believe without a doubt that people aged 70+ should definitely be included in phase 1b Covid vaccine distribution. People in this age group are at high risk for contracting the virus. The mortality rate for people 70+ is extremely high-71%. That is **extremely high**. People of this age are most often not capable of being able to fight off or receive treatment or medication that can combat the effects of the virus, therefore subsequently losing their lives. The 70+ group have been the most vulnerable to the severity of death since the very start of the pandemic. 70+ aged people are similar to some people who are in assisted living & nursing homes who have now received the vaccine, but living in their own homes in many cases with the assistance of someone. Just as the federal government has recommended, albeit they recommended age 65+, the elderly should be the 1b group due the vulnerability to the amount of fatalities. Only 12% of the elderly are metabolically healthy.

I also feel strongly that those with underlying conditions, aged 16+ living with illnesses as diabetes, chronic kidney disease, heart disease, etc., should also be included in phase 1b. People with underlying health conditions are also extremely vulnerable to the serious outcomes of Covid.

In essence, these 2 groups are **most** vulnerable above all others for severe consequences of contracting Covid. The **MOST** vulnerable should be in the next phase-1b.

Please administer vaccines by scheduled appointment. It would be most appreciated if there were various sites to go to with different contact website addresses & phone number to schedule appointments. This could possibly alleviate all the frustrations many people in many states are now incurring with trying to schedule an appointment. It would be fantastic if vaccines were available at physicians' offices as flu vaccines are.

Drive thru sites, as with the Covid testing sites, would also be a welcome alternative. There could be pre sign-up, drive up to get vaccinated, park your car for the required time to determine if there are any adverse reactions, then get approval to leave. Just a thought to possibly expand on.

Thank you for your consideration.
Doreen Janssen

From: [Marcie Brost](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine priority 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 11:07:32 PM

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To whom this may concern,

The following public comments are being submitted by The Wisconsin Developmental Disabilities Network Incorporated to the Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC) on their Recommendations for the Wisconsin Department of Health Services Vaccine Priority Group 1b.

As a statewide organization that works with both children and adult long term support funders, providers and recipients, we appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Tier 1B COVID vaccination priorities.

Our organization believes it's critically important to prioritize all citizens receiving Medicaid funded long term support services whether those services are paid through a managed care organizations, county government or the Medicaid IRIS Waiver program. We believe this is a critical need in the next round of vaccinations.

As described in your summary, this subset of Wisconsin citizens, due to age or permanent disability, have multiple risks due to their own comorbidities. Additionally, in many cases, risks associated with race, poverty and impairment requires shared living situations and a significant reliance on direct care staff who come and go from their home, and the homes of others.

The committee must take into account that not all of these participants live in institutions and substitute care facilities such as nursing homes, assisted living, group homes or foster homes. A significant number of these citizens who experience the impacts of aging or disabilities, live in their own home and home communities throughout our State.

To cost effectively and efficiently get the doses of vaccine to these citizens it will take thoughtful planning and coordination with their individual service provider or support agencies who may employ the direct support staff and who come to their homes to help them with getting out of bed, providing them with personal support for bathing, dressing, eating, medication administration, getting to work or doctor appointments etc.

We would anticipate that a comprehensive plan would allow and encourage the primary care clinics to vaccinate with verification that 'patients' are participants in the state's long term

care programs. We would also anticipate that many citizens who receive Medicaid funded services in their own homes, not facilities, may be vaccinated via county public health drive up clinics as well as other venues in each county.

Managed Care Organizations as well as providers of either managed care or IRS funded long term care can and will get people there but their clearly needs notice of the plan and coordination.

The cost to providers in time and resources to be able to access vaccinations for the individuals served is not minimal and must be considered as a reimbursable cost by DHS and funding organizations. This is not a simple task and providers who have been diligently supporting citizens throughout this pandemic must be valued. Those agencies who are ensuring the health and safety of frail elders or citizens with permanent disabilities need fair compensation for the additional coordination and other costs involved in getting people to the vaccine sites.

It is critical that the state provide, as soon as possible, the **consent form for guardians** to sign along with any vaccine information sheets. To explain this authorization to a legal representative or guardian is a process and will take time . It's highly likely that providers may need to collaborate and provide additional information to frail elders or people with disabilities, their POAs or legal guardians , if any, in order to help them have their concerns addressed. The providers who support these citizens who either live in their own homes, with their family or in licensed or certify facilities need to be contacted soon so they have a reasonable time to review, get their concerns addressed and hopefully sign with consent. Having this official consent form and the vaccine information facts sheets will not only give providers more assistance but it will give citizens who are making the consent decision greater confidence in the efficacy of the vaccine.

Our organization has been hearing about COVID positive rates that are well over 10% for people supported in their own homes and for their staff. . Many community providers have had weeks in which more than 20% -25% of staff were under quarantine and unable to work, creating an even more significant staffing crisis situation. In one agency, all but one COVID positive situation for individuals served was attributable to contact with a staff person who was positive, but not yet aware of their infection. About 50% of the COVID positive staff were infected via work contact. All of this occurred with very good protocols in place with PPE, sanitization, etc., but without access to the PPE used in hospital settings such as fit-tested N95 masks, or personal battery powered respirators, as they were not able to access those supplies.

Including frail elders and citizens with disabilities who live in their own apartments or homes need to be included in this 1b category. People shouldn't have to reside in a nursing home or other residential facility to be viewed as a priority. These citizens who receive Medicaid funded long term care from the IRIS Waiver or Family Care should be included .

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

*Marcie Brost
Executive Director*

“Never look down on anybody unless you’re helping him up.” – Jesse Jackson

Marcie M. Brost
Executive Director
Wisconsin Developmental Disabilities Network Inc.
PO Box 8335
Madison, Wisconsin 53708

admin@ddnetworkinc.org
[608-770-6835](tel:608-770-6835)

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From: [Jessica Bast](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:54:38 PM

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Hi there,

I believe 65 year olds and older as well as all ages 16+ with underlying medical conditions should be getting the vaccine next within the 1B section. I don't understand why our state hasn't made them a priority considering these are the people dying and filling up the ICU hospital beds. If we want things to get better within our hospitals we need to focus on the priority groups that are being admitted. It's very disturbing seeing young and healthy medical workers who have already had COVID-19 getting the vaccine over [REDACTED].

Thank you for your consideration,
Jessica

From: [anna.robertson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:51:54 PM

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I think that the State of Wisconsin should follow the Federal guidelines and include 65 and older citizens in Phase 1B. We continue to be at high risk. Please strongly consider following the recommended guidelines.
Anna

From: [Norman Pagel](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:48:10 PM

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To Whom It May Concern:

[REDACTED] I support people with disabilities in the 1B cohort of people to receive the Covid vaccine. People with physical and intellectual disabilities are at higher risk for serious or fatal illness from Covid 19. Therefore I feel that they should be placed on the 1B cohort to get the vaccine as soon as possible. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] So I also feel the wonderful staff at Aspiro, and places like Aspiro, should get the vaccine along with the adults they care so much for!

Thank you for your cooperation in this important matter!

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Warden Pagel

From: [Dean Wolff](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee, phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:44:36 PM

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Please consider including persons over 65 or those with underlying health conditions that could make it more likely that COVID-19 would be fatal to them. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Please know that I appreciate the concerns that each group has about being included in Phase 1B; however, including those in our age group for vaccination could prolong our lives, and we have worked hard to retire and enjoy the years we have left. Thank you very much for considering my comments.

Susan Wolff

Sent from my iPad

From: [J. Matusinec](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:44:35 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

To Whom it May Concern,

[REDACTED] we support including people with disabilities in the 1B cohort of people to receive the COVID vaccine.

People with physical and intellectual disabilities, including people with Down syndrome, are at higher risk for serious or fatal illness from COVID-19 and we feel that they should be placed in the 1B cohort to get the vaccine as soon as possible. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Thank you for including this particularly vulnerable population in the COVID vaccine priority group 1B.

Sincerely,

John and Jane Matusinec
Muskego, WI

From: [Carol Skeris](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:41:21 PM

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I think you should give the next doses to those that are dying- people over 65.

From: [Tom & Margaret Schueller](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee" and "Phase 1B"
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:40:00 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Hello,

Thank you for reaching out for opinions on vaccine distribution. These are tough choices. I am a manufacturing professional engineer and enjoy statistics. I think one could debate the next groups to receive the vaccines after health care providers and first responders. Should it be teachers, should it be grocery store workers, should it be, should it be, should it be,the list is very long. However look at what the objectives are which should be to reduce deaths and hospitalizations. If you believe and want to have a sooner impact on these numbers I advocate the KISS (Keep It Simple Stupid) approach. By far the most vulnerable group is by age, for sure by deaths and I assume by hospitalizations but admittedly I do not have that data. It also is the easiest form of identification to be provided to those administering the vaccines. So go by age in groups as an example of any one over 70, then 65 then 60....this should have the biggest initial impact and easiest to administer. When you get to an age that has very few deaths say under 40 then open it up to folks that have underlying health conditions as that is harder to discern priorities (asthma over heart disease or....).

Again - Keep it Simple and easy to manage for all involved! Get vaccines in arms should be the priority versus any discussion what group should be next.

Thank you for asking community opinions!

Tom Schueller
V.P. Operations
Cornerstone Composites

From: [Wendy Matthews](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:32:18 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

‘Dear SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee,

I strongly urge you to prioritize (1) people over the age of 65 and (2) people under the age of 64 with chronic medical conditions to be vaccinated for COVID 19 in group 1B. If these people contract covid they are at higher risk for developing more serious complications, immediate and long term side effects. That would place a higher strain on our healthcare workers and society if these people require more advanced medical care. That medical care could range from more expensive, more frequent and longer duration hospital stays. I feel promoting more vaccinations for these populations may help reduce that burden. This also lessens the stress and burden of families that have high risk family members. As well as those people in these categories who are essential workers.’

Thank you so much. Feel free to pass this on so we can make a difference. I really appreciate it!

Wendy Matthews

From: kyunker1@wi.rr.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B Vaccination Subcommittee Recommendations
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:29:10 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I had previously submitted a comment requesting consideration of expanding Phase 1B to include Seniors between the ages of 65 to 70 with conditions of significant medical risk. Since I submitted this comment, the CDC has recommended that Phase 1B include all Seniors 65 years of age and older. Therefore, I would ask that that consideration be given to expanding Phase 1B to include not only Seniors 65-70 years of age with conditions of significant medical risk , but also all Seniors 65-70 years of age.

Thank you for your consideration of this comment and for your important work on addressing this pandemic.

Ken Yunker



Sent from my iPad

From: [REDACTED]
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine sub-committee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:26:54 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

PLEASE...Insure that 70 yrs and older seniors are included in the next phase of Covid-19 vaccine. I agree that front line workers and first responders should receive the vaccine first. However, should a volunteer in a hospital gift shop get a vaccine before someone over 70? (This has already happened to someone I know.) I also think a senior over 70 should receive the vaccine before a 20 yr. old healthy grocery worker.

My husband and I, both over 70, have followed ALL precautions, wear a mask, socially distance, wash our hands, did not attend any family gatherings over the holidays, and cancelled 4 planned trips. Yet, when we do go out for necessities, I see young people everywhere without as much as a mask.

I am asking you to PLEASE consider including seniors over 70 in the next phase of the vaccine.

Mrs. Owen Accardo

From: [Molly Layde](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee: 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:25:58 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Committee,

I am a Milwaukee resident, a nurse, and an epidemiologist. I urge you to follow the new federal guidelines and join the majority of states in prioritizing those over age 65 immediately in this next phase. To maximize lives saved, including residents at the highest risk of death, those over age 65, in phase 1b is critical. My parents are 69 and have not left their home since March. Please make the compassionate, data-driven decision to follow CDC guidelines and prioritize the lives of our Wisconsin seniors.

Thank you,
Mary Layde

From: [cynthia.leach](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: "Vaccine subcommittee" "Phase 1B"
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:24:48 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear committee, this may be wishful thinking but My husband and I wish you would follow president elect Bidens directive to put people over 65 or with pre existing health into the next phase. That here would be 1B. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] But are under the age of 70. Knowing we can't survive this virus we took steps to outlive it. We purchased a freezer and stocked it for 9 months. It's now almost empty. We stocked up on many other goods and that too is near empty. We have our prescriptions delivered and also go every few weeks to Economart in Spooner who shops for us and brings it to our car. Can't thank them enough! We have been at home since early March when even with masks we felt un safe. We know we are not the only ones like us. Just asking. Kind regards, John and Cindy
[REDACTED] Wondering also how we will be contacted ? Not everyone has a computer or Facebook etc. sure would be nice to know.
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Wesley Michael](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee , Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:22:51 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Please open up the vaccinations for people 65 and up. The VA is already doing that at many VA centers. While people in 1A are getting their second shot, others who would be in 1B are contracting covid. It doesn't make any sense to vaccinate health care workers if there is no one to take care of. I am a retired former healthcare worker (support role) and am 70. I have waited patiently for the shots. I have hardly left my home since the beginning. I miss my friends and family. My wife works in healthcare and will be getting scheduled for her 2nd shot. Its time to open up this country. Stop playing politics with our lives. Thats what this is all about. You have had plenty of time to get this figured out. Other states have begun 1B already. Get on the ball.

W Michael
Green Bay WI.

From: [Carolyn Blum](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:20:47 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Please include those over the age of 70 in phase 1b.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] I live alone with no family nearby to take care of me should I get covid. I do not want to clog the hospital. Mortality rate for age 70 and over is high.

Thank you.

Carolyn Blum, Hartford, Wisconsin

--

Sent from my Android device with K-9 Mail. Please excuse my brevity.

From: [Sinead Raleigh](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phrase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:19:23 PM

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What about people with pre-existing conditions here. I think we should be next in line for the vaccines. I am more speaking about people in wheelchairs, also.

Sinead Raleigh

From: [Ellie F](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:14:45 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Greetings. I 100% understand Frontline medical workers emts nursing home patients for 1A.

Agree with most the 1B criteria.

However there are many people with cancer or other compromised immune systems and over 50 as well.

Most of us have been isolated well over 6 months and likely would not survive covid.

Just feel we shouldn't be in the general public rollout.

Thank you

From: [Joe Smith](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public comments for 1b - 65+
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:11:10 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

65+ should be in 1b - let's save our seniors!

From: [Maria Jarvi](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:10:49 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to see group 1B include teachers, grocery workers, 65 and older adults and adults with serious pre-existing conditions with whom put them at increased risk. Please consider these high risk groups in 1B. Thank you.

--

Maria Jarvi CPA

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTE: The information contained in this communication from jarvi.maria@gmail.com is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If the reader of this e-mail message is not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible for delivery of the message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is prohibited.

From: [Vera Riedel](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee" and "Phase 1B"
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:10:36 PM


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Please include people with immune deficiency health problems and also people with asthma and breathing difficulties. [REDACTED]. Thank you!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Lynne Schade](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID vaccines
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:09:00 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

 I am frightened. I need this vaccine as soon as possible.
Please respect the CDC recommendation to vaccinate those 65 years old.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Cindy Richter](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:06:48 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Sirs or Madams,

I believe you should *follow the federal recommendations and open up phase 1B to those 65 and older.*

The CDC says when there are limited resources for the vaccine, to act to decrease death and serious disease as much as possible. According to State of Wisconsin statistics, 92% of the deaths in Wisconsin are occurring to persons aged 60 and up, while those aged 30 to 59 have a 9% chance of death. Why leave the 65 to 70 year olds out when they are a part of the higher death rate?

The CDC further states the vaccine should be given to reduce the extra burden covid is having on people already facing disparities. The elderly are facing huge disparities. It is this age group who are huddled alone in their homes, just like their institutionalized age group, isolated from the community and their families.

I urge you to save lives and add 65 to 70 year olds to the 1B group.

Thank You,

Cindy Richter



From: [Julie Sowinski RN, BS-N](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: B1 covid-19 home vent patients
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:59:23 PM

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Im writting to request my home ventilator patient to be allowed in the B1 group. We have several nurses and ma y family members as well as essential working parents who are in the public and living in fear. Their greatest fear is bringing the virus home and death of their loved vented child.

Please please consider adding this population.

Sincerely,
Julie Sowinski, RN, RCS

From: [C. Scheihing](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: Rep.Cabral-Guevara@legis.wi.gov
Subject: Re: Vaccination subcommittee/Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:56:46 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Per the Wall St. J., Florida is vaccinating people over 65 years old, including those who are not full-time residents and Canadians. Such a deal. Meanwhile your plan puts us behind teachers (most of them are well under under 65) and prisoners, while you continue to finish the plan for the rest of us. Death by committee? Great job, folks.

On Saturday, January 16, 2021, 10:57:43 PM CST, C. Scheihing <cityfarm14@yahoo.com> wrote:

Please concentrate on those 75 and above to start. Those over 80 suffer the highest death rate from covid, followed by age 75-80, then 70-75 and so on. You will rarely find a teacher in those age brackets, in fact you rarely find any workers in those age brackets. Concentrate on the population in the highest risk categories, and work down from there.

From: [Brenda](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:52:14 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC):

I am extremely dismayed to see that the committee is recommending the vaccination of the large number of educators in our state in group 1b. Not only is this completely illogical at this point in the school year but it will, in many cases, prioritize the healthy over our most vulnerable.

Let's assume you start vaccinating teachers on February 1. Let's also assume that you could vaccinate all teachers by the end of February. That would mean that the second doses would begin in March and be completed by the end of the month. Add 2 weeks (at least) for all teachers to reach full immunity. We are now at mid-April. Are we really going to use these doses so that schools could be open to in-person learning for perhaps 6 weeks before letting out for the summer? How does that make sense? Are YOU going to tell the 65-year old with a heart condition he won't get the vaccine now because we are going to give that dose to a 25-year old healthy kindergarten teacher?

Once our first responders and health care workers are vaccinated, we should be prioritizing those that are more likely to become very ill or die when they contract the virus. Doing anything other than that is simply saying that these folks don't matter. That we are willing to let them die so that children and college students MIGHT be able to attend classes in person for a few weeks this school year, rather than simply staying virtual and allowing those doses to go into the arms of people who will otherwise die waiting.

Please reconsider your recommendation. Think about what really matters and how much of our vulnerable population have already suffered and died while they waited. The vaccine is here. Now. Get it to the people who desperately need it. Don't make them wait any longer.

Thank you for your consideration,

Brenda in Madison, WI

From: [Karen Oellerich](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid 19 vaccination for phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:26:03 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Advocating for people 65+ to be included in phase 1b group. Recent federal guideline updates have included this group. Through the pandemic, 65 & over have been identified in the most vulnerable group.

Realizing that the flow of vaccine from the federal government has not been fluid, I feel the state of Wisconsin needs to move as quickly as possible moving onto the next group. Even if only 30% of 1a has been vaccinated, move on & get this vaccine to those who desire it! Many younger people are not choosing to be vaccinated.

As the number of tests given each day was streamlined & increased...preparations to vaccinate more people per day needs to be increased in Wisconsin. I trust, in the days ahead, there will be changes & increases in the amount of vaccine being shipped to WI. DHS needs to be prepared to roll out vaccinations timely. Again, please include 65+ in group 1b! Thank you.

Respectfully, Karen Oellerich

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Patricia Wiseman](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:25:06 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Can people aged 65-74 with pre-existing conditions be included? The pre-existing condition category is scary let alone adding the age category to it.

My fear is people receiving the vaccine will decide not to wear masks after they get it which will endanger those of us who are older with pre-existing conditions since they could still be a carrier of Covid.

Thank you!

Sent from my iPhone

From: cricket607.2@juno.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee and Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:25:00 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I am in full support of including seniors over 70 for the next covid19 vaccination. The reason I truly need it is that I have a heart condition and am at high risk.

Seniors can stay home and be safe but it is very hard when you are alone. In fact, I just had a friend who was in the hospital and gave up on life and asked to be taken off of oxygen because she did not want to go back to her lonely apartment. I am sure there are others who can't take it any longer also.

There are many of us that want to live out our lives fully and not wither away. Some of us don't have that long to live and want to enjoy life.

Please consider the age of 70 and above.

Thank you.

Linda Grossman

From: [Frank](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee, phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:22:05 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

It's important that everybody get vaccinated, but the most at risk should definitely be at the front of the line. I feel that 65+ seniors should be included in the 1B group.

Frank Hoffman

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [Maureen Clark](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: "vaccine subcommittee" and "Phase 1B"
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:22:01 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

People 65 and older.
People underlying high risk factors for Covid (diabetes, cancer, etc).

Thank you.

--

Maureen

From: [Ashley Maciulaitis](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee, Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:21:47 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Hello,

Please include people under 70 undergoing chemotherapy in the 1B phase of vaccination [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Please imagine if this were your loved one. This pandemic has been devastating for so many Americans. What gets many of us through it is the belief that if we do our part to keep ourselves and others safe now, we can look forward to years ahead together. Many people undergoing chemotherapy do not have that luxury. They have been patient in 2020, and their days are limited. Please help these people who have already sacrificed so much and who are at greater risk of COVID complications have the protection of the vaccine, and the hope of spending this difficult time surrounded by loved ones. Thank you for your consideration.

Best,

Ashley

From: [Cheryl Lee](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid level B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:13:18 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Please include our ventilator dependent patients around the state. Vent patients are severely compromised much like nursing home residents with family, caregivers and nurses coming and going every day! These patients are easy to find. Most are managed by long term care programs, agency or private duty nurses, funded by Medicaid. Please, please. Not fair that they are waiting.

From: [Richard Piefer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Judy Piefer](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Request to Include Disabled in Phase 1B"
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:47:57 PM
Attachments: Request form for 1B_20210117 (2).pdf

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Please see the attached letter requesting that citizens with physical and mental disabilities are included in Phase 1B for Covid 19 vaccinations.

Best regards,

Rick and Judy Piefer

January 17, .2012

Whom it May Concern,

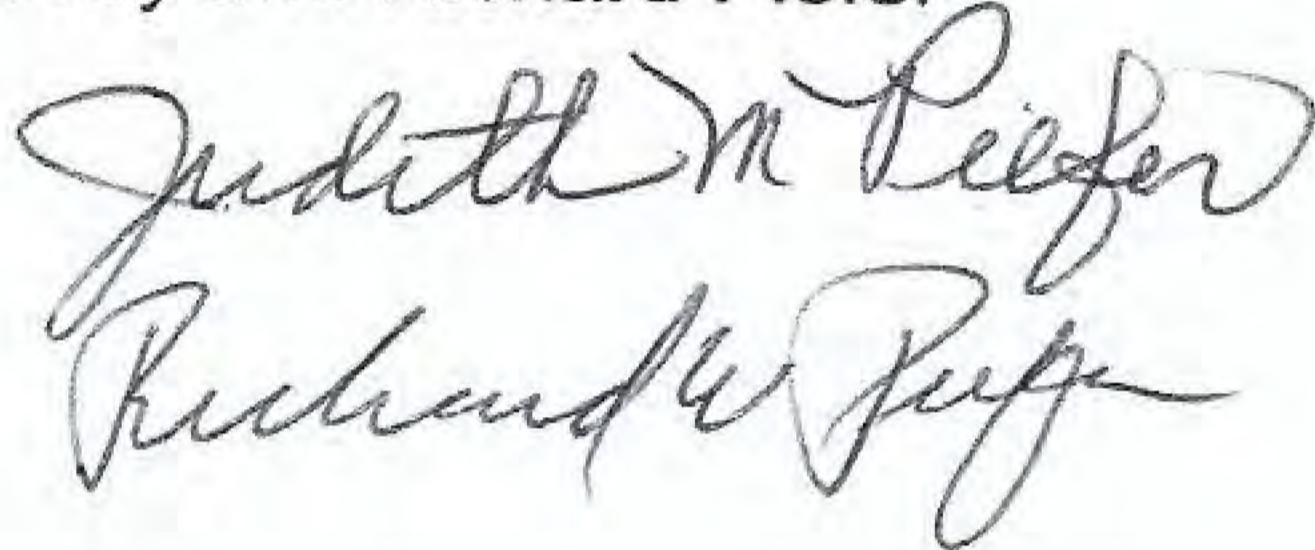
[REDACTED] we support including people with disabilities in the 1B cohort of people to receive the COVID vaccine.

People with physical and intellectual disabilities are at higher risk for serious or fatal illness from COVID 19 and feel that they should be placed in the 1b cohort to get the vaccine as soon as possible.

Thank you for including this particularly vulnerable population in the COVID vaccine priority group 1B.

Sincerely,

Judy and Richard Piefer

Handwritten signatures of Judith M. Piefer and Richard W. Piefer. The signature of Judith M. Piefer is written in a cursive style, and the signature of Richard W. Piefer is also in cursive, appearing below the first signature.

From: svanabel@gmail.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Committee Phase1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 6:48:31 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Committee,

I am very concerned that in your proposed recommendations for phase 1B you have not included people with comorbidities and other serious health conditions. I think the pressure that these groups will continue to put on our hospital system have a trickle down effect. I think they should be moved to the top of the list so that our health system doesn't get overwhelmed.

The likelihood of this vulnerable population ending up in the hospital is so much higher than the general population. It seems to make the most sense to me to get them vaccinated before some of the other groups you have listed.

Thank you for the consideration.

Susan Van Abel
[Glendale, WI](#)

Sent from my iPad

From: [Elaine Pelley](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B - Protecting disabled children
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 6:45:02 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Vaccine Subcommittee Members:

Thank you for all of your efforts to move the COVID vaccination process forward in Wisconsin.

I am a physician in Madison [REDACTED]. I am writing to ask for the following to be considered in vaccine distribution:

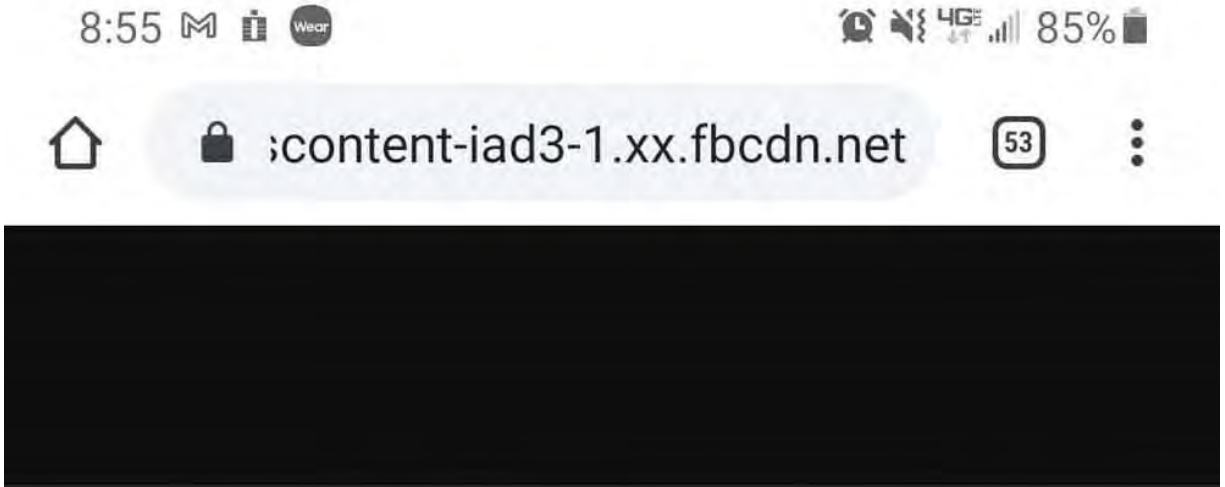
1. Thank you for including IRIS and Family Care participants in Phase 1b. **Please consider also including participants of the Children's Long Term Support Waiver (CLTS).** This would allow inclusion of those 16- and 17-year-olds with significant disability who are still covered under the CLTS and who could receive the Pfizer vaccine in Phase 1b. As approvals for younger age groups arrive, this will ensure children with intellectual and developmental disability who are at higher risk of poor COVID-19 outcomes are prioritized. The reasoning for including this group is nearly identical to that outlined for IRIS/Family Care and is likely a relatively small number.
2. Several states (California's statement pasted below) have explicitly defined family members of individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disability as "health care workers" for the purposes of vaccine distribution and are therefore eligible to receive vaccine under Phase 1a. While in-home care workers are currently identified as Phase 1a, our family, like many others, have halted use of these during the pandemic in order to protect our son from exposure. Therefore, the pandemic has shifted the caregiving load onto families as we now provide all of the care that was previously provided by outside caregivers. Ryan is unable to wear a mask, too young to receive vaccine, and requires full assistance for all activities of daily living. It would be nearly certain he would become infected if either his father or I were infected. While I am eligible based on my occupation, my husband and many other similar family caregivers are not. **Please consider either clarifying that family members providing paid or unpaid care to those who receive CLTS/IRIS/Family Care are "healthcare workers" and therefore eligible in Phase 1a OR please consider explicitly adding this group in 1b.**

The above changes would be very impactful [REDACTED]

Thank you again for your important work.

Sincerely,

Elaine Pelley, MD



DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

1600 NINTH STREET, Room 240, MS 2-13
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
TTY (916) 654-2054 (For the Hearing Impaired)
(916) 654-1897



January 13, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

California has a large population of people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. Recent COVID-19 studies have identified several groups within this population as being at high risk of COVID-19 complications and related fatalities. The purpose of this letter is to clarify that family members of certain people are "health care workers" pursuant to the State of California's [Vaccination Plan \(https://covid19.ca.gov/vaccines/#When-can-i-get-vaccinated\)](https://covid19.ca.gov/vaccines/#When-can-i-get-vaccinated), and thus are prioritized for COVID-19 vaccination within Phase 1A.

These family members include those who care for people with any of the following conditions. This list is not necessarily exhaustive:

- Cerebral palsy
- Down Syndrome
- Epilepsy
- Specialized health care needs, including dependence upon ventilators, oxygen, and other technology

The eligibility of these family members can be ascertained by documentation from their California regional center, verifying the qualifying condition of the member of their household who has an intellectual or developmental disability. A list of regional centers is available here: <https://www.dds.ca.gov/rc/listinas/>. Alternatively, a family member may

choose to present medical documentation of the qualifying condition of the member of their household who has an intellectual or developmental disability.

We hope this letter clarifies the eligibility of certain family members for the COVID-19 vaccine pursuant to Phase 1A of the State's Plan, and thereby assists in protecting the health of Californians most at risk from COVID-19 impacts.

Sincerely,



NANCY BARGMANN
Director

"Building Partnerships, Supporting Choices"



From: [Williams, TR - GOV](#)
To: [Dougherty, Gary](#)
Cc: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Palm, Andrea J - DHS](#); [Olson, Lisa A - DHS](#); [Kuhn, Jamie S - GOV](#); [Roberts, Noah - GOV](#); [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: RE: COVID vaccine prioritization (diabetes)
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 6:22:23 PM
Attachments: ADA COVID vaccine prioritization WI-011421.pdf

Greetings Gary,

I hope this message finds you and your family safe, healthy and well.

My name is T.R. Williams and I serve as the Deputy Director of External Affairs in the Office of Governor Evers.

I am emailing to confirm that our office successfully received your email and letter on behalf of the American Diabetes Association. I have attached your letter to this email, for reference.

We understand the request for the prioritization of individuals with diabetes in the COVID-19 vaccine distribution and your request that the State does not differentiate between Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes in the distribution prioritization.

Your concerns are important. I have shared your message and the information included in your message with the appropriate people on our team, including directly with the State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC).

The distribution of the vaccine is currently in phase 1a with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) focusing on frontline healthcare personnel and residents of long term care facilities. Beginning the week of January 18, 2021 DHS expects to begin vaccinations for EMT personnel, Fire personnel and older adults.

DHS is still receiving guidance and recommendations on matters of vaccine prioritization. DHS will be relying on guidance from the Advisory Committee of Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

In addition, the [State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee \(SDMAC\)](#) is actively working on [recommendations](#) to the DHS Secretary and the Governor on vaccine allocation for Wisconsin. All of the meetings of the SDMAC are open to the public, and posted on the [public meetings website](#) as well as on the [DHS website](#).

The SDMAC Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee has advanced their recommendations for COVID-19 Vaccine Priority Group 1b. You can review the document [here](#), and submit comment to DHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov.



Connected **for Life**

January 14, 2021

The Honorable Tony Evers
P.O. Box 7863
Madison, WI 53707

ATTN: Maggie Gau, Chief of Staff

RE: ADA Comments Regarding Need to Prioritize all Wisconsinites with Diabetes in Wisconsin's Vaccine Distribution Plan

Dear Governor Evers:

I write to bring to your immediate attention important new clinical evidence that makes it clear that many individuals with type 1 diabetes mellitus (T1D) are at equal risk to those with type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2D) for greater morbidity and mortality from COVID-19. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) currently categorizes people with T2D as being at increased risk while indicating people with T1D "may be" at increased risk. States are utilizing the CDC risk classification when designing their vaccine distribution plans. This raises an obvious concern as it could result in the approximately 1.6 million with T1D receiving the vaccination later than others with the same risk.

Although early data did not provide as much clarity about the extent to which those with T1D are at high risk, newer data has emerged that convincingly demonstrates that COVID-19 severity is more than tripled in individuals with T1D¹. Those with T1D have a 3.3 fold greater risk of severe illness, are 3.9 times more likely to be hospitalized with COVID-19, and have a three-fold increase in mortality compared to those without T1D.² These risks are comparable to the increased risk established for those with T2D³.

The new science leaves little doubt that there should be no distinction between individuals with Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes mellitus, given the common, heightened risk both groups face for the most severe health outcomes of COVID-19. Considering this information, the American

¹ Gregory JM, Slaughter JC, Duffus SH, *et al.* COVID-19 Severity Is Tripled in the Diabetes Community: A Prospective Analysis of the Pandemic's Impact in Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes. *Diabetes Care* 2020.

² Barron E, Bakhai C, Kar P, *et al.* Associations of type 1 and type 2 diabetes with COVID-19 related mortality in England: a whole-population study. *Lancet Diabetes Endocrinol* 2020; **8**: 813–22.

³ McGurnaghan SJ, Weir A, Bishop J, *et al.* Risks of and risk factors for COVID-19 disease in people with diabetes: a cohort study of the total population of Scotland. *Lancet Diabetes Endocrinol* 2020. DOI:10.1016/s2213-8587(20)30405-8.

Gary Dougherty
Director, State Government Affairs
1-800-676-4065 Ext. 4832
gdougherty@diabetes.org

1-800-DIABETES (342-2383)



Connected **for Life**

Diabetes Association has recently urged the CDC to take immediate steps to update CDC's guidance, reflecting this equal risk.

We urge Wisconsin to NOT differentiate between Type 1 and Type 2 DM in their prioritization of access for vaccines. Should you have any questions about this urgent request, feel free to contact me at gdougherty@diabetes.org.

We hope we can continue to be a resource to your vital efforts to best protect our community and others from the dangerous effects of the novel coronavirus. Please let us know if we can provide additional information or help in coordinating a virtual meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gary Dougherty'.

Gary Dougherty
Director, State Government Affairs
American Diabetes Association

cc: Andrea Palm
Jamie Kuhn
TR Williams
Noah Roberts

Gary Dougherty
Director, State Government Affairs
1-800-676-4065 Ext. 4832
gdougherty@diabetes.org

1-800-DIABETES (342-2383)

The **public comment period will remain open until 4:00PM on Monday, January 18.** The subcommittee will meet again on Wednesday, January 20th to review & address public comment, and ultimately advance the recommendation to the full SDMAC on Thursday, January 21st.

The [Wisconsin Department of Health Services COVID-19: Vaccine](#) website has additional information and updates regarding the vaccine and additional [information for vaccinators](#) (including details of the enrollment process). Additional resources include:

- DHS [COVID-19 vaccination plan](#)
- DHS' [executive summary of the vaccination plan](#)
- [Register here to receive the DHS weekly newsletter with Vaccine updates.](#)

Thank you for reaching out to our office, for your service, leadership and advocacy on behalf of Wisconsinites.

We truly believe that we will get through this together.

Best,

~ T.R.Williams, J.D ~

Deputy Director of External Affairs

Office of Governor Tony Evers

tr.williams@wisconsin.gov | w: 608-266-7861 | c: 608-279-0541

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From: [Marisa Gassner](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccination
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 6:07:01 PM

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Is this even worth expressing my concerns. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Work, because my job is essential. Yet, I absolutely fit in no category to receive the vaccination, until the very end. I believe that anyone in the field of caring for others should be vaccinated first. Then residents in nursing homes and care facilities. People with disabilities beyond their control. Then I get to watch the naughty adults in the classroom, that abused their bodies by smoking, leading lazy lives, eating the wrong food, going to the head of the class and given the prize for being the big mouths in the classroom.
I pray that the odds remain in my favor waiting until the bitter end. God bless.

From: [Myra Enloe](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 5:51:17 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I ask that you include people with significant medical issues, as listed in your document, in phase 1b if at all possible. This may be more important than reducing the age eligibility requirement from 75 to 70.

Thank you for your consideration.

Myra Enloe

From: [BJ Droegkamp](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: BJSKITAHOE@aol.com
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 5:36:50 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Please consider for Phase 1B those people who would most likely lose their life if they contract COVID-19. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] PLEASE CONSIDER PEOPLE WITH EXTREME HIGH RISK for Phase 1B!
The mental toll has been huge!!! [REDACTED] We would have a hard time understanding smokers getting the vaccine over those with health conditions not caused by any fault of their own.

Thank you for your consideration,
BJ Droegkamp
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Alex and Casey](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID Vaccine Recommendations
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 5:35:47 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Hello

I would like to recommend any patients that are on chemotherapy are eligible for Phase 1B. These patients are extremely vulnerable to COVID, and it is recommended they be included in the next group. These patients are at risk as much as the elderly, child care workers, etc.

Sincerely

Alex Stoller

From: [Joan Krueger](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 5:02:56 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

To Whom it May Concern,

[REDACTED] I support including people with disabilities in the 1B cohort of people to receive the COVID vaccine.

People with physical and intellectual disabilities are at higher risk for serious or fatal illness from COVID-19 and feel that they should be placed in the 1B cohort to get the vaccine as soon as possible.

Thank you for including this particularly vulnerable population in the COVID vaccine priority group 1B.

Joan E. Krueger
[REDACTED]

Whatever you can do, or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius, power and magic in it. -Goethe-

From: [J. Sima](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid vaccines 1B status
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 4:58:52 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Hello,

It is vital to protect our most vulnerable citizens - especially patients who receive their care at home, including those with ventilators. These individuals are at risk and should be included in 1b vaccinations and receive these as soon as possible.

Thank you,

Mrs. Jeanne Sima



From: [Jim Noll](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine for people with disabilities
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 4:47:37 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I believe the most vulnerable to Covid-19 should be the first to be vaccinated. Which should include our adults with disabilities.

Please put them on them on your list as we prepare for the administration of the vaccine in 1B.

Thanks for your consideration.
Karina Noll

From: [Katie Leaver](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: 1B Suggestions
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 4:44:27 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I highly recommend teachers over the age of 50 and those teaching with underlying health problems be next in the line of Covid vaccines. I have seen other states add this group to their 1a distribution list (North Carolina) recently.

My dad is 66 years old and teaching at a public high school in WI. My mom is 64 and is teaching 2nd grade at a public school in WI. We have stayed away from them, they have stayed at home and kept themselves safe up to this point. We are so close to them getting a vaccine. Yet, they are being sent back into the classroom next week with kids. Please consider vaccinating the higher risk groups in education- From cancer patients/survivors, diabetics, senior citizens, and much more. This group will be working very close with kids who can spread it and not know it. Plus, many kids can't wear masks all day, due to special needs. Let's protect the most vulnerable!


Thank You,

Katie Leaver


From: [Ahmet Demirbilek](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [fatma.demirbilek](#)
Subject: COVID Vaccine Priority for People with Disabilities
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 4:28:28 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

To Whom it May Concern,

 we support including people with disabilities in the 1B cohort of people to receive the COVID vaccine.

People with physical and intellectual disabilities are at higher risk for serious or fatal illness from COVID 19 and feel that they should be placed in the 1b cohort to get the vaccine as soon as possible.

Thank you for including this particularly vulnerable population in the COVID vaccine priority group 1B.

Sincerely,
Ahmet Demirbilek

From: [Rachel Crites](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee, Phase 1b Public Comment
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 4:26:20 PM
Attachments: Comments SDMAC 1b Recommendation.docx

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Please find public comments regarding the SDMAC's 1b vaccination recommendations attached.

Thank you.

--

Rachel Crites

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature and contact information of Rachel Crites.

From: [Janell \(Moersfelder\) Mayer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 4:15:15 PM

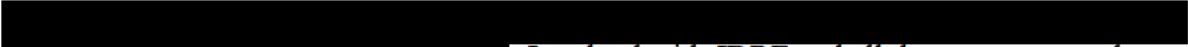
Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Solid organ transplant recipients

From: bjhogan2685@charter.net
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 4:11:35 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Hello,

 Involved with JDRF and all the younger people affected by this is pretty sad. I think at the very least they should be included in the Phase 1B group to get vaccinations next. Any person with a compromised immune system should be included in this group.

Thanks for your time,

Brad Hogan

From: [A Carr](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 4:11:24 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Yes to seniors 70 and over.

Anita Carr

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [florence penaflor](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Mary \(northwoods\) Carignan](#); rkennedy@oppinc.com; [Mary Lou Hanson](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee and Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 3:53:24 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

To the vaccine subcommittee and Phase 1B

Message:

Please consider giving priority to person with cognitive disorder and people with disabilities and their caregivers. All of them needs the vaccine to protect them from the virus. This people and care giver are very vulnerable in contacting the virus due to their medical condition together with the care giver that are responsible for them. It is important to note that the persons on this category has an important role in our society maintaining their independence and working with the community and serving the public, the caregiver are the source of help and contact persons that makes it possible for them to work in the community.

It only make sense that they are truly protected by giving the priority to receive the vaccine.

Most of them ,but not all of them, are unable to express themselves, caregiver and guardians are the contact person that has the voice to advocate support them so that they can be heard.

In conclusion as a caregiver and guardian , please consider them a HIGH PRIORITY to receive the vaccine.

Thank You,

Florence Penaflor

From: [Judy Henry](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 3:51:17 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

My husband and I are 76 years old and are mostly housebound due to the fear of getting Covid. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

I truly feel all of us should be included in the next Phase 1B. Please consider this group.

Sincerely'

Judy Henry
Waukesha, Wisconsin

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Karen Laird](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Seniors next in line
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 3:42:52 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Do not change the seniors who are first in line for 1B. Seniors are the substitute teachers in schools and the volunteers in the community! The guidelines by CDC have been thoroughly thought out. Primarily because this age group has suffered the most from COVID. Karen Laird

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Paula Kiel](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid vaccine feedback
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 3:38:02 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

To whom it concerns,

As a health care worker I can speak to the need to give priority to the elderly of our communities when providing Covid vaccines. I have been vaccinating those able to receive the vaccine but am shocked that our elderly are not included. Additionally, many of the options to vaccinate these individuals in the future are woefully equipped to deal with the special needs of these individuals including the need for easy access, a limited registration process, and a convenient method to receive the vaccine.

These individuals cannot physically withstand long access lines, confusing registration processes, and lack of an orderly, quick process. Many of them do not have access to computers or smart phones to navigate the process of Covid vaccine clinics. They must rely on others to do this for them or look for a simple process. They face transportation and communication issues.

Additionally, rolling this out by the same "phase" for all communities does not take into account the individual differences in communities. Many could have moved on to the elderly population but are waiting approval...while those individuals continue to fall victim to this disease.

Please roll this out to our elderly next! They need this vaccine the most and need a simple process..such as going to their primary providers and clinics to receive it...not wait in long lines at mass administration clinics ill equipped to deal with them.

Thank you

Paula Kiel, MSN, RN

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Patricia Kroening](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: "vaccine subcommittee" and "Phase 1B"
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 3:36:43 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

After being a caregiver for so many years and so many people, many home healthcare or home hospice patients are immobile, have special needs, or underlying health issues and should be included in the 1B vaccinations - along with their caregivers... and hopefully some kind of nurses to go to those patients' homes as trying to get a patient to a doctor's office is extremely hard most of the time.

Thank you for listening.
Pat Kroening

From: [Dallas](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee, Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 3:11:23 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear SDMAC,

We appreciate having this opportunity to comment about who will receive the COVID vaccine. We are members of the A-Team Wisconsin.

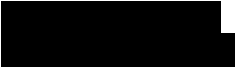
We ask that you please prioritize our daughter, as well as her father and I, as her care-givers, in the Phase 1B group for the COVID vaccine. Also, to keep her safe, please include her co-workers, job coaches, supervisors and employees at her Community Rehabilitation Program, Northwoods, Inc. in Portage.

Our 39 yr old daughter, Yael, is intellectually and developmentally disabled. She receives health care and job training services via Family Care. Yael's work training occurs at Northwoods, Inc., and she rides their bus. She also works part-time, with the help of a job coach, at Walmart. Even though both of her jobs follow recommended safety precautions, she may be exposed to the virus.

Yael lives with her retired father (73) and I (67) on a farm in rural Wisconsin. We are old and Yael has asthma. She also has extreme anxiety about getting the virus herself, as well as bringing it home to us. If any of us contracted COVID, we would probably suffer from serious symptoms, and if her father or I became sick, it would be difficult to care for Yael.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dallas, John and Yael Kerzan



Sent from my iPhone

From: [Edward Cisek](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B Vaccine Subcommittee
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 3:03:38 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

To Whom It May Concern:

I advocate for prioritization in relation to seniors' age. The oldest should get highest priority due to their fragile physical state. My father lives independently at age 97 and is relatively healthy for his age. But he is becoming increasingly fragile as he continues to age. So he deserves priority over younger seniors. I should remind you that my father is a WWII veteran. One of a small handful of Wisconsin WWII veterans to have survived to the present day. The state of Wisconsin should safeguard the health of its remaining WWII veterans. We owe them this much. His name is Tadeusz Cisek. He was a paratrooper in Operation Market Garden. He participated in an Honors Flight in 2017 and took part in the 75th anniversary commemoration of Operation Market Garden in Arnhem, Netherlands, September, 2019.

Best regards,

Edward Cisek

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Sarah](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid vaccine
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 3:02:48 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

[REDACTED] I am literally a prisoner in my own home living one of my very few remaining years isolated & fearful of my fellow friends & neighbors. I am afraid of ending up in the hospital [REDACTED] without my family. People like me need your help to try to live out some quality years. Please put us in the 1b category. Sarah Muermann

Sent from my iPad

From: [MARY BROCKWAY](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid vaccine input
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 2:36:21 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

You must include persons with high risk regardless of age in 1b. It is unethical to make them wait. Many frontline workers included in your proposal are low risk for serious outcome.

From: [Kathryn Thomas](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Attn: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 2:07:56 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Hello,

I'm reaching out to request diabetics (both type 1 & 2) to be included in phase 1b. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] If the main goal is to reduce patients in hospitals and prevent more deaths, I believe people with comorbidities should be included in the next phase.

I also believe there should be an online registry so that the state can assess who wants the vaccine, where they live, and then move through that list. There are too many stories regarding left over vaccine doses when the people they were allocated to don't want it/refuse. You need to know *who* wants it before you can properly allocate it. It would also make the it easier for people to know when it's their turn, and where they can go to get it.

Thanks,
Katie

From: [DENNIS DEATON](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1 B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 2:01:27 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I am hoping to get the vaccine shot in the very near future.

I believe your committee should review the **death rate** by age group and profession to determine the order of vaccinations.

A review of death rate would provide factual information so that groups such as grocery store workers wouldn't feel discriminate against. I know these individuals are exposed to a large number of people and I'm sure many have gotten sick but the key factor is how many grocery workers have died compared to people over 70, Thank you for your consideration - all seniors are waiting for your decision.

Dennis Deaton

[REDACTED]

From: [Nino's](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee and phase1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 1:53:02 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I think the next phase of vaccinations should go out to anyone over the age of 70.

Please take this into consideration, they are most vulnerable and need to get back to living their lives and being able to visit with family and especially being able to hug their loved ones again.

Thank you!

Tina Sapp

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Roger Bell](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid 19 Vaccine
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 1:31:23 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Please include age 70 plus high risk population in the 1B category in agreement with the vaccine subcommittee recommendations.

Thank you
Roger Bell



From: [Bruce Barganz](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee and "Phase 1B"
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 1:03:34 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

This comment pertains to which individuals should be included in Phase 1b of those to receive the covid-19 vaccine. I feel that those persons that are at highest risk should be included. According to the Wisconsin DHS statistics, 13% of the deaths occur in the age group 60-69. If you look at the next younger age group it drops to 6%. Younger than that, it drops to less than 2%. I realize that it is difficult to decide who should receive the vaccine but if you look at the statistics, the 60 to 69 age group needs to be included.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Bruce Barganz

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Tom Raveret](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Committee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 1:00:12 PM

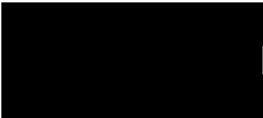
Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I wish to express my strong opinion regarding Phase 1B Vaccine distribution. Please prioritize people that have preexisting conditions in Phase 1B . This vulnerable subset of the population is far more likely to put pressure and potentially overwhelm our hospitals as they are much more likely to need hospitalization and have comorbidities that make them much more likely to have serious complications or death from COVID-19.

Thank you for the consideration. We appreciate the difficult decisions you have to consider in these matters.

Sincerely,

Thomas Raveret



From: [Diane Pudlosky](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee, Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 12:53:43 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

To Whom it May Concern,

[REDACTED] we support including people with disabilities in the 1B cohort of people to receive the COVID vaccine.

People with physical and intellectual disabilities are at higher risk for serious or fatal illness from COVID 19 and feel that they should be placed in the 1b cohort to get the vaccine as soon as possible.

Thank you for including this particularly vulnerable population in the COVID vaccine priority group 1B.

Sincerely,

Chet and Diane Pudlosky

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [John](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccination subcommittee phase 1 B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 12:19:13 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.



we're like in jail here and I know the thousands of other people are in the same situation I understand that but we can't even get an answer which is frustrating we're in her late 60s and early 70s we have some life left we don't feel like we should live in an hour 1200 square-foot ranch there needs to be some direction or some answers given to the public and to us for vaccination I don't understand it

Sent by John

From: [Don Nelson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [6126187758](#)
Subject: Covid vaccinations
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 12:12:19 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

People over the age of 70 with underlying health conditions should be the highest priority now.
Thank you.
Sent from my iPad

From: [Zoe Hazenson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 12:03:25 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

SDMAC, Governor Evers, DHS,

I urge you to include people 70 years and older in the Phase 1b vaccination plan who are at very high risk of dying of Covid 19. They also are much more likely to have comorbid conditions that put them at higher risk of dying.

[REDACTED] **. I AM TERRIFIED!!!!** There are no safe guards in Hudson and we have people, as you know, coming over from Mn. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] I have many years ahead of me otherwise, God willing.

I needed to go to the doctor the other day and feared for my life. This virus is so contagious. [REDACTED]

Also we do not have enough people vaccinating or the resources to expedite roll out of vaccines. This is a matter of life and death for thousands of Wisconsin citizens. Please call on the National Guard, dentists, pharmacists and their assistance and any other health care worker who is qualified to or can be quickly trained to administer the shots.

This is the time to act. Especially in light of how our Republican Legislature has paralyzed any attempt to protect us by masks, distancing and closing down bars and restaurants to allow for hospitals to not reach a critical care point.

Sincerely, Zoe Hazenson

From: [Arisha Sobhani](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID-19 Vaccine for People with Disabilities
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 12:03:12 PM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

To Whom it May Concern,

[REDACTED] I support including people with disabilities in the 1B cohort of people to receive the COVID vaccine. People with physical and intellectual disabilities, including people with Down syndrome, are at higher risk for serious or fatal illness from COVID-19 and feel that they should be placed in the 1B cohort to get the vaccine as soon as possible. Thank you for including this particularly vulnerable population in the COVID vaccine priority group 1B.

Sincerely,
Arisha Sobhani

From: [Gene Gibbons](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 11:57:38 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

PLEASE GIVE HIGH PRIORITY TO PEOPLE WITH COGNITIVE AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND THEIR CAREGIVERS TO RECEIVE THE COVID VACCINE IN THE STATE OF WISCONSIN."

From: [Sophia Stoller](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee/phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 11:51:17 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear Vaccine Subcommittee members,

I would like to comment on Phase 1B recommendations.

I recommend that people under age 70 undergoing Chemotherapy with compromised immune systems be included in 1B. These people are living under tremendous pressure. They are extremely vulnerable to the disease and often face catastrophic results far more than others in their age group. With the protection offered by the vaccine they will be safer and better able to live a more productive life. In many cases their longevity is fragile and this protection will offer them the opportunity for a quality life no matter how short it might be because of their illnesses. Without the vaccine and its protection their lives are in jeopardy.

Thank you for considering including the immunocompromised in the 1B group.

Sincerely,
Sophia Stoller

Sent from my iPhone
Sophia Stoller

From: [Harry B](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 11:32:40 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Please allow people under 70 who are undergoing chemo therapy, to get the vaccine right away.

Thank you,

Harry

From: [Michael Buckley](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B recommendations
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 11:31:02 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

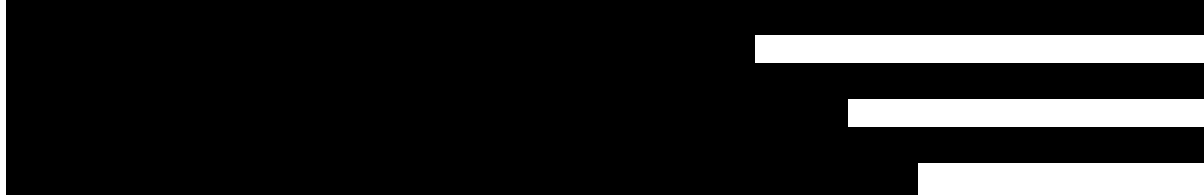
It's my opinion, people with underlying health conditions such as Diabetes (type 1 or type 2), chronic kidney disease, obesity, Etc, should be included in 1b. Inmates in prison or jail should be put in general public
Mike Buckley

Sent from my iPhone

From: [EDWARD RUFFOLO](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B Comments
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 11:20:26 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Regarding the Phase 1B recommendations from the vaccine subcommittee, I would like to express my agreement with the inclusion of the IRIS/Family Care participants regardless of age.



Janis Ruffolo

From: gibvegas55@aol.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 11:19:08 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

To whom it may concern:

Please give high priority to people with cognitive and developmental disabilities and their caregiver to receive the covid vaccines in the state of Wisconsin.. So many of these individuals have lost their jobs.

thank you for your consideration..
Judy Gibbons

From: Cawroblewski@wi.rr.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:36:52 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

I suggest the over 70 for this phase.

There are more people in this age group dying.

We don't know how long we have and it would be nice to be able to see Family.

Children, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren.

You realize that a lot of older people do not have internet, cell phones or computers.

By doing everything this way you have eliminated a lot of people.

From: [Bill and Judy](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccines
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:25:42 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

We are asking that the next phase of 1B include residents that are 75 and older.

Thank you

From: [Michelle Schmit](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:16:22 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

To Whom This May Concern:

As you make difficult decisions about those who should be included in the 1B category for receipt of the COVID vaccination, I encourage you to consider those with Trisomy 21 or Down Syndrome.

Recent articles published in SCIENCE and in the ANNALS OF INTERNAL MEDICINE cite the 10 fold increase in death and 5 fold increase in hospitalization for those with Trisomy 21. This increase is noted when other medical issues are controlled for. It is felt to be related over expression (3 copies of the gene) of a protein that codes for an enzyme that cleaves the spike protein on the coronavirus allowing the virus to enter the host cell. This makes those individuals with Down Syndrome genetically more susceptible to COVID 19.

As a physician who cares for many young adults with Down Syndrome, I can testify to all that they bring to our community and world. They truly make this world a better, more compassionate place.

I would urge you to consider adding those with Down Syndrome to the 1B category for vaccination.

Thank you for all that you are doing

Michelle M. Agnew M.D.

From: [crtfrg](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:12:26 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

The rollout of the covid 19 vaccine in my opinion has been dismal. You should be vaccinating those people who are more likely to die or experience really adverse reactions from the virus but instead I see young people at our VA Center getting vaccinated even though they have no contact with patients. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] o we are both holed up in the house, afraid that if we contract the virus we might die. I'm so sick of Wisconsin I don't know what to do. This rollout seems like everything else we do, a failure. As long as I have to stay in this house, my money will too.

And I'm tired of hearing people of a particular group saying that prisoners shouldn't be vaccinated because they are criminals. This is about public health and those inmates are not able to social distance just like people in nursing homes. They should be vaccinated in this next group.

Stephanie Carter

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From: [laeimage](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine distribution
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:12:24 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Please make it available to people 70 and older whether they live in a nursing home or their own home. This is essential!!!! this age group is vulnerable. Please make it easy to sign up and quickly receive the vaccine. WWisconsin is behind other states making this decision for this vulnerable group. thank you, Lynn

From: [Thomas Schneider](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Including those with Down Syndrome in priorities
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:47:08 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Hello,

I am writing this to decision makers that are responsible for determining the populations that are included in specific vaccine distribution groups:

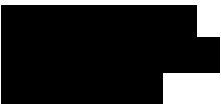
Individuals with Down Syndrome (Trisomy 21) have a death rate that is 8-10 times that of the general population, which has been documented in scientific and medical literature. This wonderful, loving, and vulnerable population has three copies of a gene on chromosome 21 (TMPRSS2) which is believed to be significantly involved in the replication of SARS-CoV-2.

Two articles that document many of the scientific explanations for this may be helpful resources: "People with Down Syndrome Face High Risk From Coronavirus" in Science, Vol 370, Issue 6523, pp. 1384-1385, dated 18 Dec 2020, and "COVID-19 and Down's Syndrome: Are We Heading For a Disaster?" in the European Journal of Human Genetics, Vol 28, pp. 1477-1478 (2020), .

I implore you to please include individuals with Down Syndrome in Vaccine Group 1B in the State of Wisconsin.

Thank you,

Tom & Jane Schneider



From: [Sue Eisenhauer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b COVID-19 vaccine public comment
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:54:22 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Please include school bus drivers, people with congenital heart diseases, people with auto immune diseases, people with chronic diseases such as asthma, diabetes, coronary heart disease, congestion heart disease, COPD,

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Julie Holloway](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee 1B status.
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:37:22 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

[REDACTED] please consider adding special needs individuals and care providers to the vaccine priority list.

[REDACTED]
Most individuals with special needs need nearly constant supervision to follow protocol and not touch face and eyes and stay away from people particularly those without masks. They are also at higher risk for having serious outcomes should they catch the virus. We Beg you for the opportunity to receive a vaccine in a timely manner. Thank you!

From: [Kristy Gember](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public comment
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:15:59 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Individuals with asthma should be included in group 1. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] The state needs to create a database where people can sign up if they are interested in receiving the vaccine and ask a series of questions so you can determine which group people fall in, including the general public. This will allow you to determine how many you need to order and who to contact when it's their turn. It also allows county officials to better prepare vaccination sites.

My doctors office also just received their freezer. Why is the state not just distributing these to medical offices and allowing primary care doctors to provide vaccines. It doesn't make sense to put it in such lockdown. Don't we administer millions of flue shots every year? Why is this any different? Send them to dr offices amd let people call and make an appt. seems like the state is making it harder than it needs to be

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [Edward Delgado](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:01:28 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Next phase should include elders especially those with preexisting health conditions.

From: [DisabilityVoice](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Timothy Carey- 1B Vaccine Distribution
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 1:25:29 AM

Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

My name is Timothy Carey I am an advocate for people with disabilities.

[REDACTED] In my opinion, you should keep The Medical Conditions you indicate on your draft for 1B.

I feel you should add respiratory failure and chronic bronchitis to your list of medical conditions to be under 1B.

Please add a caveat where you list smoking. It should say if you have a disease caused by smoking. Otherwise, I fear people might just pick up a cigarette to get the vaccine earlier.

People in long-term care in their own homes, including and not limited to people in the Family Care and IRIS programs, should have the same opportunity to have a vaccine as those in long-term care, in facilities. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. I think you should add nurses in independent practice and agency nurses to 1B because the traveling could bring the virus to different locations and to their clients or families. The vaccine is vital to this niche. The Counties are telling the independent nurses to talk with their Doctors and their Doctors tell them to talk with their counties. In all honesty, I think some of the medical conditions should have been 1A, as well as the forgotten nurses who didn't stop working because their clients needed them.

Sincerely, Timothy Carey
DisabilityVoice.com