

From: [Jennie Macaluso](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Peter Korotev \(peterkorotev@korotevgroup.com\)](#); "[Brenten Kuznacic \(\[REDACTED\] \)](#)"; [Jennie Macaluso](#)
Subject: IREM Madison - Public Comments: Vaccine Subcommittee "Phase 1B"
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:58:38 PM

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

On behalf of our IREM Madison members representing the commercial real estate industry, I write to thank you for your service during the Covid-19 pandemic, and ask that you consider the essential role of building personnel as decisions are made related to vaccine distribution.

During this crisis, our members have remained steadfast in our commitment to our tenants, employees and the public. The vast majority of buildings have never closed, and **property owners, managers, maintenance personnel and building engineers** have continued operations during uncertain times to maintain safe buildings and assure the continuance of essential services. As vaccine prioritization plans are formed in conjunction with the recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, we offer a reminder that property staff at commercial facilities are essential workers. **Many of these buildings are health care facilities and we ask the building personnel they be included in Phase 1B.**

As the impact of the pandemic was becoming clear last year, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security released, "Guidance on the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce." That guidance document identifies the following commercial facilities staff as essential personnel:

Workers supporting the operations of commercial buildings that are critical to safety, security, and the continuance of essential activities, such as on-site property managers, building engineers, security staff, fire safety directors, janitorial personnel, and service technicians (e.g., mechanical, HVAC, plumbers, electricians, and elevator).

As our community continues to address this health and economic crisis, the CRE sector will continue to play a leadership role in controlling the spread of the disease. We stand ready to assist your efforts in any way possible. Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

Jennie Macaluso

IREM Madison Chapter 82
11801 W. Silver Spring Drive, Suite 200
Milwaukee, WI 53225
414-755-3364
www.iremmadison82.org

From: [Christa Kallio](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:55:36 PM

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

Good afternoon,

I am inquiring when the vaccine will become available to my 93 year old WWII dad. He requires care 24/7 in his home. We chose not to put him in a nursing home because of the Covid risk, however, now because he isn't in a nursing home he does not have access to the vaccine as other nursing home residents.

It is frustrating to know that people younger than him are receiving the vaccine. There is very little vaccine information being disseminated from the state or private medical facilities. Other states seem to be much better at keeping their residents informed and at organizing mass vaccines. The VA fb page is a great example of keeping their patients informed.

I am exhausting all leads to get my dad vaccinated. Years ago, he chose not to enroll in the Milwaukee Veteran's healthcare system as he thought there were other veterans with a greater need. He is now in need and has no options.

Your assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Thank you,
Christa Kallio

From: [Larry Linde](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine,
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:55:32 PM

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I feel anyone 70 and older should be next as they are more vulnerable due to age. The flu shot is extra strength which obviously means it's needed for older people. Let's get this rolling, our lives have been on hold long enough

Thank you
Kay Linde

Sent from my iPad

From: [Jennie Macaluso](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Shelly Alvarado](#); [Jared Fink, CPM ARM](#); [Jennie Macaluso](#)
Subject: IREM Milwaukee - Public Comments: Vaccine Subcommittee "Phase 1B"
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:52:36 PM

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

On behalf of our IREM Milwaukee members representing the commercial real estate industry, I write to thank you for your service during the Covid-19 pandemic, and ask that you consider the essential role of building personnel as decisions are made related to vaccine distribution.

During this crisis, our members have remained steadfast in our commitment to our tenants, employees and the public. The vast majority of buildings have never closed, and **property owners, managers, maintenance personnel and building engineers** have continued operations during uncertain times to maintain safe buildings and assure the continuance of essential services. As vaccine prioritization plans are formed in conjunction with the recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, we offer a reminder that property staff at commercial facilities are essential workers. **Many of these buildings are health care facilities and we ask the building personnel they be included in Phase 1B.**

As the impact of the pandemic was becoming clear last year, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security released, "Guidance on the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce." That guidance document identifies the following commercial facilities staff as essential personnel:

Workers supporting the operations of commercial buildings that are critical to safety, security, and the continuance of essential activities, such as on-site property managers, building engineers, security staff, fire safety directors, janitorial personnel, and service technicians (e.g., mechanical, HVAC, plumbers, electricians, and elevator).

As our community continues to address this health and economic crisis, the CRE sector will continue to play a leadership role in controlling the spread of the disease. We stand ready to assist your efforts in any way possible. Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

Shelly Alvarado, President

IREM Milwaukee Chapter 13
11801 W. Silver Spring Drive, Suite 200
Milwaukee, WI 53225
414-476-4736
www.iremwi.com

From: [Nancy Zimmermann](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:49:11 PM

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

My recommendation for Phase 1B is as follows:

(Primarily all food supply chain workers)

Grocery workers

Truck/delivery drivers

Farm workers

Meat processing workers

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Pam Packard](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Recommendations for covid
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:47:53 PM

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

I think the next phase should include those over 70 and those who work in the public and may be exposed to covid. I think we should use Israel or Florida as models. I also think if a person has an appointment they need to go to the back of the line if they miss the appointment.

So that we do not waste any vaccine we should have the extras available for the public as they do in Israel. The public can stand in for the missing person.

Sincerely
Pamela Packard
Stevens Point, WI

From: [Jennie Macaluso](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Gabriel Fernandez](#); [Mike Foti](#); [Jennie Macaluso](#)
Subject: Public Comments from BOMA-WI: Vaccine Subcommittee "Phase 1B"
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:46:35 PM

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

On behalf of our members representing the commercial real estate industry, I write to thank you for your service during the Covid-19 pandemic, and ask that you consider the essential role of building personnel as decisions are made related to vaccine distribution.

During this crisis, our members have remained steadfast in our commitment to our tenants, employees and the public. The vast majority of buildings have never closed, and **property owners, managers, maintenance personnel and building engineers** have continued operations during uncertain times to maintain safe buildings and assure the continuance of essential services. As vaccine prioritization plans are formed in conjunction with the recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, we offer a reminder that property staff at commercial facilities are essential workers. **Many of these buildings are health care facilities and we ask the building personnel they be included in Phase 1B.**

As the impact of the pandemic was becoming clear last year, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security released, "Guidance on the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce." That guidance document identifies the following commercial facilities staff as essential personnel:

Workers supporting the operations of commercial buildings that are critical to safety, security, and the continuance of essential activities, such as on-site property managers, maintenance personnel, building engineers, security staff, fire safety directors, janitorial personnel, and service technicians (e.g., mechanical, HVAC, plumbers, electricians, and elevator).

As our community continues to address this health and economic crisis, the CRE sector will continue to play a leadership role in controlling the spread of the disease. We stand ready to assist your efforts in any way possible. Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

Gabriel Fernandez,

BOMA Wisconsin President

11801 W. Silver Spring Drive, Suite 200

Milwaukee, WI 53225

414-278-7557 or 414-335-4693

www.boma-wi.org

From: [Patricia Hillner](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee- Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:45:16 PM

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

Good afternoon,

I am writing to urge you to include those who are incarcerated in Wisconsin jails and prisons, as well as staff, in Phase 1B of the COVID vaccination administration plan.

Over 10,000 inmates and at least 2,000 staff have already been infected with COVID-19 since the pandemic began. More than 8% of Wisconsin inmates are estimated to be currently infected (vs 0.5% of the general population). The findings of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recognize that **risk is high in congregate living settings** and recommend vaccination of people living in assisted living communities. People living and working in jails and prisons face similar circumstances and similar health risks.

This virus **can affect anyone living in close quarters**, whether they live in the Oakwood Village retirement community or the Oakhill Correctional Institute. Please watch out for all vulnerable groups in the state and include incarcerated individuals and jail and prison staff in Phase 1B of the COVID vaccination administration plan.

Sincerely,
Tricia Hillner
Fitchburg, WI

From: [Judy Bernier](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee - 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:37:20 PM

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TV and radio station personnel. We need to keep constant communication!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [GEOFFREY R SWAIN](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Westergaard, Ryan P - DHS](#); [Meiman, Jonathan G - DHS](#); [Temte, Jonathan L](#)
Subject: Vaccine priority _ Phase 1b comment
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:34:05 PM

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Dear State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee Subcommittee on Vaccines,

Thank you for clearly including incarcerated individuals in your proposed Phase 1b recommendations.

I see in the media that you have gotten some political pushback on this, but the science is clear, and I encourage you to hold steady on this important recommendation.

While some people may believe that inmates are somehow less worthy of prioritization according to the science than non-inmates (a view that I do not share), it seems to me that even those people would likely prioritize doing everything reasonably possible to protect corrections officers and their families from getting COVID-19. Vaccinating inmates, along with corrections officers, is precisely the best way to accomplish this.

The key facts to support that assertion are these:

- 1 out of 20 recipients of our current vaccines will remain susceptible to symptomatic illness (due to efficacy rates ~95%) even after completing the vaccine series
- an even larger proportion will likely remain susceptible to asymptomatic illness even after vaccination
- asymptomatic spread to household and other contacts is a common mode, perhaps the predominant mode, of spread of this disease

Therefore, even if corrections officers themselves are vaccinated, jail and prison outbreaks of COVID-19 will remain a substantial threat to corrections officers – and their families – until we achieve a reasonable level of vaccine-induced herd immunity among the residents (i.e., inmates) of those facilities as well.

Again, I urge you to hold tight on prioritizing residents of all congregate living facilities, most especially jails and prisons.

Thanks again,

~Geof

- - - - -

Geoffrey R. (“Geof”) Swain, MD, MPH
Founding Director, Wisconsin Center for Health Equity

Emeritus Professor, UW School of Medicine and Public Health

he/him/his or they/them/theirs

Biosketch: wiphfellowship.org/geoffreyswain

From: [Lisa Weber](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:34:05 PM

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Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B,

I strongly recommend and request that individuals with medical conditions that have been identified that place individuals at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 infection and those 65 years and older be prioritized in Phase 1B.

I personally fall into this category with medical conditions that place me at a higher risk of severe illness from a COVID -19 infection. I am also over 65 years old.

I understand the importance of vaccinating those who have face to face contact with others. However, those of us who have been able to work remote, we are working remote because if we were face to face, with our medical conditions and age, that exposure, which could result in contracting the infection, could result in a very poor outcome or death.

This unfortunately keeps people like me confined at home which now has been almost a year.

In my personal case I have three of the medical conditions that could result in a poor outcome as a result of contracting the infection, one of them being Chronic lung disease, such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

For many of us, it would be very unfortunate and devastating to contract COVID-19, incur severe illness or death due to our medical conditions and age, because we were too far down in line to get the vaccine.

I can only imagine the difficulty the committee incurs surrounding these decisions.

As you plan, I hope you are able to put in place direction to vaccinate those with medical conditions which could result in poor outcome from the infection and those 65 years and older as soon as possible and not put this group into Phase 1C or at the end of Phase 1B.

Thank you for your time.

Lisa Weber

From: [Zenk, Ann](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B - Wisconsin Hospital Association Comments
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:32:30 PM
Attachments: image001.png
image004.png
WHA SDMAC Comments Letter 18Jan2021.pdf

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

Good afternoon,

Please find attached WHA's comments for the SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee regarding Recommendations for the Wisconsin Department of Health Services for COVID-19 Vaccine Priority Group 1b. Thank you.

Ann Zenk MHA RN
Senior Vice President Workforce and Clinical Practice
Wisconsin Hospital Association, Inc.
Office: 608.274.1820 | Cell: 608.598.0486
Email: azenk@wha.org





ADVOCATE. ADVANCE. LEAD.

5510 Research Park Drive
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Madison, WI 53725-9038
608.274.1820 | FAX 608.274.8554 | www.wha.org

January 18, 2021

Dr. Azita Hamedani
Co-Chair, Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC)
Via email to: dhssdmac@dhs.wisconsin.gov

Dear SDMAC Committee Members,

Wisconsin hospitals and health systems have now spent nearly a year entrenched in all aspects of care delivery related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Hospitals are immensely proud of their work during this time and continue to gather and apply lessons learned. They have seen and felt, like few others, the impacts of this pandemic, including the loss of nearly 6,000 of their fellow Wisconsinites. Wisconsin's hospitals and health systems are anxious to get past COVID and know widespread vaccination and immunity is key to moving forward. As hospitals and health systems have been on the front lines of caring for COVID patients and fighting this virus, so too they are once again stepping forward to take on this next stage of the COVID fight. On their behalf we are pleased to submit comments and suggestions for both defining and managing the move to Phase 1b and beyond.

Depending on various assumptions, we calculate that Wisconsin will need to administer between 28,000 and 38,000 doses *per day* to successfully vaccinate 2.5 million people with two doses of vaccine by the end of June. This is an immense but achievable challenge if we move forward in both a concerted and pragmatic manner, paced and ultimately enabled by Wisconsin's allotment of COVID-19 vaccine from the Federal government.

While there is plenty of desire and commitment to move Wisconsin forward, that alone will not improve Wisconsin's vaccination rates. The pace of vaccination in Wisconsin is driven by vaccine supply and ability to use the supply we have. The former is largely dependent on the federal government, the latter largely on state government. Wisconsin's hospitals and health systems are ready and willing to move forward, the extent to which they are fully able will depend in part on the decisions of this committee. To meet this immense but achievable challenge WHA supports executing a vaccine prioritization strategy that:

- has as its primary goal vaccinating as many people as quickly and safely as possible;
- is not hindered by overly prescriptive processes or planning;
- is flexible and acknowledges the prudence of variation and phase overlap;
- develops and leverages all vaccinator assets to the fullest extent.

During a recent COVID briefing, DHS Deputy Secretary Julie Willems Van Dijk said "A shot in an arm is protecting a life." WHA could not agree more and supports a balanced vaccine distribution plan driven ultimately by the belief that each day additional people in a community are vaccinated, that community is safer than the day before. Our comments and suggestions are aimed toward that objective.

Allow for Flexible and Faster Transition to Phase 1b

On January 8, Governor Evers and eight other Governors sent a letter to HHS Secretary Azar and Operation WarpSpeed's General Perna asking for immediate release of additional supplies of the life-saving vaccine. The letter quotes General Perna as saying "a vaccine sitting on a shelf is not effective." A recent White House Coronavirus Task Force Report to Wisconsin shares a similar message indicating that "no vaccines should be in freezers but instead should be put in arms now." We agree.

In some areas of the state vaccinators are ready to move to Phase 1b, including vaccinating their most vulnerable and at-risk elderly patients (those age 70 and older comprise 79% of COVID deaths that have occurred in Wisconsin). A growing number of vaccinators have vaccinated not only their own health care workers but “unaffiliated” providers in their communities as well. We should not wait for vaccinating entities to catch up to each other and slow, or possibly stop, vaccinating people during the wait.

ACIP’s own guidelines indicate that it is not necessary to vaccinate all individuals in one phase before transitioning to the next phase. HHS Secretary Azar recently reinforced this expectation when he urged states not to micromanage the process but to allow people in lower-prioritized groups to be vaccinated rather than delaying vaccination. “Faster administration could save lives right now, which means we cannot let the perfect be the enemy of the good,” he said. We agree. ***We urge that your guidance allow entities that are ready to move to Phase 1b to do so immediately and ask that you consider this same overlap for subsequent phases.***

Accelerate and Clarify Prioritization

Margaret Gesner of the SDMAC Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee indicated that one “cannot understate the difficulty of operationalizing” vaccine distribution. We agree. It is time-consuming and logistically challenging work that can either be helped or hindered by regulations and guidance. ***We urge you to expedite your work and quickly finalize the definitions of eligible individuals for each of the phases to provide clarity to the public and so that the appropriate steps can be taken to distribute and administer the vaccine.***

Wisconsin and other states benefit from the work of the national Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). In our experience, many Wisconsinites do not understand that Phase 1b in our state may differ from the ACIP recommendations, but they do see and question differences between Wisconsin and other states. To the extent Wisconsin’s Phase 1b definitions significantly differ from ACIP, we could risk more uncertainty and may spend precious time and resources working to clarify, rather than administer, vaccine. ***For simplicity, we recommend that you to be as consistent as possible with the ACIP guidelines. This includes moving to older, higher risk populations, such as those age 65 and above, as quickly as possible.***

Vaccination of health care personnel is one area of confusion created by differences between ACIP and Wisconsin guidelines. The ACIP Phase 1a prioritization and definition of “health care personnel” recognizes that many staff in hospitals and clinics serve in critical support and operational roles necessary to maintain a functioning health care system. This includes those who administer vaccine, care for patients, obtain supplies, ensure IT systems are functioning, and meet the challenges of potential future surges in COVID infections and hospitalizations. They support a significant component of Wisconsin’s COVID response infrastructure. Notably, the SDMAC Vaccination Subcommittee reached similar conclusion when it included health care workers in its recommendations for phase 1b.

Further, staffing resources and support will be a challenge as hospitals and health systems come forward to take on a larger community vaccination role, often doing this where state and local government cannot. Many will be repurposing existing staff, some literally thousands of staff, to give vaccinations or provide the needed logistical support for multiple mass vaccination clinics they are voluntarily creating and staffing. As both incentive and protection, hospitals should be able to vaccinate all these staff who will be assisting with vaccinating patients and standing up community vaccine clinics.

Given the challenges hospitals and health systems face in staffing the bulk of Wisconsin’s COVID response, we recommend Wisconsin remain consistent with at least the intent of the ACIP Phase 1a definition of “health care personnel” as well as the similar recommendations adopted by the SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee by allowing hospitals and health systems the flexibility to vaccinate those staff they determine are needed to support their patient care operations and community vaccination efforts.

Urgent Need to Support Operational Execution

As more vaccinators come on-line and we begin transitioning to Phase 1b, we must also look ahead to even larger tasks associated with vaccinating the remainder of the population. Timely implementation of vaccination to prioritized populations must be accompanied by an aggressive, forward looking all-hands-on-deck and achievable plan for execution.

Given the large number of people expected to seek vaccination, community mass vaccination sites offer the potential to handle large numbers of people in an efficient and effective manner. For example, we are aware of a Wisconsin health system that has been working toward setting up four high volume vaccination sites rather than trying to accommodate vaccination at each of their hospital or clinic sites. The expectation is that that these sites will vaccinate up to 4000 people per day. There are several other examples like this, however, these high-volume sites must be adequately resourced. The system is estimating over 1000 workers will be needed for this vaccination effort.

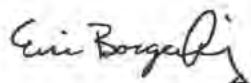
We recommend the state continue working to stand up and support such sites as quickly as possible, including state and local staffing resources and relying on all of its 1200 enrolled vaccinators, including pharmacies, community clinics and local public health departments as additional vaccinating entities to take on some of the load.

Lastly, it must be noted that as we move into these next and broader phases of vaccination, urgency as well as patience from all involved will be key. While there is a great desire to move ahead with vaccinating broader populations, coupled with the state now having some 1200 enrolled vaccinators, the reality is the pace of vaccination will be highly dependent on the amount of vaccine coming into Wisconsin and the rules around its use. It will be important for all involved in moving to these next phases to manage expectations while crafting policies that match demand for vaccine with supply of vaccine.

We know everyone is working hard and at the end of the day we all want Wisconsin to emerge from this awful pandemic as soon as possible. We thank the members of the SDMAC and the SDMAC Vaccination Subcommittee for their work to this point.

There is a light at the end of the tunnel, and WHA remains unfalteringly committed to working with DHS, the state and our many other partners and allies to reach this end as quickly and safely as possible.

Sincerely,



Eric Borgerding
President & CEO

CC: Governor Tony Evers
Andrea Palm, DHS Secretary-designee
Lisa Olson, Assistant Deputy Secretary, DHS
Anna Benton, Deputy Director, Division of Medicaid Services

From: [Ella Weaver](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:27:08 PM

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

Hi! I am emailing to express my support with the plan for phase 1B! Being a childcare worker myself I think it is crucial that the vaccine become available to teachers, and childcare workers as soon as possible. We have been working with children since march and many child care places were not able to close, as they were and still are essential to the communities we serve. Vaccinating all groups in Phase 1B efficiently and soon is a needed step in combating the spread of this virus. The people in this phase one group have been putting themselves at risk to serve our community and deserve to be vaccinated as soon as possible.

Thanks
Ella

From: [pmmcmama](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:23:37 PM

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

Please consider:

Adding all free and charitable clinic staff and volunteers not associated with a healthcare organization to have Phase 1B.

Thank you

Sent from my U.S.Cellular© Smartphone

From: [Shirley Drake](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1b Comments
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:22:18 PM

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

As a member of the Milwaukee County Mental Health Taskforce Steering Committee, I fully support the SDMAC recommendations for Phase 1b.

Shirley Drake, BS, CPS
Program Coordinator OCA
Wisconsin Community Services
sdrake@wiscs.org
Office 414-257-7437
Cell 414-315-1751

From: [Chris Reader](#)
To: [Palm, Andrea J - DHS; DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Hoyer-Booth, Andrew G - DHS; Willems Van Dijk, Julie A - DHS](#)
Subject: WMC comments to vaccine subcommittee for Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:20:56 PM
Attachments: image007.png
SDMAC comments 1.18.2021.pdf

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Secretary Palm,

Attached are comments from Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce on the SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B recommendations.

We appreciate DHS' consideration of these comments as the department finalizes the Phase 1B distribution plan.

Sincerely,
Chris Reader

Chris Reader
Senior Director of Workforce &
Employment Policy



creader@wmc.org
Direct: 608.661-6947
Mobile: 608.698.4625

501 E. Washington Ave.
Madison, WI 53703
www.wmc.org





January 18, 2021

Secretary Andrea Palm
Department of Health Services
State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee Vaccine Subcommittee
Delivered Electronically
Andrea.Palm@dhs.wisconsin.gov
DHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov

RE: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B comments

Secretary Palm and SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee members:

I am writing today on behalf of the members of Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce (WMC) to comment on the Department of Health Services' (DHS) State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee's (SDMAC) vaccine distribution plan for Phase 1B. WMC is comprised of 3,800 employers from every corner of the state and from every sector of the economy. Approximately half of our members are manufacturers, the backbone of our state's economy. Our members were disheartened to see that manufacturing employees were excluded from Phase 1b of the SDMAC Vaccine Distribution Recommendations.

With two vaccines now being distributed, and additional vaccines close to having federal approval, manufacturers are closely watching the state vaccine prioritization process so they can begin normalizing workplaces once again.

A great number of Wisconsin manufacturers have continued their operations as essential employers throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, keeping their employees safe by putting in place necessary safety procedures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in the workplace. By keeping their operations going, manufacturers helped keep the economy going during the pandemic. When the state called for more PPE resources, these employers stepped up to meet the need and provided vital products and supplies to help keep Wisconsin businesses and residents safe, sometimes transforming operations to manufacture more personal protective equipment. Due to these efforts, manufacturers have helped ensure that Wisconsinites have access to the goods and services they have depended on throughout the last very difficult 10 months.

The federal Advisory Committee on Immunization Practice's (ACIP) recognized the essential role manufacturers play and identified them as a high-risk category because their work-related activities must be performed in person and in close proximity to others. That is why they included manufacturers under the category of frontline essential workers and recommended they receive vaccination priority under Phase 1B distribution. The ACIP recognized the vital role manufactures have played over the last 10 months, and their importance for continued economic recovery going forward.

Yet, despite stepping up and keeping the economy and the supply chain strong during the health pandemic, and despite being part of the federal ACIP recommendations, manufacturers are now excluded from the state's vaccine distribution plan for Phase 1B. Hundreds of thousands of

manufacturing workers are essentially being told by the state that they are not critical. This is wrong. If any group of essential workers has earned their spot in the Phase 1B distribution, it is manufacturing workers.

In early December and again last week, we urged DHS to follow the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers Guidance Version 4.0 from the federal Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) when developing the vaccine distribution plan for Phase 1B. While we appreciate the work put into the vaccine distribution plan by the Department, it is an imperative that the plan follow the ACIP recommendations and include manufacturers in Phase 1B.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments on behalf of our members. I hope that you will find them useful as you finalize the vaccine distribution plan for our state. If we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Reader". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Chris Reader
Senior Director of Workforce and Employment Policy
Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce

From: [Tracy Frank](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee- Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:18:13 PM

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

I am writing to urge you to include those who are incarcerated in WI jails and prisons, as well as staff, to be included in Phase 1B of the COVID vaccination administration.

The conditions inside WI jails and prisons are a public health disaster- operating over capacity and without proper space or protocols to isolate known COVID cases or exposures. Over 10,000 inmates and at least 2000 staff have already been infected with COVID-19 since the pandemic began. More than 8% of WI inmates are estimated to be CURRENTLY infected (vs 0.5% of the general population). The findings of Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recognize that risk is high in congregate living settings and vaccination feasibility is high, supporting inclusion of this group in Phase 1B.

Neither COVID-19 nor the vaccine are moral agents, and they should not be treated as such. Rather, a public health crisis deserves a public health response, one that considers risk to both the individuals and public. Imagine it is your family member trapped in a WI jail or prison. Did they deserve a death sentence? Please include those who are incarcerated in WI jails and prisons, as well as staff, to be included in Phase 1B of the COVID vaccination administration.

Tracy Frank


From: [ALLEN R LIEGEL](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Joan Liegel](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee "Phase 1B"
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:16:28 PM

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

I am writing to request that you include those who are incarcerated in WI jails and prisons, as well as staff, in Phase 1B of the COVID vaccination administration.

The conditions inside WI jails and prisons are a public health disaster and are operating over capacity and without proper space or protocols to isolate known COVID cases or exposures. Over 10,000 inmates and at least 2000 staff have already been infected with COVID-19 since the pandemic began. More than 8% of Wisconsin inmates are estimated to be currently infected. Findings of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recognize that risk is high in congregate living settings and vaccination feasibility is high, supporting inclusion of this group in Phase 1B.

My wife Joan and I consider it to be good Public Health to include this group and therefore help to reduce spread.

Sincerely,

Allen and Joan Liegel

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Dianne Herzog](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Prioritization for group 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:14:49 PM

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HI,

I believe the next group in 1b, after the firemen and police personnel should be people 65 years of age and older, with or without compromised systems. This is the group of people who suffers the most and has the most deaths in the state. Almost every state around us is already vaccinating people 65 and older.

The next group in 1b should be teachers.

I believe if your going to include prisoners in group 1b, they should be the last in this group to be vaccinated. While I understand that since they are not able to be free, there is an obligation by the state to take care of them but I don't believe they should be put ahead of the elderly, or workers who risk their lives every day by working with the public or in essential manufacturing business. After all the bottom line is that had they not broken the law, they wouldn't be there.

Dianne

Dianne Herzog - President
Royal Kitchens Inc.
11524 W. Lincoln Avenue
West Allis, WI 53227
Phone: 414-329-3935
Fax: 414-877-0996
Cell: (414) 750-2141
royalkitchensinc.com

From: [Will LeSuer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Comments to Vaccine subcommittee on Phase 1b - Dormitories
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:10:12 PM

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Dear committee members,

Thank you for your work. I write to add my comment that staff and workers in university and college dormitories (residence halls) should be explicitly included in Phase 1b. They work at educational institutions (category in Phase 1b) in a congregate living facility (category from Phase 1a). As a faculty member at UW-Platteville, I hope these dormitory workers will be vaccinated at the same time I am. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Will LeSuer, PhD
Platteville, WI

From: [Jim Feeney](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccines
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:07:56 PM

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

I strongly recommend that Wisconsin residents 70 and older be in the next vaccine rollout. The mortality rate per positive case is unquestionably the most significant in this age group. My focus is on reducing mortality and severe cases.

Thank you for considering my recommendation.

Jim Feeney

Jim Feeney



Sent from mobile email

From: ["WARD,KATHY"](#)
To: [McCamy, Martha L - DHS \(Synergy\)](#)
Subject: Voice Mail (1 minute and 18 seconds)
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:07:54 PM
Attachments: audio.mp3

Hi I had sent an email and I didn't get a response but maybe you don't respond to emails about suggestions from the general public. So my suggestion is when you open the vaccine schedule up to the general population, there should be a tier according to age such as the 90 plus year olds should have first access to vaccine, then maybe the 85 year olds, then the 80 and then 75. 'cause if we open it up to anybody that's 75 or older, the 75 year olds will fill up all the appointments in the 97 year old, will have to wait so when you make your recommendations on what the states need, the state needs to do this there needs to be a tier of age starting with a 90 plus year old starting that if there's any more comments or anything you would like to talk to you about my name is Kathy, my phone number is area code [REDACTED] if I'm if you are not the person to take these comments, please forward them to where they need to go so this does not get screwed up because it's going to be a lot of people that need the vaccine and we need to start with the most vulnerable first. Thank you.

You received a voice mail from ["WARD,KATHY"](#).

Thank you for using Transcription! If you don't see a transcript above, it's because the audio quality was not clear enough to transcribe.

[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

From: [Kim Weeks](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID Vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:03:08 PM

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

I strongly feel those 60+ and our teachers/school staff need to get vaccinated next. I also feel as though doctors need to make the call on phase 1B for those people who may need this vaccine due to medical conditions.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Betty Kutzke](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Comment to Recommendations of Vaccine Subcommittee and Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:00:59 PM

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

We are offering our comments on the recommendations of the Vaccine Subcommittee Distribution on Vaccine Priority Group 1B.

We are seniors over age 75, and one has a heart precondition. Seniors, especially those in the older age groups, need to receive a high priority. They are a sizable percentage of the population, the most vulnerable and have the highest death rate.

The US Department of Health and Human Services has recommended that all persons over 65 should be vaccinated immediately; President elect Biden has recommended the same. Twenty-eight States are already administering vaccines to all seniors. We are extremely concerned that the State of Wisconsin is being too rigid in its plans for administering the vaccinations, saying that it is following CDC recommendations. The CDC has suggested that its recommendations are meant to be GUIDELINES, not a prescriptive plan that must be strictly adhered to. All the recent advice has suggested that the most overriding issue is to get Covid vaccines into arms. Whether this is to use reserved supplies or new allocations, the vaccines must be used immediately. There should be no penalty levied for delivering a vaccine to someone other than those "in a predetermined priority order" and risk throwing out an available vaccine. All available vaccines should be used and used as quickly as possible.

But more importantly, the DHS needs to open up the administration of those vaccines to those entities already set up to do this work, and in a variety of convenient community settings such as local pharmacies, doctor offices, clinics or temporary vaccination sites. And the DHS needs to be creative in tapping a variety of personnel to administer those vaccines, such as the State National Guard, student medical personnel, or others with basic knowledge of administering shots. The DHS cannot and should not do it all themselves.

It is absolutely unacceptable that the State of Wisconsin is listed as #47 for state population vaccinated. Wisconsin has a reputation for its concern and responsiveness to the community. We urge you to be more aggressive and creative in addressing this public health crisis immediately.

Thank you,

William and Elizabeth Kutzke



Blanchardville, WI 53516

From: [MCC Membership Assistant](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccines for staff and people living in housing cooperatives
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:59:37 PM

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

Hello,

I'd like to urge you to prioritize offering vaccinations to members of housing cooperatives in Madison. Within Madison Community Cooperative alone, we have 11 homes where anywhere from 8-40 people must share common spaces, kitchens, bathrooms, etc. The nature of housing cooperatives means COVID can spread easily within these homes. Housing cooperatives like MCC also mostly serve low-income people, who are also more at risk for COVID-related life complications.

Furthermore, our staff must enter the homes for maintenance and other housing needs. While we practice social distancing, the group home nature of cooperatives makes working and living in coops particularly challenging.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

Reid Kurkerewicz
Membership Assistant
Madison Community Cooperative
1202 Williamson Street, Suite 106
membershipassistant@madisoncommunity.coop
Madison, WI 53703
608-251-2667

From: [Patty Treiber](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vacine sub committee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:55:47 PM

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

Please open up the vaccine and move it quickly to get to a vulnerable population of people 60 or 65 and older.
Also, My daughter is a part of IRIS she supposed to get it as she is in a group living situation and has yet to receive it. Please get the vaccine administered ASAP
thank you
Patty treiber

From: [Deb Knauer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b of vaccination plan recommendations
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:48:00 PM

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

The CDC revised their recommendations on January 12th. WI should adopt this recommendation to expedite getting the vaccine out to more people faster. The guidelines recommend that those age 65 and older, and those with underlying health conditions get the vaccine. These are the high risk populations. Protect them with vaccine and it takes pressure off of hospitals, healthcare workers, and emergency responders.

Having so many groups, subgroups, and classifications is slowing the process down. It is too complex. The faster we vaccinate, the faster we achieve herd immunity. Open more sites to give the vaccines, like some states using stadiums and Pharmacy chains.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide input.

Deborah Knauer
Luxemburg WI

Sent from my iPad

From: [Jill Karweick](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: feedback
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:47:46 PM

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I do not feel smokers should be called out as able to get the vaccine early.

From: [Mark Grapentine](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:47:18 PM
Attachments: Letter - SDMAC vaccine subcommittee 1b feedback - 01.18.21.pdf

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

SDMAC Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee:

Attached are the Wisconsin Medical Society COVID-19 Task Force's comments on the above-related document. If you have any questions, please feel free to get in touch.

mg

Mark Grapentine, JD
Chief Policy & Advocacy Officer
Wisconsin Medical Society
2450 Rimrock Road, Ste 101
Madison, WI 53713
(o): 608.442.3795
(c): 608.575.2514
mark.grapentine@wismed.org



Wisconsin Medical Society

Your Doctor. Your Health.

January 18, 2021

VIA E-MAIL

State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee
Vaccine Subcommittee

SDMAC Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee:

Thank you for this opportunity allowing the Wisconsin Medical Society's COVID-19 Task Force to share comments on your recommendations to the state's Department of Health Services for COVID-19 vaccine priority group 1b. The Society's task force appreciates your work helping to ensure that these early supplies of COVID-19 vaccines are reaching the most vulnerable members of the public.

The task force reviewed the document at its January 14, 2021 meeting, and wished to share the following impressions:

- In order to be consistent with federal recommendations released after the publication of the subcommittee's paper, the task force suggests accepting the same age cohort for the 1b group: age 65 and older.
- The task force supports the subcommittee's other recommendations, as they are aimed at protecting vulnerable populations and their communities.
- As the subcommittee continues with further deliberations on vaccine-related issues, the task force believes that prioritizing future recipient tiers will undoubtedly prove more and more difficult. We suggest pivoting to the issue of vaccine distribution logistics: what can the state do to ensure that future COVID-19 vaccine doses can be rapidly administered to as many people as possible while maintaining proper safety and record-keeping protocols.

Again, thank you for your dedication in fighting this generational pandemic.

Sincerely,

Clyde M. Chumbley, MD, MBA
Chief Executive Officer
Wisconsin Medical Society

David M. Letzer, DO
Chair
Society COVID-19 Task Force

From: [Sue Kalinka](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:45:22 PM

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

Members of the SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee:

I would like to provide the following comments on the prioritization scheme for Phase 1B and the impact it has had on people above 80 years of age with additional medical conditions, especially those who live alone.

My father is 82 years of age and has lived alone since my mother passed away 16 years ago. Two of his three children live in the state - I live 70 minutes away from him and my sister lives 45 minutes away. He has full mental capacity, but his physical abilities are diminishing. Walking around the neighborhood is completely out of the question. His only social interaction is when we stop over for a very short, masked visit. No Sunday dinners, Packer parties, holidays, birthdays, or fishing trips.

For the past ten months, he has left his house no more than once a week, usually much less than that. He goes to doctor appointments when absolutely necessary and will pick up groceries curbside once or twice a month.

My dad is not the only one. I believe we have a responsibility to our elderly residents, so many of whom are living alone. We should be concerned about their physical health along with their mental well-being. Many people look forward to spending their retirement years with their children and grandchildren and we are robbing them of that. They instead are living in constant fear of COVID-19 and isolation.

As a final note, I'd like to add that I do not make these comments lightly. I work in higher education and in daily contact with students, and my husband has inherited heart disease, high blood pressure and high cholesterol, already surviving heart surgery and cancer. We are both in demographics which are also being considered for Phase 1B, but my very strong belief that our elderly should be prioritized ahead of us. The impact of this pandemic to us is nothing compared to that of my father. We are able to practice social distancing and mask-wearing and still feel as if we have a good life. In contrast, our elderly citizens are spending their final years alone and afraid.

Thank you for your time,
Sue Kalinka



From: [Nancy Groff](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: 1b phase of vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:41:34 PM

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I would like to the age dropped down to at least 70 since they are the higher risk group for complications. Also by that age they tend to have more underlying conditions.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Renee Rockwell](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:35:01 PM

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Hello.

I am writing in regards to phase 1b vaccine. I was told that in home care abs home cleaning is included in phase 1b but wanted to be sure. It's my opinion teachers and in home care for elderly and sick individuals abs 65+ should be considered. We have a cleaning service/ home care to do cleaning needs abs laundry and dishes and shopping for sick and elderly and others. We are essential abs should be in phase 1b. Yea hers are critical as well as 65+.

Again I was told my job falls in 1b but just putting out there :)

Thank you for keeping us healthy and all your hard work!

Renee Rockwell

Sent from my iPhone

From: chystal.dombrowski
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID-19 Vaccine Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:33:28 PM

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Please consider:

Adding all free and charitable clinic staff and volunteers not associated with a healthcare organization to Phase 1B

Sent from my U.S. Cellular® Smartphone

From: [Bob D](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee and Phase 1B comments
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:32:47 PM

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First of all. Why aren't those with compromised immune systems included in Phase 1B? The statistics I've seen indicate that they have a higher death rate than average.

Secondly, Why don't we have a statewide website/database where one can enter information which would determine what phase they are in and get notified where and when they can go get vaccinated? You can notify me when I need to renew license plates and send me a tax bill, why can't you have a system for this. You've had months to develop one.

Thirdly. Why is it Phase 1B and not just Phase 2? Are you going to have a Phase 1C, 1D... 1Z? Was this set up by someone with an infatuation in making things complicated?

Lastly. Why is this first being decided now? People have been working on developing vaccines for almost a year. Is it a surprise to you that some sort of a plan would be needed?

Thanks for listening,
Robert Dubyk

From: [Judith Rintelman](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:31:51 PM

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

Please add all free and charitable clinic staff and volunteers not associated with a healthcare organization to Phase 1B.

Thank you,
Judith A. Rintelman
Executive Director
Eagles Wings Free Clinic

From: [Terry Christianson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: "vaccine subcommittee" and "Phase 1B"
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:30:47 PM

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Please add people 70 years old or older for Phase 1B.. People in this age group that live in their own homes; not just assisted living facilities or any other care facility.

Linda Christianson

From: [H Ludkey](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: VACCINE SUBCOMMITTEE AND PHASE 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:29:39 PM

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<https://www.aol.com/york-expands-covid-vaccine-eligibility-171051477.html>

[CDC expands Covid vaccination guidelines to everyone 65 and older](#)



CDC expands Covid vaccination guidelines to everyone 65 and older

Berkeley Lovelace Jr.

The states' focus on vaccinating health-care workers and nursing homes has created a bottleneck, the official said.

Follow the guidelines....next group, 1B should be 65 and older, not 70 and older. Why did you guys come up with an arbitrary "70" anyway?

Thank you,
Heidi

From: [Mary West](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public Comment Regarding COVID Vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:27:25 PM

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

Dear Committee members,

Please make people in Family Care/IRIS all 1B status--even if they do not live in group/congregate situations. I'm glad our state is taking steps to care for its vulnerable citizens. This is why it is important to note that many high-risk people are *living in the community*. As an individual who works with many clients who rely on Long-term Care services, my clients have people who come into his/her apartment everyday for support. These support workers support many people--so when their shift with an individual is over, they travel from home to home--which places all my clients at an increased risk. In many of my client's apartments it is hard to do social distancing. Individual who have mobility impairments can not physically distance at all--as they receive hands-on-cares--such as toileting, bathing, and dressing. Living in the community increases odds of staying healthy--but Covid still presents some significant challenges.

If we made people in Family Care/IRIS higher priority/1B status, it would be impactful in slowing the spread.

Sincerely,

Mary West

Adult Services Manager

Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin

11709 W Cleveland Ave, Suite 2

West Allis, WI 53227

Work: 414.899.1257

mary@dsawfamilyservices.org

<https://www.dsaw.org>

From: [Michelle Hughes](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:24:51 PM

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

My name is Michelle Hughes;, and I live in West Bend, WI. I am writing in support of the recommendation to include IRIS and FamilyCare participants in Phase 1B of COVID-19 vaccinations.

I am a private duty nurse who cares for patients who live in their home (FamilyCare and IRIS participants). The patients I care for are medically complex and are likely to become extremely sick if they get COVID-19.

It is critical that vulnerable people like my patients be prioritized to receive the vaccine as soon as possible. Please allow IRIS and Family Care participants to be vaccinated in Phase 1B.

Michelle Hughes RN

From: [janice.boehme](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid vaccine distribution
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:24:41 PM

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

I understand that you are taking suggestions as to whom should be getting the vaccine next. My suggestion is that if one partner in a relationship is eligible for the vaccine the other partner should receive it also. This especially true for health care workers and older citizens.

Sincerely,
Janice Boehme

From: [lauri gerlach](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public comments Vaccine Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:23:37 PM

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

I reviewed the proposed cohort groups for the 1B Phase. I agree that these groups should be included in the next phrase: Non-EMS first responders (i.e. police and fire), Educators and crucially needed child care, congregate settings situations, IRIS community and believe it or not, the mink farmers.

I do hope that K-12 food service workers are included in the Educators group. This group has been providing food to needy families throughout the year, whether school is in session or not. In addition, where in-person education is occurring, this group is vital. If one member of a 5 person staff becomes ill, the entire staff has to stay home. That leaves the schools in a tough position - who will produce and deliver the food to the students.

I am also concerned about individuals who are about to get necessary medical procedures. They probably should get the vaccines a month before the procedure. Example: my brother-in-law, who has cancer, is scheduled to have a procedure at UW Carbone Cancer Center in February. He will be in recovery afterward and not able to get the vaccine for several months. It may be wise to screen these individuals in the process and get them vaccinated before their procedures.

Finally, if the Wisconsin National Guard has not yet been vaccinated, they should be included in the Non-EMS group. If this country continues to have civil unrest, these individuals shouldn't have to go into a super spreader event.

NOTE: To pull this effort off, some additional ideas are: a) in rural communities there are limited facilities. Many have vacant Shopko stores. Perhaps these could be rented for a vaccine drive. b) Volunteers to help with vaccine drives could be accomplished by offering volunteers the two dose vaccine earlier and then have them help

Thank you for your time,
Lauri Gerlach


Sayner, WI 54560

From: [Lois Wyent](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:23:31 PM

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

Maybe put some type of limit on each phase. ie 2-3 weeks than go on to next phase. Include all of previous phases when moving to next phase.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Nancy Kosseff](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee, Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:12:22 PM

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

I am writing to urge you to include those who are incarcerated in WI jails and prisons in the Phase 1B roll-out. These should certainly fall under the "congregate settings" category, Over 10,000 inmates and 2000 staff have already contracted the virus, and a significant number of deaths have occurred. More than 8 % of current inmates are estimated to be currently infected. Crowded conditions and inadequate physical structures make it impossible for proper social distancing and isolation of those infected. Being sentenced to jail or prison should not mean a sentence to death or serious illness. Staff members are at significant risk both of bringing Covid 19 into correctional facilities and of becoming infected on the job.. Infected inmates released to the community also pose a significant community threat.

Thank you,
Nancy Kosseff
Madison, WI

From: [Donna Tanzer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee -- Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:11:55 PM

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

To Whom It May Concern,

You have asked for public input into vaccine distribution for Phase 1B.

I would recommend the following:

1. Teachers, including higher education teachers and those on active substitute lists. I have been on sub lists and subbed in October, but I've been hesitant to go in since the surge. I know schools are desperate for subs so including subs as "teachers" makes sense. And higher education teachers, like myself, should be included as well.

2. Individuals over 65. Currently your recommendation seems to be waffling between 'over 75" and "over 70" ("over 75 is still listed in an Education Week breaking down availability by state. I am 72 so I'd like it, of course, if priority went to those over 70, but my concern is distribution and reaching the eligible cohort. If all those over 65 could go to CVS or Walgreen's, I assure you there would be long lines. We have all seen the numbers; older individuals are much more likely to have a serious case of Covid-19 if they catch it, and they are more likely to die. And contrary to what many young people think, not all older individuals want to stay home all the time. I am an active adjunct and substitute (and saw other substitutes in my age group), and many in the over-65 group are still active in their communities and often in the workforce.

Meanwhile, a healthcare worker I know said it was frustrating and challenging to have a certain number of vials ready, only to have some healthcare workers decline the vaccine. They would be scurrying around trying to find those still in the 1A cohort. This is a strain on our already overburdened healthcare workers. Go to the next group (1B), letting the 1A people know they can still be served. It concerns me that some vaccine may be wasted if they take much longer with Group 1A.

My rationale regarding teachers is that everyone is demanding and pleading for schools to reopen. Some have reopened at a very dangerous time, just when the more contagious variant has shown up in Wisconsin. I have subbed, as I stated above, and though the students were wonderful, it's impossible to limit people being close together during hall passing times and at the start and end of the school day. Some classrooms just can't accommodate the six-foot distance, and some students (while well-meaning) don't always wear their masks correctly or let them slide under their noses. Teachers are with them everyday and for extended periods of time. Plexiglass dividers are on back order in too many places. Let these teachers be safe! Give them the vaccine and soon!

Thank you for listening!

Donna Tanzer
414.639.8134

Donna C. Tanzer
Adjunct Professor of Writing and Humanities
Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design
273 East Erie Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202
she / her / hers

From: [Craig Flasch](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: What about postal workers? Don't forget who has kept commerce rolling since this pandemic began last year, please don't bail on them now. Haven't they been through enough already?
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:11:20 PM

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

Sent from my iPad

From: [Kim Sorbet](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:11:10 PM

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

I urge you to vaccinate incarcerated people in Wisconsin as soon as possible.

In Wisconsin, three out of seven prisoners have tested positive, and at least 25 prisoners in Wisconsin have died.

An extremely small percentage of prisoners in Wisconsin (6% of men, 3% of women) are sentenced to life, and no one in Wisconsin is sentenced to the death penalty. Yet we have essentially executed 25 prisoners here since March because we did not provide an environment where they could protect themselves from this deadly virus. Our Wisconsin prisons were overcrowded and unsanitary before COVID-19. Now those conditions are potentially lethal for both inmates and staff who work there.

This has created extraordinary stress among not only prisoners but also their loved ones, as they worry about their family and friends who are unable to socially distance or avoid infected inmates. I have a 57-year-old brother who is a non-violent offender. The fact that he is in prison at all for his offense makes little sense, but the fact that he may pay for it with his life is terrifying. Please choose to protect him and other incarcerated people as soon as possible.

Respectfully,

Kim Sorbet
Fitchburg, WI

From: jhummel1@new.rr.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid Vaccine —Public Comment
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:04:33 PM

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

We strongly endorse the recommendation that the next priority group to receive Covid-19 vaccinations include those Wisconsinites who are over the age of 70. People in that age group have a higher percent of health issues and current data shows that they are more likely to die or suffer more life-threatening and lasting complications of the disease.

Jerry and Barbara Hummel

From: [R. Holzer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public Comments Vaccine Sub-Committee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:53:20 PM

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

As a wife, mother, grandmother and former middle school teacher, I support the following Covid - 19 Phase 1B Proposed population recommendations for vaccinating public-facing essential workers including first responders, educators, individuals age 70 and older, non-frontline health care workers, and mink farm employees.

Healthy first responders are essential in emergency situations above and beyond the transport of Covid-19 patients. If first responders are not vaccinated, they run the risk of being too sick to respond as well as infecting already compromised individuals. They need to be vaccinated in Phase 1B.

As a former seventh-grade teacher, I would come in contact with sick students, often before parents had any idea that their children were ill. Teachers and educational staff at all levels need to be vaccinated in order to remain on the job and provide skilled teaching and care for students. They need to be vaccinated in Phase 1B.

Individuals age 70 and older are at greater risk of severe, and often extended illness as well as death from Covid-19. Isolation from family and friends is extremely difficult for people in these age groups as we have experienced personally. My husband (76) and I (74) continue to rigorously self-isolate and as a result miss our children and grandchildren tremendously. We are unable to contribute as we normally would to the economic well-being of Wisconsin as well as the city of Eau Claire. Individuals age 70 and older need to be vaccinated in Phase 1B.

Congregate living settings put staff and residents at risk through no fault of their own. They need to be vaccinated in Phase 1B.

Due to the animal to human transfer of Covid-19 with employees of mink farms and the threat of mutations and infections to the general public, they need to be vaccinated in Phase 1B.

Thank you for taking my comments.

Mrs. Roberta Holzer


From: [Kari Szalanski](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee regarding members of Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:51:42 PM
Attachments: image001.png

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

To Whom it May Concern,

Age must be the overriding 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.

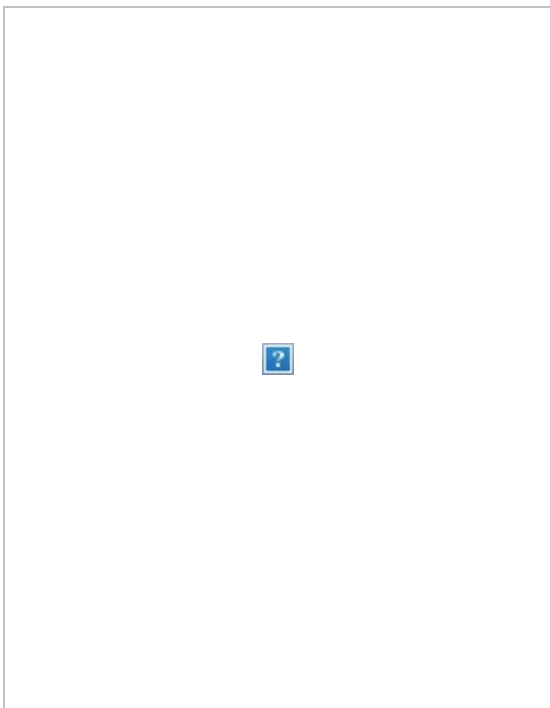


Chart from CDC clearly shows deaths for age group 65-74 are greater than the total number deaths for age group 35-64 regardless of the occupation they have.

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

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 ...

From: [Jason Szalanski](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee regarding members of Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:49:16 PM
Attachments: image001.png

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

To Whom it May Concern,

Age must be the overriding 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/vsm/>

Chart from CDC clearly shows deaths for age group 65-74 are greater than 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

Jason Szalanski

From: [Patricia La Cross](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:40:50 PM

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

I am writing to urge you to include those who are incarcerated in WI jails and prisons, as well as staff, to be included in Phase 1B of the COVID vaccination administration.

The conditions inside WI jails and prisons are a public health disaster- operating over capacity and without proper space or protocols to isolate known COVID cases or exposures. Over 10,000 inmates and at least 2000 staff have already been infected with COVID-19 since the pandemic began. More than 8% of WI inmates are estimated to be CURRENTLY infected (vs 0.5% of the general population). The findings of Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recognize that risk is high in congregate living settings and vaccination feasibility is high, supporting inclusion of this group in Phase 1B.

Neither COVID-19 nor the vaccine are moral agents, and they should not be treated as such. Rather, a public health crisis deserves a public health response, one that considers risk to both the individuals and public. Imagine it is your family member trapped in a WI jail or prison. Did they deserve a death sentence? Please include those who are incarcerated in WI jails and prisons, as well as staff, to be included in Phase 1B of the COVID vaccination administration.

Urgently,
Patricia La Cross

--

For God has not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

- 2 Timothy 1:7

From: [Ann Lacy](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee -- Phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:39:15 PM

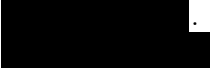
Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Dear members of the Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee,

As a concerned citizen of the state of Wisconsin and as a person of faith, I urge you to include the people incarcerated in Wisconsin's jails, prisons, and mental health institutions, and the staff who work there, in Phase 1b of vaccine distribution and administration. Incarcerated individuals are part of the "Congregate Living Facility Staff and Residents" group recommended by the Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee for inclusion in Vaccine Priority Group 1b. From both a public health and a practical standpoint, prioritizing the vaccination of incarcerated people makes sense: risk for COVID transmission is high in congregate living settings--and jails and prisons certainly qualify as congregate living settings--and feasibility of vaccination administration through the existing health infrastructure in jails and prisons is also high. I think it is equally important to consider the social contract that underlies our current legal system. People are incarcerated as a consequence of their alleged or convicted violation of this social contract. Incarceration--loss of liberty and opportunity--is itself that consequence, not greatly increased risk of infection, illness, and death. As a society we have placed incarcerated people in the care of the state (understood here to include counties and any other governmental entities), and we, the people on whose behalf the state is acting, need to ensure that the state takes that care seriously. Prioritizing the administration of vaccines to incarcerated people is a way to demonstrate that we are upholding the social contract.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment!

Ann Lacy



From: [wesley elford](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:35:34 PM

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I agree that phase 1B should include ages 70 and over.

Shirley Elford - age 76

[Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Natzke, Ryan J](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Tony Langenohl \(tony@capitolconsultants.net\)](mailto:tony@capitolconsultants.net)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B - Marshfield Clinic Health System Comments
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:33:53 PM
Attachments: image001.png
2021-1-18 Marshfield vaccine subcommittee phase 1b comments.pdf

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

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on the Phase 1B recommendations from the SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee. Please find comments from Marshfield Clinic Health System attached.

Ryan

Ryan Natzke

Chief External Affairs Officer
Marshfield Clinic Health System
Office: 715-221-8691 | **Cell:** 608-513-4204



1000 North Oak Avenue
Marshfield, WI 54449

January 18, 2021

State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee Vaccine Subcommittee (SDMAC)

Re: Comments on vaccine subcommittee Phase 1b

Dear SDMAC Subcommittee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the SDMAC vaccine subcommittee's proposed recommendations for prioritization of COVID-19 vaccination in Phase 1b. As you know, Marshfield Clinic Health System (MCHS) is ready to assist as we move forward into the next phases and we are committed to vaccinating as many Wisconsinites as we can in the coming months to stop the spread of this virus.

We appreciate the efforts of the State of WI DHS to provide guidance as to the allocation of scarce resources around vaccination for COVID-19. MCHS has partnered with DHS to be an early vaccination hub. Through this process, we have learned principles that guide our response to the proposed document open for public comment.

- The process of identifying potential vaccine recipients is extremely onerous and consumes a huge amount of human resource. A substantial amount of time is spent stratifying recipients rather than vaccinating, leading to a bottleneck in getting vaccinations to those that need them.
- The tremendous amount of questions required to enact this type of stratification that are viewed by some as "intrusive" and dissuade them from even seeking vaccination due to reluctance in answering sensitive questions.
- Vaccine recipients are not universally honest in their responses to questions. MCHS has no way of validating living situations, employment, social disparities, etc.... Recipients who wish to have the vaccine will quickly learn how to manipulate their responses to get the vaccine if they wish to have it.

MCHS recommends a simplified and efficient stratification methodology. The goal is to immunize as many high risk patients as possible in the shortest time possible given the vaccine available. This will be a continually evolving target. Given the current state and the foreseeable future, we recommend a simplified stratification that includes the below in Phase 1b:

- All patients age 65 years and older.
- All workers in the healthcare delivery industry who are deemed by the employment entity as necessary for routine operations of care delivery. This gives the latitude to healthcare to determine the employees most at risk and those that are essential to continue providing patient care.

- Public-facing essential workers including teachers and support staff, daycare providers and others. Following the ACIP guidelines on this may help remove potential confusion. We would recommend these groups be contacted by the State and given direction to contact their healthcare provider and seek immunization to identify themselves to be in these groups. That way health care providers do not have to add additional screening questions around these subpopulations to the screening questions for the mass population.
- For those living and working in a congregate living facility, we would request the state host a directory of the locations for vaccinations and we can populate if they host the site. It is the responsibility of the leaders of these facilities to organize versus a health system.

These recommendations are, of course, subject to modification based upon circumstance and direction from the CDC and federal government.

Along with these recommendations, the final point we would like to emphasize is the importance of how we communicate who is eligible for the vaccine moving forward. We need to make sure expectations are aligned with capacity and our ability to deliver the vaccine. As health care providers, we have the ability to vaccinate our staff and our patients. For many of us, this will be a large undertaking, but it is within the realm of our operations. As expectations grow within the community surrounding vaccine eligibility, health care providers are one of the first places people will reach out to, regardless of whether they are a patient of ours or not. This can put added pressure onto our limited resources and capacity, which we want to use as efficiently as possible to deliver vaccinations. Keeping this in mind during any public communications would be appreciated.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this important issue. If you wish to continue a dialog on any of our comments please do not hesitate to be in touch with Ryan Natzke, Chief External Affairs Officer for MCHS at natzke.ryan@marshfieldclinic.org.

Sincerely,



Susan L. Turney, MD
Chief Executive Officer
Marshfield Clinic Health System

From: [Marian Fredal](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee-Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:33:24 PM

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

Dear vaccine subcommittee,

I am a state employee and citizen of Madison Wisconsin. Given that our state has a high racial disparity in the criminal justice system, I strongly recommend that phase one be of our vaccination program include incarcerated persons.

Incarcerated persons are valuable citizens of our state and are in close quarters. We need to protect them as well as other vulnerable groups

Thank you so much,
Marian Fredal
Madison WI

From: [Scot Szalanski](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee regarding members of Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:15:57 PM
Attachments: image001.png

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

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

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: [Malia Jones](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Palm, Andrea J - DHS](#); governor@wisconsin.gov; [JOHN EASON](#); [Lt Governor](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B public comment
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:05:09 PM
Attachments: UWJL_phase 1b vaccine rollout support SDMAC.pdf

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Members of the Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee of the Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee,

Attached, you will find a public comment on the COVID-19 Phase 1b vaccine priority group recommendations. This comment is cosigned by me and Dr. John Eason, Director and founder of UW-Madison's Justice Lab.

In sum, our comments consist of wholehearted support for the inclusion of people who are living in congregate settings such as prisons, jails, and other carceral facilities in Phase 1b of the vaccine priority recommendations.

- Over 10,000 prisoners have been infected already in the state of Wisconsin, ranking 8th highest in the nation. The cumulative population incidence of COVID-19 among people in prison in Wisconsin is 4.7 times that of the state as a whole (44,700 cases per 100,000 people in prison).
- An uncontrolled outbreak in our carceral facilities puts the lives of incarcerated people at risk. It puts the lives of guards, facility staff, and justice system workers who support incarcerated people at risk. And outbreaks centered in carceral facilities are a source of COVID-19 disparities in community settings in our state.
- Prioritizing prisoners in Phase 1b of the vaccine rollout will not only protect prisoners but will *also* suppress the spread of COVID-19 writ broadly, benefitting all people in the state. Reducing or eliminating super-spreader events such as those we have seen inside prisons would reduce the effective reproductive number of COVID-19, providing benefits that extend to all Wisconsin residents.

Therefore, we agree with you that vaccinating the incarcerated population in our state as soon as possible is among the highest-impact actions we could take to control the pandemic *and* to reduce the pandemic's deleterious and unequal effects on Black and brown individuals and communities statewide.

Please see the full text of the attached letter for other supporting information. Thank you for your consideration and your hard work to keep our state safe.

Malia Jones, PhD, MPH
Associate Scientist in Health Geography
[Applied Population Laboratory](#) at UW-Madison
Editor-in-Chief, [Dear Pandemic](#)

CC: Governor Tony Evers, Lt. Governor Mandela Barnes, and Secretary-Designee for the Department of Health Services Andrea Palm

January 18, 2021

To: The State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC) Vaccine Subcommittee (via email)

CC: Tony Evers, Governor of Wisconsin (via email)

CC: Mandela Barnes, Lieutenant Governor of Wisconsin (via email)

CC: Andrea Palm, Secretary-Designee, Wisconsin Department of Health Services (via email)

RE: SDMAC VDS Phase 1b Recommendations for Public Comment, release date 1/12/2020.

Dear Members of the Subcommittee,

We write today in our role as scholars and collaborators at UW-Madison in the fields of criminal justice and infectious disease epidemiology. Our goal is to express our wholehearted support for your recommendation to include both facility staff and residents of congregate settings, including people who are incarcerated, in your draft recommendations for priority groups in COVID-19 vaccine phase 1b.

We support your decision, in part, because the incarcerated population—and communities that are more broadly affected by incarceration—have been devastated by widespread COVID-19 infection.

The Marshall Project in partnership with the Associated Press estimates that over 10,000 prisoners have been infected already in the state of Wisconsin, ranking 8th highest in the nation. The cumulative population incidence of COVID-19 in incarcerated people is 4.7 times that of the state as a whole.¹

The high levels of COVID-19 infection in prisons, jails, and other carceral facilities likely stem from three sources, each of which is relevant to the Ethical Framework to Guide the Allocation of COVID-19 Therapeutics and Vaccines:

1. As you have noted in the proposed Phase 1b recommendation, people who are incarcerated have, by definition, little control over their physical environment. They cannot effectively protect themselves from COVID-19 infection; they are required to live in high-risk, high-density conditions. Our prisons, jails, and other carceral facilities remain seriously overcrowded, and were not designed to permit effective social distancing even under normal conditions of crowding.²

2. People who are incarcerated, in Wisconsin as elsewhere in the United States, are very disproportionately Black and brown.³ Due in part to segregation in the housing and labor markets, people who are Black and brown are more likely to be exposed to COVID-19 in community settings, before they enter carceral facilities, and therefore more likely to bring

¹ <https://www.themarshallproject.org/2020/05/01/a-state-by-state-look-at-coronavirus-in-prisons>

² <https://www.prisonpolicy.org/blog/2020/12/21/overcrowding/>

³ United States Decennial Census 2010, Table PCT20

COVID-19 into all settings where they spend time. This of course includes prisons and jails. The ethical framework laid out by the committee sets health equity as a central goal of vaccine prioritization decisions.

3. There are 470,000 corrections officers in the United States, 34% of whom are Black and 12% who are Latinx.⁴ Thus, protecting the prison staff who are in close and unavoidable contact with COVID-19 positive prisoners also aligns well with the goal of achieving racial health equity in Wisconsin.

In addition to the high risk of outbreaks *within* congregate settings such as jails and prisons, it is important to acknowledge that prisons, jails, and other carceral facilities are not the closed spaces we may imagine them to be. People come and go into carceral settings every day, including members of staff, lawyers, and social workers. Prisoners also leave their facilities to attend court dates, which involves contact with guards, drivers, judges, clerks, etc. These employees then go home to their own communities and families. Prisons themselves are located in communities that are both rural and minority race.⁵

In some facilities--for example jails--the people who are incarcerated themselves undergo substantial churn. For example, the average length of stay in the Dane County Jail is 24 days, and the median is just 4 days.

COVID-19 cases acquired while in a short jail stay are readily taken back to a community setting before symptoms even emerge. There, COVID-19 is likely to spread within the community, rather than the jail. Due to racial disparities in who is incarcerated, COVID-19 cases acquired while incarcerated and then transmitted forward at home will disproportionately spread within the Black and brown communities in our state. This is one source of the tremendous racial COVID-19 disparities we have observed so far.

Therefore, we believe that vaccinating the incarcerated population in our state as soon as possible is among the highest-impact actions we could take to reduce the pandemic's deleterious and unequal effects on Black and brown *individuals* and *communities* statewide.

It is also likely to have a substantial suppressing effect on the spread of COVID-19 writ broadly, benefitting all people in the state. Reducing or eliminating super-spreader events such as those we have seen inside prisons would reduce the effective reproductive number of COVID-19, providing benefits that extend to all Wisconsin residents.

Due to the inability to create major physical plant change or maintain physical distancing, the only sensible way to implement a robust non-pharmaceutical intervention preventing the spread of COVID-19 within prisons, jails, and other carceral facility settings is to depopulate those settings through decarceration.

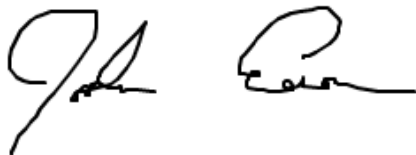
⁴ <https://www.bls.gov/cps/cpsaat11.htm>

⁵ Eason, J. *Big House on the Prairie: Rise of the Rural Ghetto and Prison Proliferation*. University of Chicago Press, 2017.

Controlling the spread of COVID-19 among those who remain incarcerated requires vaccination. An uncontrolled outbreak in our carceral facilities puts the lives of incarcerated people at risk. It puts the lives of facility staff and justice system workers who support incarcerated people at risk. Finally, we believe outbreaks centered in carceral facilities to be a central source of COVID-19 disparities *in community settings* in our state.

In sum, we agree with your recommendation that people who live in congregate settings such as prisons, jails, and other carceral facilities should be included in Phase 1b of vaccine priority in Wisconsin.

Thank you for your consideration.



John Eason, PhD
Founder & Director UW Justice Lab
Associate Professor
Department of Sociology
University of Wisconsin
www.johneason.com
<https://uwjusticelab.wisc.edu>



Malia Jones, PhD, MPH
Associate Scientist in Health Geography
Applied Population Laboratory
University of Wisconsin-Madison
apl.wisc.edu
Editor-in-Chief, Dear Pandemic
www.dearpandemic.org
www.maliajonesphd.com

From: [Barb Bigler](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:44:02 PM

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

Dear Subcommittee Members:

I would like to offer these comments regarding priority of Phase 1B distribution.

- Age group should be 65 and older with this group at first priority.
- Staff at congregate living facilities should have priority over residents. I do not support jail inmates receiving vaccine over general population in Wisconsin.
- I do support public-facing essential workers as a priority although I question singling out mink farms.

Thank you.

Barbara Bigler
Wisconsin resident

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [k.piotrowski](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:39:01 PM

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

Please consider:

Adding all free and charitable clinic staff and volunteers not associated with a healthcare organization to Phase 1B.

Removing all teachers and staff employed by virtual schools as they have minimal contact with students, unlike the brick and mortar teachers.

Thank You,
Karen Piotrowski RN, volunteer and board member
Eagle's Wing Free Clinic
<https://www.eagleswingfreeclinic.org>

From: tpetersen@new.rr.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: public comment "vaccine subcommittee" "Phase 1B"
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:35:53 PM

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I would like to see Wisconsin follow the science and take politics out of the vaccine distribution.

Clearly age has the biggest risk with Covid 19. From the Wisconsin Data on Covid if we look at the population of 60 and above they clearly are most at risk. They account for 66% of all hospitalizations, and 92% of all deaths. Prioritizing this demographic would clearly save lives and free up more hospital beds to avoid over loading the healthcare system.

We would not need to give special treatment to all teachers and child care workers, if they fall in the higher risk age demographic they would be included in phase 1B.

Mink farmers could be a special classification (relatively small population with an exceptional risk factor) as there is risk of Covid 19 mutations within mink and transmission back to humans which could pose consequences for the pandemic.

Clearly going strictly by age would be the most effective and fair distribution of the vaccine.

Tom Petersen
Chemistry MSc

From: [John Wood](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B distribution
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:33:31 PM

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

My husband and I support the current recommendations regarding vaccine distribution in Phase 1B.

Priorities -

Get teachers vaccinated so kids can stay in school!

Vaccinate the most vulnerable- those 70 and over.

Get more vaccine! Over the past week the state has administered about 11,000 shots per day. That's just not enough.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our thoughts.

Respectfully,

Barb & John Wood

Summit, Wisconsin

From: [Jean Gohlke](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:26:40 PM

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

I am writing to urge you to include those who are incarcerated in WI jails and prisons, as well as staff, to be included in Phase 1B of the COVID vaccination administration.

The conditions inside WI jails and prisons are a public health disaster - operating over capacity and without proper space or protocols to isolate known COVID cases or exposures. Over 10,000 inmates and at least 2000 staff have already been infected with COVID-19 since the pandemic began. More than 8% of WI inmates are estimated to be CURRENTLY infected (vs 0.5% of the general population). The findings of Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recognize that risk is high in congregate living settings and vaccination feasibility is high, supporting inclusion of this group in Phase 1B.

Neither COVID-19 nor the vaccine are moral agents, and they should not be treated as such. Rather, a public health crisis deserves a public health response, one that considers risk to both the individuals and public. Imagine it is your family member trapped in a WI jail or prison. Please include those who are incarcerated in WI jails and prisons, as well as staff, to be included in Phase 1B of the COVID vaccination administration.

Jean Gohlke
Stoughton

From: [PAMELA E OLIVER](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:24:02 PM

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

Dear Members of the Committee:

I am writing to urge you to include those who are incarcerated in WI jails and prisons, as well as staff, to be included in Phase 1B of the COVID vaccination administration.

As a social scientist who follows criminal justice issues and has many professional colleagues who do public health research, I have been concerned since last March about the spread of COVID in jails and prisons. It is staff who bring the infection into the jails and prisons from outside and the poor conditions inside the prisons and jails that make spread of the disease inside the institution inevitable. Then the infection is taken outside again and communities around jails and prisons have high infection rates. These general factors are evident in Wisconsin. I have been part of groups who have been advocating for months that people be released from jails and prisons to reduce infections, and this advocacy has largely been ignored by the Department of Corrections.

The conditions inside WI jails and prisons are a public health disaster- operating over capacity and without proper space or protocols to isolate known COVID cases or exposures. Over 10,000 inmates and at least 2000 staff have already been infected with COVID-19 since the pandemic began. More than 8% of WI inmates are estimated to be CURRENTLY infected (vs 0.5% of the general population). The findings of Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recognize that risk is high in congregate living settings and vaccination feasibility is high, supporting inclusion of this group in Phase 1B.

Neither COVID-19 nor the vaccine are moral agents, and they should not be treated as such. Rather, a public health crisis deserves a public health response, one that considers risk to both the individuals and public. It is immoral and inhumane to promote infection among people under the custody of the government. Given the physical conditions and risks of jails and prisons, they are the public health equivalent of nursing homes in the risks they pose. Please include those who are incarcerated in WI jails and prisons, as well as staff of jails and prisons, to be included in Phase 1B of the COVID vaccination administration.

Pamela Oliver
Professor Emerita of Sociology
Physical office: 8143 Sewell Social Science
Mail: 8128 Sewell Social Science, 1180 Observatory Drive, Madison WI 53706-1393
Phone: 608-262-6829
Web site: <http://ssc.wisc.edu/~oliver>
<http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/soc/racepoliticsjustice/>

she/her

From: [Sharon F. Skinner](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:22:42 PM

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Good afternoon;

I support the subcommittee's recommended listed groups to be included in the Phase 1B rollout.

-Sharon Skinner

From: [Vosburgh, Donna J](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee, Phase 1B, public comment
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:22:34 PM

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Hello,

This email is in response to a request for public comment on the Recommendations for the Wisconsin Department of Health Services for COVID-19 Vaccine Priority Group 1b. I believe that the Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee Recommendations for the Wisconsin Department of Health Services for COVID-19 Vaccine Priority Group 1b should be followed. By following these recommendations multiple sectors in Wisconsin will be able to serve the people of Wisconsin more efficiently. I agree that all groups stated in the recommendations be included in the 1b Group. I would like to add additional information for a few of those groups.

First, it is imperative that the Non-EMS First responders be included. I am an Associate Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and research the health and safety of workers in that group. I have collected, presented, and published data relating to police officers and fire fighters. In a paper that I co-authored published in the Journal of Environmental Health (Gilbertson and Vosburgh, 2015), my research group found that police officers often assisted other rescue personnel, including EMS. Police officers are often the first on scene and will spend an average of 15 minutes on scene. Police officers do not always have the ability to stay 6 feet away from a situation so if the call for assistance was related to a COVID-19 matter, the police officers will not be able to follow the Public Health Guidance for Community-Related Exposure put out by the CDC (CDC, 2020). Firefighters are also at risk due to the wide variety of assistance they provide to our communities. For example, many fire departments respond to a higher number of car accident calls than they do to fire calls. For many of those calls, fire firefighters must remove the accident victims from the car. Depending on the type of collision, that may be very difficult and require the fire fighters to come within 6 feet of a victim to determine the victim's injuries and the best way to remove the victim from the car (Calland, 2005). In 2019 there were 1445,288 crashes in WI (WI DOT) and if the 2021 numbers are similar, there will be many times when firefighters will be called to extract victims from their cars. This data should justify why they must be included in the 1b group.

Second, workers in education also need to be included. Defining education to include child care, K-12 and postsecondary education is imperative. As a faculty member at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and a mother of a 2nd grader I have seen first-hand the effect that the pandemic has had. With regards to post-secondary education, I am sure that all UW campuses and technical colleges across the state are dealing with similar situations. At UW-Whitewater there have been less students on campus for classes so there is significantly less revenue. Along with a lower enrollment, this has been devastating for our campus. Although I have been furloughed for the equivalent of slightly more than 2 weeks, many important people that I work with, such as our department assistant and facility workers, have been furloughed for months at a time. They may not be

instructors on campus, but their positions are extremely important. Also, since there are less students coming to campus, there are less students in Whitewater. Whitewater is a small town and many businesses rely on the revenue brought in by the students. As an adult I find these issues very hard to deal with. But that is nothing compared to what my 2nd grade daughter has experienced. Everyone that steps in a K-12 building (the educators, food handlers, custodians, support staff, school nurses, etc.) need to be able to come in contact with students without fearing to get sick or fearing to get the students sick. Education must be given a priority and all that work in that sector should be included in the 1b group.

Following the Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee Recommendations for the Wisconsin Department of Health Services for COVID-19 Vaccine Priority Group 1b will put Wisconsin on track to recover from the pandemic.

Thank you for reading and considering the details of my comment.

Donna J. H. Vosburgh

Cited research and websites

Lynn R. Gilbertson & Donna J.H. Vosburgh (2015): Patrol Officer Daily Noise Exposure, Journal of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene, DOI: 10.1080/15459624.2015.1043051

Calland V. Extrication of the seriously injured road crash victim. Emergency Medicine Journal 2005; 22:817-821.

CDC (2020) Public Health Guidance for Community-Related Exposure, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/public-health-recommendations.html>, updated Dec. 3, 2020 and accessed January 18, 2021.

WI DOT, Final year-end crash statistics, <https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/about-wisdot/newsroom/statistics/final.aspx>. accessed January 18, 2021.

Donna J. H. Vosburgh, PhD, RS
Associate Professor
ESH Program Coordinator
(she/her/hers)
University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
Occupational & Environmental Safety & Health Department
3503 Hyland Hall, 800 W. Main Street
Whitewater, WI 53190

262-472-1252

From: [Mrs. Matusin](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID Vaccines
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 12:21:23 PM

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To Whom it may concern,

Please consider vaccinating teachers who are teaching in person before teachers who are teaching virtually.

Also, family members who are caring for elderly or health compromised individuals at home.

Thank you,
Jill Matusin

--

Jill Matusin
First Grade Teacher
Hales Corners Elementary



From: [Eric Howland](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Including everyone in prisons in Phase 1B of vaccination plan
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:54:47 AM

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I am writing to urge you to include everyone involved with prisons and jails in Phase 1B of the COVID vaccination plan.

The argument for vaccinating in prisons are very similar to nursing homes. Many people both staff and residents are crowded together for long periods of time in spaces that are not easily sanitized. The main difference is the greater age of residents of nursing homes.

Because of this similarity with nursing homes, prisons and jails have become hot spots for COVID infections. Not only does the infection spread rapidly, but Professor John Eason presented data to the Dane County Board showing that communities with prisons had higher rates of infection than similar communities without prisons. Presumably the staff both bring the infection into the facilities where it spreads rapidly and then other newly infected staff further spread the infection back into the communities.

Please vaccinate both staff and inmates in jails and prisons as rapidly as possible by adding them to Phase 1B of the vaccination schedule. Do it for the people in those settings and for the people in the surrounding communities.

Eric Howland

From: [Susan Ottmann](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Susan Ottmann](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B Public Comments
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:46:44 AM

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Subcommittee Members,

This is the first time I have commented on any type of public forum, but felt this is such an important issue that I would provide my input.

I am deeply concerned with the pace of vaccine distribution and believe that his subcommittee and the next recommendations will be critical to saving lives in Wisconsin. Before I go further, I wanted to provide a bit of my background. I am a University of Wisconsin - Madison employee in the College of Engineering. I direct both an online Masters in Manufacturing Systems Engineering and an online Masters in Engineering Data Analytics. I also spent 25 years in industry leading large global teams with complex supply chains. I have a BS in Mechanical Engineering, a BS in Engineering & Public Police and a MS in Management. I teach Technical Project Management and Leadership coursework.

I recommend that Phase 1B include all individuals in Wisconsin age 65 and above and teachers/substitutes. The following 3 reasons support my recommendation:

1 - Although overall data suggests that 70 may be the correct cut-off, the CDC has reviewed and adjusted the recommendations to set the 1b limit at 65. A key factor in that change was the demographics and the difference in death rates by race. White individual death rates are significantly higher than black death rates. Having the cut-off at 70 disproportionately weights the impact to the white population. Other states including Florida, Texas, Illinois, New York, New Jersey, North Carolina and California have already moved in this direction. Let's not fall behind, let's use the latest data, let's include 65 and above!

2 - WI is significantly behind in administering vaccines with only 2.6% of the population vaccinated. Part of the issue is the logistics of getting distributed vaccines into peoples arms. It is critical that the flow of individuals increase through the inoculation sites. To be as efficient as possible these sites should be running 24X7 and there should always be a small queue. Having gaps with no one being given the vaccine is missing an opportunity for enhanced distribution. Part of the issue is being so selective on populations. Keeping it simple will allow for increased registrations, better flow through the sites, and more folks inoculated with the same staff. Having lines is not a bad result, it is the optimal way to push as many people through as possible.

3 - Lastly, getting our kids back in school will help everyone. There is a disadvantage for working parents who have their kids at home. To have our school safes, we must protect our teachers and substitutes. The data shows that these are the individuals at risk when our schools open. Our students, especially those without adult supervision and strong internet access, are falling behind. To get back to school Wisconsin needs our teachers prioritized in the 1b distribution.

Thanks for reading my comments.

Stay safe.

Susan R Ottmann



From: [Kathy Winter](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B eligibility
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:33:15 AM

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2 groups who should be included in phase 1B of the Covid vaccine are:

- 1) People over 70
- 2) Teachers

Thank you

Kathleen Winter

From: [Christina Giuca Krause](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Re: Phase 1B, Vaccine Subcommittee
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:22:25 AM

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Hello,

As a Janesville resident, I strongly believe Phase 1B should include residents 60+ and prisoners.

Thank you,
Christina

From: [Clyde Winter](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public health policy re: pandemic
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:12:33 AM

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Public health policy should not and must not be devised to be punitive or to wreak revenge on shunned people.

That would be a violation of the Hippocratic oath of health care professionals, and a violation of the responsibility of elected officials to protect and serve the people.

The purpose of public health policy is to safeguard, protect, and improve the health of ALL the people.

It should be perfectly obvious that incarcerated individuals should be a very high priority for receiving vaccinations on several important grounds:

1. Incarcerated persons cannot socially isolate themselves from other persons, and are a population that is proven to be at extremely high risk of infection.
2. Jails and prisons are dangerous sites for super-spreading the infection both to communities where they are located, and to communities throughout the state.

Of course, sound public health policy should establish that persons who are voluntarily serving the public

in a capacity which particularly places them in close proximity to known sites of infection, and therefore at high risk of exposure, should be the top priority.

That should include hospital and clinic workers of any kind which have high exposure risk.

But sound public health policy must also establish that

prison and jail staff as well as those who are kept imprisoned there should all receive vaccinations at the same time,

and with similar urgent priority as *any other institutionalized persons who are unable to isolate themselves to prevent infection of others as well as themselves.*

The proposed bill would separate out incarcerated persons from all other persons throughout the state who are in institutions of any kind

that present a high risk of pandemic infection to any who are contained or included within that institution,

and it would block only those who are imprisoned from receiving priority vaccinations, which all other such persons would receive.

You must absolutely reject that bill. It's hateful. It's mean. It's unjust. And it threatens the health and even the lives of all of us citizens who are *not* incarcerated during this COVID public health crisis.

Clyde Winter


Grafton, WI

From: [Katy Mullen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:12:31 AM

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Dear Vaccine subcommittee,

Please consider the following:

1. Remove the language that requires teachers to be physically working in the building to get the vaccine. There are lots of reasons that teachers are on FMLA and that should not be counted against them (and in fact, isn't it illegal?). Additionally, if you keep the language as is, they will return to the classroom without the vaccine, as FMLA expires after 12 weeks.
2. Move prioritize teachers within 1B. Teachers are in a unique situation with many students in enclosed areas for a long time. Plus, kids need to be in school and the only way to get kids back to school is to vaccinate the teachers.
3. Vaccinate families members living in the household of in-home daycare providers.

Thank you,

Katy Mullen
Stoughton, WI

From: [Trina Anderson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Letter of Request
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:12:27 AM

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

January 18, 2021

Dear State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee Members,

The intent of this letter is to convey support for school district employees and contracted service providers to be included in Group 1B for the COVID-19 vaccination program. There are many staff members who support students in schools. These staff members include teachers, paraprofessionals, administrators, clerical staff, custodians, maintenance workers, food service providers, and others. Contracted service providers include bus drivers, bus monitors, custodians, pre-kindergarten staff, and others who provide services to students. These groups interact with students regularly and are critical employees in keeping school buildings open to allow for in-person instruction.

The Oshkosh Area School District has almost 1500 employees who serve over 9,000 students. Students need consistency in their education. Face to face in-person instruction best meets the academic, emotional, and social needs of students. Our district is facing a staffing limitation, which will impact whether we can offer in-person instruction safely. Including school staff in Group 1b will help school districts address staffing constraints and allow our district to resume in-person instruction safely.

I currently serve as the elementary school principal for Shapiro STEM Academy. Our school has approximately 250 students and 60 staff members. A high percentage of staff members here at Shapiro strongly support offering the vaccination to ALL staff, so they are able to return to in-person instruction with students with a bit more HOPE and JOY.

Thank you for your time and dedication to this process. I appreciate your consideration of the request to include all school district employees and contracted service providers in the 1B distribution group for the COVID-19 vaccination program. If you would like to have additional information or further discussion regarding this request, please do not hesitate to contact me at 920-573-3050.

Sincerely,

Trina Anderson

Principal of Shapiro STEM Academy
Oshkosh Area School District

Trina Anderson-Principal
Shapiro STEM Academy
Oshkosh Area School District
Work: (920) 424-0164

Building Community Through Education

From: [Anne-Marie Giuca](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:08:09 AM

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To whom it may concern:

I am writing to recommend that it is critical that Phase 1B of vaccine rollout include the incarcerated population in WI. According to the CDC, the ethical considerations for vaccine rollout prioritization includes: 1) maximizing benefits and minimizing harms, 2) promoting justice, and 3) mitigating health inequities. We know that the incarcerated population is high risk for COVID given their living in close quarters, as well as the high prevalence of underlying health issues in this population. We have seen countless COVID outbreaks in prisons throughout the country, including in WI. I hope that those on the vaccine subcommittee take these factors into consideration. The goal of reducing health inequities when considering vaccination decisions is always important; I would argue that today, MLK day, provides an especially timely opportunity to reflect on this.

I would also advocate for including those over the age of 65, rather than only those over the age of 70 or 75, in phase 1B rollout. I understand that this contradicts the ACIP recommendations; however in reviewing their recommendations, they have explained that the age cut off was arbitrary and not based on data of risk of infection/transmission; rather based on practical considerations (concerns of running out of vaccine). This 65 year cutoff would be more in line with the vaccine rollout plans in other states (IL, CA, FL, TX, DE, OH, etc.).

Thank you very much,

Anne-Marie Giuca, MD
Milwaukee County resident

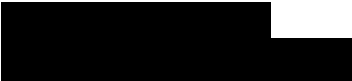
From: [Tom Zeinemann](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B - public comment
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:00:18 AM

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- Eliminate the stress on hospitals. Add people with conditions that make them more likely to have severe reactions to the virus. (Follow recent CDC recommendation: *"The CDC recommends that Phase 1B should include adults 75 and older, **people with high-risk medical conditions**, and certain essential workers."*)
- Make sure 2nd doses of vaccines are available when needed. Do not waste all those 1st doses by not getting the 2nd dose in people's arms on time.
- Plan, organize, and identify. Have an orderly system in place to identify who is eligible (provide some sort of code from employer or doctor to reduce dishonest attempts to get vaccinated). Registration - to avoid long lines and waits.
- Not opposed to prisoner vaccination, but consider waiting on those that have had positive Covid tests.
- Teachers should have 1st and 2nd doses before returning to a face-to-face environment.

Thanks for all your hard work and this opportunity to make comments.

Regards.

Tom Zeinemann


From: [Krista Dopf](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee, Phase 1B public recommendations
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:53:00 AM

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Hello-

Thank you for all of the work you are doing for Wisconsin. I appreciate the opportunity to have you also listen to the public regarding input on vaccine roll out. Overall, the priority groups have seemed reasonable. However, I am sending this email due to the possibility of smokers being “bumped” up in line. As a parent, with my children virtual schooling (Verona Area School District), I believe teachers/educators should be placed as a higher priority than smokers. 75% of the students will be returning next month, but we chose to remain virtual until educators are vaccinated. Virtual schooling is suboptimal on so many levels, that I won’t elaborate. I do not agree with vaccinating smokers at the expense of getting the kids back to school. Please make educators a priority for vaccination!

I am a unemployed physician assistant. Like many other businesses, my employer, succumbed to the financial hardship of COVID. Health care providers know how detrimental smoking is to general health. Despite it being a “choice”, it is also an addiction. I adjured hundreds of my patients to quit, not only for respiratory and cardiovascular reasons, but also for surgical healing and it’s role in changing pain perception.

“The CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices advises smokers to be vaccinated in [phase 1c](#) but ultimately states can use their discretion in how they open eligibility for the vaccine to constituents.”

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/amp.cnn.com/cnn/2021/01/15/us/smokers-eligible-covid-19-vaccine-trnd/index.html>

Should the state elect to put smokers ahead of others, I implore you to tap into the State’s established resource for tobacco cessation. I know that everyone is overextended, but information could easily be printed on the post-vaccine instruction sheet.

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/tobacco/treatment.htm>

<https://quitline.wisc.edu/>

Thank you for considering.
Krista Dopf, PA-C

From: [K.Frazier](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine, phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:45:53 AM

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Please make sure the vaccine gets to those incarcerated or serving in our jails and prisons. With the high infection rate and difficulty with social distancing, this has become not just a problem for those serving or incarcerated, but also to the surrounding communities. Let's not make a jail sentence into a death sentence.

Sincerely,
Kay Frazier
Madison

From: [Mary Rima](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: 1B vaccinations Opinion
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:38:11 AM
Importance: High

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I would like to comment on the 1B group's vaccine designees.

I strongly urge that educators be included and I believe that the age cut off should be 65 and over not 70. Especially those 65 and over with medical conditions should be allowed to get the vaccine at this time. The next group should include anyone with medical conditions.

I question the need for mink farmers to be getting the vaccine before other more important groups.

Thank you.

Mary Rima
Elkhorn, Wisconsin
Walworth County
[REDACTED]

From: [Sabtsi](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:31:09 AM

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Regarding our voices from the public for Phase 1B -

Appendix A - I agree that Age is a good determination - and that 'facts' support that the highest rate of death are those over a certain age. Thus - as your group feels those above age 70 should be in Phase 1B - I agree but also suggest you drop that to all over 60 or 65 since they also fall into a higher rate of death from complications from COVID.

In addition - all those who are health compromised - cancer patients receiving treatment such as Chemo or radiation, heart patients who have had surgery or a-fib patients and other medical conditions that are considered that show compromised immune systems as the body is fighting other conditions already taxing the health of the individual.

Appendix E - In my opinion, as the younger persons may still be transmitters of the virus, studies and facts show they have a [very] low rate of having a fatal outcome if they have COVID - they should NOT be in Phase 1B. I know we need schools to reopen but as a general statement - most teachers are under the age of 60 and would likely be less impacted from COVID outcomes that are fatal. This being a VERY large group (your numbers of 160,000) - I feel saving the lives of those more endangered in the 60-69 age group or 65-69 age group should be added to Phase 1B ahead of educators under the age of 60.

I understand that certain races experience a higher level of morbidity if they contract COVID but I do not agree that race should be used to determine who gets vaccinated.

Thank you,

Shirley Block
DeForest, WI

From: [Marty Skemp Brown](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B Vaccine recommendations
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:25:48 AM

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CLTS family members
CLTS respite workers
Teachers

From: [Megan Flad](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:21:19 AM

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Hello,

Thank you for all you are doing to provide the vaccine to our WI community as quickly and efficiently as possible.

I am 100% supportive of our teachers receiving the vaccine in Phase 1B. It is essential to getting our children back in school in-person and keeping our teachers safe. The research is proving how important in-person school is for the emotional well-being of our children. I am truly concerned how the lack of in-person school is affecting children in our community - the stress of online learning; increased depression/anxiety/suicide; children being left at home unattended; children in unsafe environments at home. Please get our teachers vaccinated in this next phase.

I am also supportive of the remaining 1B population with the exception of prisoners. I cannot wrap my mind around the idea that my 64 year-old mother with Multiple Sclerosis and a public-facing job in a Public Library cannot get the vaccine in this next phase but that prisoners can. It makes me sad! We need to vaccinate those working in the prisons but I completely disagree that the prisoners should receive it so quickly.

Again, thank you for all the time and work you are putting into this process.
Megan Flad

From: [Mallory Gandhi](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:17:10 AM

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To whom it may concern:

I am writing to include my public comment on included demographics in recommended Phase 1B included persons.

First, as a doctorate in infectious disease and epidemiology, I am thrilled to see the rollout of the COVID vaccine and look forward to global compliance on controlling this pandemic. I understand that proper supplies to control and treat COVID-19 are (and have always been) limited, and the vaccines are not immune to this limitation. Therefore, I strongly urge the State of Wisconsin to properly assess the cost-benefit analysis of those included in Phase 1B. Undoubtedly, vaccinating those people over the age of 70 and those working with at-risk individuals is imperative in saving lives. However, I was surprised to see there was not a higher precedence on individuals that are immunocompromised or have underlying conditions that are under the age of 70, including cancer patients, HIV-positive individuals, individuals with autoimmune disorders or are on immunosuppressive therapies, and pregnant women (only to name a few).

The aforementioned individuals are at an increased risk of contracting COVID-19 and subsequent secondary infections, as well as are at higher risks of disease-associated morbidity and mortality. While I understand the social and economic implications of opening Phase 1B to K-12 education and childcare workers, I was surprised to see this demographic placed at a higher priority than medically high-risk individuals in our state. Furthermore, many aforementioned high-risk individuals work at non-frontline, non-health care-associated, essential places of employment, including manufacturing, agriculture, and the food industry. For the past nine months, these individuals have been overburdened with daily risks to their own health to continue working at their places of essential employment, oftentimes when teleworking has been unavailable due to the nature of these types of industries. While the rest of the state was under a Safer at Home Order, these individuals put their health at risk to prevent economic and supply chain disruptions in Wisconsin.

For the sake of high-risk individuals that are under the age of 70, who did not qualify for Phase 1A, and are not at a higher priority in the current Phase 1B rollout, I implore Wisconsin to consider the health risks and benefits of including medically high-risk individuals (e.g., cancer patients, HIV-positive individuals, individuals with autoimmune disorders or are on immunosuppressive therapies, pregnant women), especially those who work at essential places of business, to be including in the Phase 1B vaccine rollout.

I truly appreciate your time and effort in bringing our state back to safety.

Kindest regards,

Mallory Gandhi, Ph.D.

From: [Mary Everson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:12:20 AM

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I do not understand why we are not following the Science and letting Certain Groups decide for themselves how this handles.

DHS Deputy Secretary Julie Willems Van Dijk.

She said if vaccinators have extra doses, they should be saved or given back to DHS. Hospitals and public health departments are not supposed to move on to begin vaccinating group 1B yet.

“We’ve asked people to follow the same rules together. In fact they’ve signed a contract to do that,” said Willems Van Dijk. “If people have excess vaccine, we ask them to let us know and we’ll redistribute it to get to the appropriate population.”

The group that is causing the most hospitalization & deaths is the Senior population and those that are at high risk due to health issues. This is overwhelming our hospitals and health care workers.

The most unbelievable reply was from Governor Evers

“ Gov. Tony Evers said the communication of the school district’s vaccination plan wasn’t good.

“It’s going to be hard to undo that, frankly,” said Evers. “While we would’ve preferred a different outcome, the fact of the matter is they made these plans. They announced it publicly and they will likely go forward with it.” EXPLAIN PLEASE. He can undo it.

Mercy Hospital/teachers should follow the guidelines, otherwise any group can & will decide for themselves what will be done and publicly announce it. It is setting a precedence.

Thank you for letting us to express ourselves.

Mary

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Mary Hoffman](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:10:25 AM

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Dear subcommittee,

I believe over 70 years old should be a priority. If we can get these older people vaccinated there will be less strain on hospitals which is imperative at this point.

I also feel that child care workers need to include those working independently in their homes as providers or going to other peoples homes as providers. These are essential workers so parents can get to work and earn income to provide for their families. There should be a process in place immediately to get these unaffiliated child care workers the vaccines they need, not all of them work for a large daycare centers. They are employed by individual families.

I also feel that inmates are not a high priority, since the people employed by the prison system are being vaccinated and they would be the ones being out and about exposed to the virus and bringing it in to the system.

Thank you
Joan Hoffman

From: [Chelsea Brocke-Hafemeister](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:05:14 AM

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To whom it may concern,

I ask the subcommittee to follow the CDC's recommendation that all persons 65 or older may get the COVID-19 vaccine. Wisconsin has continually followed the CDC's recommendations, I believe we should continue to do so right now.

Further, on a personal note, this is something that will benefit my own family situation. I have a six month old baby who my parents, 70 yoa and 69 yoa, watch daily. I work as an attorney for a County. I haven't been able to work from home once due to many court obligations. If my parents were to get sick no one would be able to watch my child and I would have to take off work, leaving a county without legal counsel. I implore you to follow the CDC's recommendations.

Thank you,

Chelsea Brocker

From: [Angelina Perrotti](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee- Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:00:30 AM

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

Good morning,

I am writing to urge you to include those who are incarcerated in WI jails and prisons, as well as staff, to be included in Phase 1B of the COVID vaccination administration.

The conditions inside WI jails and prisons are a public health disaster- operating over capacity and without proper space or protocols to isolate known COVID cases or exposures. Over 10,000 inmates and at least 2,000 staff have already been infected with COVID-19 since the pandemic began. At one point, more than 8% of WI inmates were estimated to be currently infected (vs 0.5% of the general population). The findings of Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recognize that risk is high in congregate living settings and vaccination feasibility is high, supporting inclusion of this group in Phase 1B.

Neither COVID-19 nor the vaccine are moral agents, and they should not be treated as such. Rather, a public health crisis deserves a public health response, one that considers risk to both the individuals and public. Imagine it is your family member trapped in a jail or prison. Do they deserve a death sentence? Why should the people that work in detention centers be subject to unsafe work conditions? Please include those who are incarcerated in WI jails and prisons, as well as staff, to be included in Phase 1B of the COVID vaccination administration.

Best Regards,
Angelina Perrotti

--

Angelina Perrotti, Ph.D.

National Science Foundation Earth Sciences Postdoctoral Fellow
Department of Earth, Environmental, and Planetary Sciences
Brown University
Department of Geography
University of Wisconsin Madison

From: [Cecilia Marc](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:53:45 AM

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All residents 65 years old and older, all educators including those who teach at the college level and anyone 16 years old and older with underlying conditions should receive the vaccine during phase 1B.

Cecilia Marc



From: [Matthew Flowers](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Keep Education and Childcare Workers in Final Priority Group 1b plan
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:37:55 AM

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Dear State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC) Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee,

I am writing in strong support of keeping education and childcare workers in your final plans for vaccination priority group 1b. Getting kids back in school/childcare is a priority so that they can receive the education and social interaction they need to develop and succeed. However, the kids need teachers, day care providers and other staff in order to make this happen. Furthermore, these teachers and staff will need to enter a high-risk environment. Despite social distancing and masks, significant risk for COVID-19 transmission persists. Evidence suggests that kids have a lower risk than adults for developing severe COVID-19. However, the opposite is true for the age demographics that comprise educators and staff. These adult educators and staff need the protection of the vaccine in order to protect themselves and their households. If we are asking our teachers and staff to put themselves into a high risk environment, then we must give them the benefit and opportunity of a priority group 1 b vaccination. Doing this will show that we care for, respect and value our educators and staff.

Thank you for your consideration,

Matthew Flowers
Parent of 6th grader in Verona School District, Dane County Wisconsin

From: rvarga@chorus.net
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B Comments
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:33:09 AM
Attachments: Jan 15 Public Response to Phase 1-Recommendation.pdf

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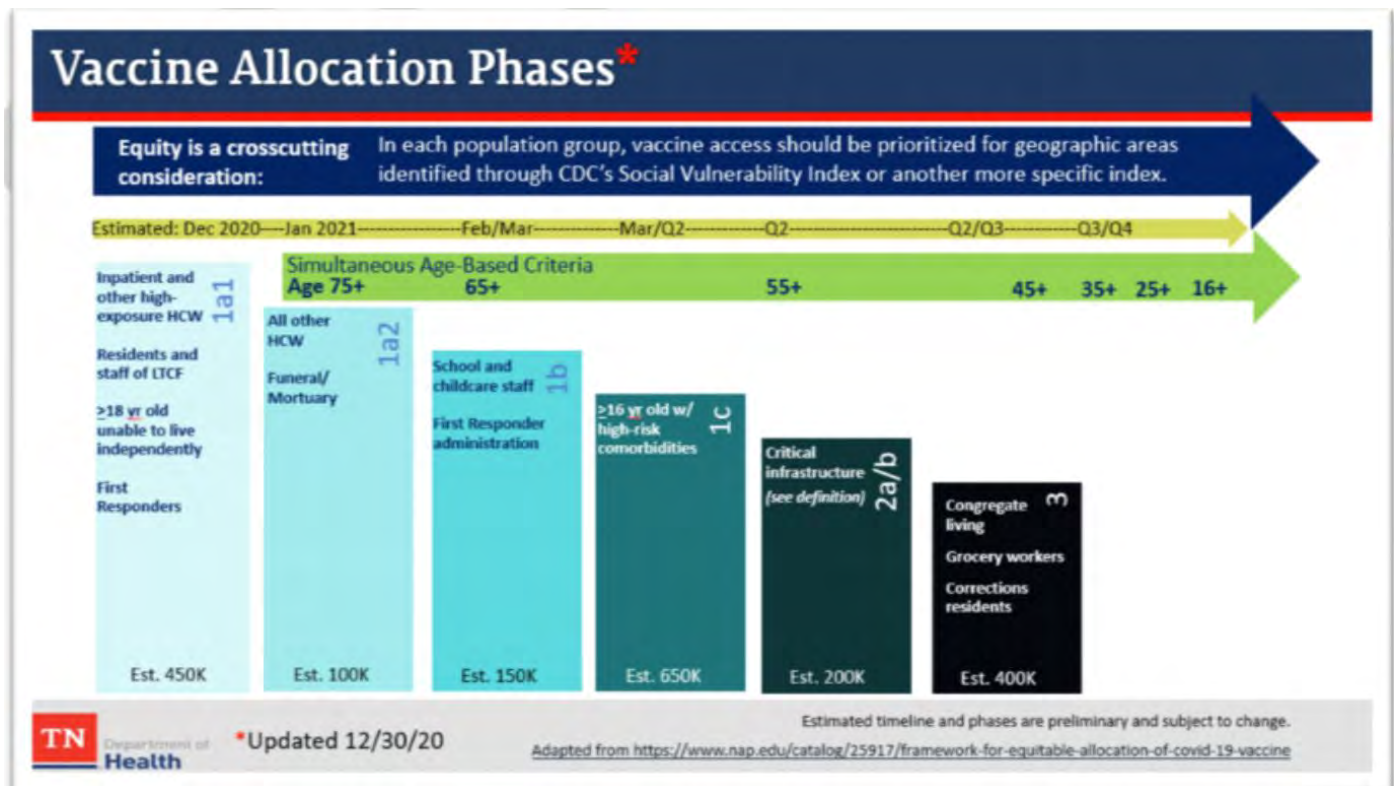
Dear Vaccine Subcommittee,
I have attached my comments in a PDF document. Thank you for the opportunity to submit public comments.

Sincerely,
Rita Varga
Madison, WI

Recommendation to **SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee**. Jan. 18, 2021

My recommendation is to **include a simultaneous thread of age-based criteria**, similar to what is being done in Tennessee. **By including a simultaneous thread of age-based criteria, you can avoid sacrificing speed for equity/complexity and support co-morbidities that go hand in hand with increasing age.**

https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/health/documents/cedep/novel-coronavirus/COVID-19_Vaccination_Plan.pdf



Many co-morbidities are addressed and covered, simply by using age-based criteria. For example, the most vulnerable smokers are OLDER smokers, not 18-year-old smokers. Identifying and verifying people who 'qualify' becomes much simpler once you add age-based criteria simultaneously.

Thank you,
Sincerely,
Rita Varga
Madison, WI

From: [Danny](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine committee phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:30:37 AM

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I am writing for a request for partners and people in the same household as a front line worker be included in phase 1B.

Please help to make this happen.

Daniel Wolf
Milwaukee, WI

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Thomas Ilic](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:27:55 AM

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Hi,

I would like to recommend that those living in the same household as front line workers should be included in Phase 1B, regardless of age or medical condition, as they have much greater exposure and risk of infection than those who are not.

Thanks,

Thomas Ilic

From: [Meghan Vos](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public comment on phase 1B priority group recommendations
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:20:30 AM

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

I would like to give an opinion regarding the proposed 1B priority group recommendations for the covid vaccine.

~I feel that it is extremely important that citizens age 65 and over, with serious health conditions (COPD, heart disease, cancer, etc) consistent with severe covid19 infection be prioritized in group 1B. Being that Wisconsin is going against the national recommendation of ALL people 65 and over, I feel that at least those at great risk of death or severe complication in this age group be prioritized. Aside from their great risk of death, many people in this age group are still working. It is unfair to force these people to choose between their health and being able to make a living in the years leading up to retirement.

~The second group of people that I feel should be included in group 1B of the vaccine rollout are veterinary employees. Veterinary clinics have remained open throughout the entire pandemic and are considered essential. Veterinary employees are exposed to the general public, many times in close proximity with pet owners. Covid19 has been found in both dogs and cats, and while it is not thought that they can pass it to humans, that fact is unknown at this point. While Wisconsin apparently does not consider them to work in healthcare, the risk of exposure is far greater for veterinary employees than it is for those working in a hospital who do not have contact with the general public, and yet people in those positions have been prioritized. Another fact to look at is the lack of PPE that is available to veterinary employees because these items have been funneled into the human healthcare system.

I ask that you consider these groups to be included in the Group 1B for the covid19 vaccine rollout.

Thank you for your hard work during this difficult time,

Meghan Vos

From: [Bruce Hertig](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Please just BEGIN older people
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:18:15 AM

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

While all of u in Madison continue to debate the vaccine rollout (after having months to prepare) please just get it started so that older people like me can receive it. The time to keep thinking and debating the proper method has been over long ago. Make the decision and get started.

Bruce Hertig



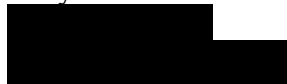
Sent from my iPhone

From: clyde@milwpc.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Prisoner vaccinations.
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:17:48 AM

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

So I have recently heard the news that prisoners are in line for vaccination before many people
I for one support this move. I think it is a very responsible and well thought out decision

Thank you
Gary A. Zettler



From: [Dave Schmidt](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:16:53 AM

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We should make 70 and over the first group . Then teachers. Thanks David Schmidt

From: [Linda Kenney](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid-19 vaccines
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:13:16 AM

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

Everyone 70 and over, regardless of race, should be in group 1b.

John and Linda Kenney
Franklin, WI

Sent from my iPad

From: [Michael Mullins](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:05:31 AM

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My recommendation for Phase 1B would be:

1st - Phase 1B a - Seniors 70+ (or 75+) - Would simplify scheduling and waiting times for a population size of **682,451** that is more likely to be slower and perhaps more confused. A delay of (X?) number of days before adding the **Phase 1B b** group would help prevent over burdening vaccine sites with **1,173,533** eligibles.

2nd - Phase 1B b - Congregate Living Facility, IRIS & Family Care Recipients, Public-Facing Essential Workers, Non-EMS First Responders, Non-Frontline Healthcare Personnel, add all National Guard & Reserve personnel (an important group like Police & Fire), Seniors 60+, Education/Child Care personnel and all others.

Total in Phase **1B a** = **682,451** (If **75+** is the first group then the totals for the
Total in Phase **1B b** = **481,082** two groups would be more closely even.)
1,173,533

Keep it **simple**, and **DON'T** change!

From: [Jean Krebs](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:01:58 AM

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

Please hurry and distribute as much vaccine as possible as quickly as possible. Quit worrying about being fair and get distribution to anyone that is willing to be vaccinated.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [lindaandlynn50](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 9:01:28 AM

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People over 70 and teachers

Sent from my Galaxy

From: [Thomas Narus](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Committee, Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:55:47 AM

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Dear Committee Members,

As law abiding citizens, we are opposed to giving prisoners preference for the vaccine. We think there are alternate ways available for stopping the spread to this population. Guards and staff should definitely be eligible to receive the vaccine. New prisoners can be isolated for 10 days and visitation can be limited to through Plexiglas only and a mask requirement.

We would be in favor of keeping our food chain workers safe ahead of many other groups in phase 1. We all need food! Those workers are truly essential, and not only essential when convenient. Switching them from essential at onset of the pandemic to lower priority now would be unfair to them. They have already paid a price for their priority in line.

Why are veterans given vaccines at age 65 and up while other seniors start at age 70? Why are other at risk groups starting at lower phases than teachers and daycare workers who may not even have conditions that put them at higher risk? Children can stay at home to stop the spread a bit longer. The new strain that is already in our state is known to spread easier. Let's protect our food chain first and those who are at most risk of dying first. Daycare workers and teachers who are at more risk due to medical conditions should be prioritized with the conditions they have irrespective of occupation.

Tom and Amy Narus
New Berlin, WI citizens

From: [Jack Naughton](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: SDMAC phase 1-b vaccination recommendations
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:50:30 AM

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Include teachers and childcare workers in phase 1B.

John Naughton

[REDACTED]

Dodgeville, WI

From: [Bob H](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public comment covid 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:49:33 AM

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Anyone 70 years of age and older

High interaction positions of all Industries

Postal, ups, dhl, FedEx delivery drivers

Individuals with high-risk health issues

Thank you Robert Harrison

[REDACTED]

Stoughton, Wisconsin

[REDACTED]

From: [Karen Logterman](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee/Phase1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:45:18 AM

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Thank you for asking for public comments on the next phase of vaccinations. I am asking for the educational staff of schools (all employees) and their spouses to be in the next phase 1B. I also feel anyone that the health department said were essential workers when this started should be in the next phase also after the educational staff. It is imperative we get our teachers in person back in front of our students without them being so scared they could possibly die. Our teachers deserve this and the students that will have missed over a year of education if we don't get these people back to teaching students. It would be also helpful if educational staff could have the option to vaccinate their spouse at the same time - even say add any age of 60+ for the spouse if it was difficult to add them to phase 1B. It doesn't make sense to just vaccinate one and then wait possibly months for the other household member to get the vaccine.

I also would like to see that anyone age 60 or over not start at 70 get the vaccine in phase 1B. There are a lot of retirees aged 60 that do a lot of community work/substitute teacher work and may have underlying conditions that they would need the vaccine earlier than younger groups. They don't necessarily have a classification name so it would be the age that would drive it.

This is a difficult time and we hope that the rollout of vaccines is quick and timely to all residents of Wisconsin to get the pandemic under control and no politics is involved. I believe most of us have taken the guidance seriously of masking and staying home as much as possible. I know my family has but it is time to get back some normalcy of going places and not being afraid of dying. We are all social people and need that contact with people as soon as possible.

Thank you for all you do,
Karen and Don Logterman

From: [Bales, Abigail](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b COVID-19 vaccine public comment
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:37:10 AM

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In response to the proposed plan for vaccination of 1B residents in WI: I strongly support moving forward quickly with expanding vaccination to additional groups. I think simplifying this process as much as possible is the ideal way to get shots out as quickly as possible. Age-based criteria are a very simple way to determine who might be eligible for vaccination and I think using that would make it much easier for health systems and other groups to identify who is eligible. I would rather we do less prioritization based on medical conditions or types of employment, as that is much more complex for vaccine distribution. If we can just start vaccinating lots of people as quickly as possible, that will be much more beneficial to us as a state than getting caught up in the exact most “fair” order that might lead to a slower roll out.

Thanks,

Abby Bales, MD | General Internist
SSM Health Dean Medical Group– Madison East Clinic
Internal Medicine
1821 S. Stoughton Rd.
Madison, WI 53716
Phone 608-260-6450 | Fax 608-260-6451
Abigail.Bales@ssmhealth.com | www.deancare.com

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From: [Shirley Sharp](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: sharpdiva1209@yahoo.com
Subject: "Vaccine Subcommittee" and "Phase 1B"
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:35:34 AM

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As proud/active community residents; my husband and I are over the age of 70years. We are extremely concerned that we and others our age have not been included in the priority group to receive the vaccine. As retiree's we have proudly given much to this community as volunteers on several committee's, community projects. We do this because **we believe that you give back to a community that has given to you and your family.** We are active in our Church that has served this community for 95 years. And in lieu of this we (Mr. & Ms. Sharp)strongly recommend the following:

Recommendations for Phase 1b:

AGE: People above 70 years of age. (Appendix A – estimated Wisconsin population size 682,451).

IRIS and Family Care Recipients: (Appendix B – estimated Wisconsin population size 40,000-50,000).

CONGREGATE LIVING: Facility staff and residents of congregate settings (Appendix C – estimated Wisconsin population size – 237,902).

PUBLIC-FACING ESSENTIAL WORKERS: The Subcommittee asks the public and employers to only select those who are at risk due to performing public-facing positions with considerations of frequency, intensity, and duration of contact, and ability to mitigate. The Subcommittee recommends inclusion of the following groups as front line essential workers, based on the essential nature of their jobs, difficulty identifying trained replacements, or unique circumstances of employment:

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->**Non-EMS First Responders:** (Appendix D - estimated Wisconsin population size 27,880).

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->**Education and childcare:** (Appendix E - estimated Wisconsin population size 160,000 educators required for face to face learning).

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->**Non-frontline health care personnel:** Additional staff who perform essential roles within healthcare organizations by maintaining cyber security, perform cleaning functions, scheduling, management of care organizations, and supply chain functions should be prioritized to enable a resumption of normal health care activities (Appendix F - estimated Wisconsin population size 25,000).

- <!--[endif]-->**Mink Husbandry:** (Appendix G - estimated Wisconsin population size 300)

I can be reached via the following:

Shirley Sharp

sharpdiva1209@yahoo.com

ret7sev4@gmail.com

From: [j.c.n Gmail](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee-phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:30:47 AM

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

YES,
Include teachers and childcare workers in phase 1B.

Carol Naughton

[REDACTED]

Dodgeville, WI

Carol Naughton

[REDACTED]

From: [Joe Deklotz](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Joe Deklotz](#)
Subject: Recommendation for Vaccine Priority Group 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:24:52 AM

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 submit for your consideration the inclusion of the following two groups in the Vaccine Priority Group 1B:

1. Educational staff members -- Administrators, Staff, Cooks, Janitors, etc...
These people are critical in the success of keeping our schools open.
2. Staff members who serve homeless shelters in order to protect those experiencing homelessness, who are a particularly vulnerable group.

--

Best Regards,
Joe Deklotz

From: [John and Kristie Halverson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccination subcommittee Phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:24:13 AM

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

Hello,

I want to affirm your current recommendations for phase 1B vaccinations. IRIS and family care recipients, seniors, firefighters, police, and teachers are all high priority members of population who serve functions we need.

Caregivers for people with disabilities need to be included to protect the people for whom they care.

Thank you for including prisoners and staff.

The report recognizes difficulty in getting two vaccinations to people in shelters and transitional housing. Please provide housing for those who can utilize it so they can be stable enough to get their second dose. Studies show that having a stable place frees up resources to provide for their futures.

Thank you for providing for our most vulnerable people.

Kristie Halverson

From: [Cindy Weber](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccinations
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:18:34 AM

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

Other states are doing mass drive vaccinations – we need to up our game and get our teachers and seniors vaccinated as well as other front line workers

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Claudia Sturner](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:18:02 AM

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

You need to make changes to your choices

1. Get rid of the mink farmers! Who paid you to put them in!
2. Add teachers that are presently in the classroom - not those teaching virtually. Virtual teachers should wait til more vaccine is available. Be sure to include daycare workers.
3. Add grocery store workers - they put their lives on the line daily for us.
4. Any elderly (65 or older) with pre-existing conditions before other elderly. These are the vulnerable!

Thank you
Claudia Sturner

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kyle Cronan](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccination Planning
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:18:01 AM

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

To whom it may concern:

Thank you for taking the time to collect comments on the vaccination plans for the State of Wisconsin. I will keep this brief. Vaccinations should be prioritized to those who can assist in keeping our medical centers fully staff and operational. After the front-line medical and first responders, this should include day-cares, schools and places of business that directly support the medical community. Daycares and schools provide the child services and education services that are essential and necessary for our front-line medical workers to be able to be at work. Having schools that are opened and staff is a critical element in keeping the front-line medical workers at work. Additionally, other business and industries that support the medical system and also provide services that are essential to meeting basic human needs such as grocery stores and pharmacies are a critical piece of infrastructure.

While here in Port Edwards we have been able to keep schools open, it has been a challenge and we have had times where we have been stretched thin on staff, our entire staff having access to the vaccine is critical to keeping operations running.

Two other comments on vaccine distribution: first, excess supply of the vaccine at the end of a day should be made readily available to whomever the distributors can find to willingly get a shot in their arm. Back-up plans should be made for these circumstances by all providers of the vaccine. No wasted doses! Second, it would seem to me that our National Guard has done a remarkable job for the past nine months providing mobile testing opportunities, I would encourage their continued mobilization for vaccination purposes. Utilizing the National Guard can help take pressure off of the medical community to get this done and provide some relief to strained systems.

Kyle

--

Kyle Cronan
Port Edwards School District Administrator
801 2nd St.
Port Edwards, WI 54469
Phone: 715-887-9000 ext. 102
Fax: 715-8879040
Email: cronaky@pesd.k12.wi.us

HOME OF THE BLACKHAWKS



From: [Nicole Kerr](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: 1B vaccination recommendations
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 8:17:35 AM

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

Hi,

I strongly urge you to include anyone that needs to be around other people for their jobs in the 1B phase.

That includes grocery store staff, teachers, and so on. These are essential workers and need the protection a vaccine offers. Some people are able to stay home...these essential workers are not able to stay home.

Thank you,
Nicole Kerr

██████████ Oconomowoc, WI ██████████

From: [SHARON PECHIVA](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee; Phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 11:36:34 PM

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

Hello, I agree with the decision of who should be included in phase 1b. I believe holding back on those 65-70 will make for a more orderly transition. I think those 70 and up have been very cautious of getting and spreading the virus. It is they who are most at risk of catching and dying of the virus. I believe it is very important to get our teachers and childcare workers safely back to work. Vaccinating them will help prevent bringing back the virus to their families and into the community. It is widely believed that while children can transmit the virus, they do not, in general, suffer the serious symptoms and death. It is more the teachers who are at risk. Again, since mink carry the virus, I believe the mink farmers to be at greater risk and that this would be a small group to be in 1b.

Please, make your decision and let's get this vaccine into the arms of those seriously at risk of contracting Covid. Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [rjtschwartz](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 11:16:31 PM

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

Following is input for your consideration as Wisconsin struggles to vaccinate its citizens against Covid 19:

1. Prisoners should NOT be vaccinated in Phase 1B but rather should be last in the final phase which includes the "general public." There is no reason (regardless of their living conditions) that duly convicted criminals should be given priority over law-abiding citizens. Masks, elevated hygiene and distancing can be practiced in prison as it can be in public.
2. Citizens 65 years and older should be included in Phase 1B as their risk level is the same as many who are 70 years or older, especially where comorbidities are involved. Furthermore people in this age group (65+), are often child care providers for their grandchildren and therefore at higher risk of contracting Covid 19 from asymptomatic grandchildren.
3. Grocery clerks, with customer-facing responsibilities, should be offered the vaccine in Phase 1B given the level of risk they face providing the essential service of keeping the food supply available.

Please take this information under serious consideration as we must rise above political priorities and protect the vulnerable citizens of our state to not only reinvigorate the economy but also protect older citizens and all essential workers.

Thank you for your consideration.

RJ Schwartz

From: [Marta Nak](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Feedback
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 11:02:25 PM

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

Hello,

I would like to share my feedback regarding the new Covid vaccine recommendations for Group 1B. I do not have a background in infectious diseases but I did run the wellness program at a previous employer which included organizing flu vaccine clinics at company locations nationwide and partnering with pharmacies to distribute flu vaccines to qualifying employees through our company insurance (approx. 3,000 people). When I first heard about the CDC priority group recommendations, I had immediate misgivings about how this complicated tier system was going to be implemented. I actually thought it was completely impossible to execute it effectively and I'm afraid that so far I am correct in my assumption.

I understand that the reasoning behind the recommendations is most likely an attempt to prevent outbreaks from occurring, however, I believe you may win the battle of preventing an outbreak at a prison let's say, but lose the war of public buy-in and opinion of your vaccine program. These recommendations appear to be impossible to implement easily (how are you going to verify all of these health conditions?), will be subject to frequent abuse of the system (everyone's going to be a volunteer firefighter) and don't seem to be particularly fair (prison inmates) or reasonable (mink farmers). I think the easiest, most fair way to prioritize the vaccines is by age. It is easy to verify someone's age via their driver's license and I know most of the public would be supportive of that decision. If you don't have enough vaccines for 65+, then go by 68+, etc..

I think that when you are asking the general public to prioritize all of these health measures that have significantly impacted their lives over the past ten months then you should show through the vaccine rollout that you also prioritize the general public. I believe you will need their buy-in to achieve the herd immunity that has been touted through this pandemic.

I apologize for the disjointed email but I hope that you will take my feedback into consideration. I know that we all would like to return to some semblance of normalcy this year.

Best Regards,

Marta Nak
Waunakee, WI

From: [Mary Hammer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:57:48 PM

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

I agree with the Subcommittee's recommendations for phase 1B.
If vaccine supplies run low in WI, I recommend that educators receive vaccine prior to incarcerated individuals, based on the rationale provided in the posted document.

I am concerned that individuals such as grocery store workers and truck drivers, essential throughout the pandemic, were not mentioned. If they don't make it into 1B, then I think they need to be at the top of 1C group, ahead of general public.

Rationale:

1. Grocery store-- volume of exposure; many are also part of higher risk ethnic group.
2. Truckers - without these essential workers we cannot continue to transport the vaccine.

Thank you,
Beth

From: [Mary Ellen and Dale Keller](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Comments for vaccinations
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:51:42 PM

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

First, thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Second, in northern, rural parts of the state, we are still waiting for vaccines to be delivered. Many of us are more than 45 minutes to the nearest hospital. I live an hour and 15 minutes from my doctor and hospital. Our local pharmacies and pharmacists have been giving vaccines to the public for years, and my local pharmacist only needs about 100 doses in order to inoculate the phase 1a people in our area. However, he hasn't been sent even 1 dose. He has the storage facility, the personnel to administer the vaccines, and the infrastructure to go to the Assisted Living facility, EMS workers, etc. to take care of this. However, my understanding is that because the big name chain pharmacies seem to have the corner on this, we seem to be left out of this loop.

So, my first concern is that people in the Phase 1b will be getting vaccines BEFORE those in phase 1a in rural northern Wisconsin. Next, I am not against prisoners getting vaccines, especially because of the living conditions in a prison, but it seems a bit hard to swallow that prisoners can get a vaccine BEFORE the residents and staff in my local Assisted Living facility, or my local EMS volunteers, my parents and others who contribute greatly to the community, or my local school teachers.

I also agree with those asking to have grocers included in the phase 1b group. I think it should go even further and include ALL people in retail stores who are open for business, along with restaurant workers. In order to help our economy, small businesses, restaurants, etc. need as much help as they can get. They are trying to keep communities as "normal" as possible. Those contributing to the local and state economies deserve a safer work place by having their employees receive this vaccine.

Thank you again for this opportunity. You have a monumental task with these decisions.

Mary Ellen Keller
Lakewood, Wisconsin

Sent from my iPhone

From: bcaves59@charter.net
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:45:10 PM

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Nursing homes residents and the families that visit along with the employees that care for them and their families should be next. My mother is in assisted care and I have not been able to go into her room for almost a year now. She is not allowed to eat with other residents or visit with them all activities are on hold and we get to visit with her for 20 minutes if they have a open slot available you need to sign up in advance. My mother and people who want to visit with her should be next before any prisoners she may have spent her last Christmas alone in her room by herself and that is not fair as far as I know prisoners are not out in the public and they have all been given time. Small business owners, food service, retail workers and all other workers that need to work outside the homes, teachers and students with their families all need to be next along with the senior citizens and people at high risk. Prisoners can be locked in their cells and not allowed to eat, visit or workout with other inmates or their families just like the way my law abiding mother has had to live for the last year. It seems to me that we are the prisoners lock away from our families and made to stay lock in our homes even though we have not done anything against the law. You tell me who the real prisoners are.... I am done wearing masks and staying home so when the prisoners get the vaccine I will also be free to roam around mask free. Thank you

From: medmainthoncho@aol.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B COVID-19 Immunization Recommendations
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:43:36 PM

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I most strongly concur with the ACIP Recommendation to expand Phase 1b to include those age 70 and older. My reasons are selfish - I'm 72, have hypertension and am a bit overweight. I need this immunization to help get through the pandemic.

I also concur with the recommendation to include non-EMS First Responders in COVID-19 vaccination phase 1b.

I do **NOT** concur with the recommendation for the inclusion of education into COVID-19 vaccination phase 1b; they should be included in a later phase. They should continue to telework and employ other innovative methods of presenting classroom materials.

I also concur with the proposal to include **some** non-frontline healthcare personnel, particularly housekeeping personnel who clean the rooms of COVID-19 patients both during their hospital stay as well as after discharge. Additionally, the biomedical maintenance, supply, food service, and facilities engineering personnel who service these rooms and their equipment should be included with the housekeeping personnel.

The following individual classes of healthcare workers should be included in a late phase above educators: Workers in information systems, transcriptionists, medical coders, and other support roles critical to health system function since these workers can telework more readily and easier than the other non-frontline healthcare personnel mentioned above.

Lastly, I would most strongly recommend the development of a simple way to notify these groups when they are eligible for immunization and where the vaccine administration sites are. While appointments might be deemed necessary, I would advise that the website and server network in support of any appointment system must be very robust to avoid the problems encountered in other states. Notification could be as simple as "Contact your local Walmart, Walgreens, or (whatever) pharmacy for details" and let them handle the appointments.

Robert M. Dondelinger



From: [barbara Hemmerich](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: group b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:22:48 PM

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I am just 4 months shy of 70 but have to wait for a vaccine? I have health conditions

Prisoners in group 1b? What is wrong with you people?

If you want to vaccinate guards, fine, but prisoners should be in the last group.

Their living conditions are based on their criminal activity. They were openly spitting on each other to get the disease. These are animals. Murderers, thieves, rapists. These are not poor souls at risk. Yes, they are human beings, but so are all of the grocery employees and seniors. They have to live under 1 roof with other criminals due to their own choices. If I get the virus, it's okay, but if they get it, oh the horror.

Mink farmers? Really? What the heck?

Grocery store employees have been on the front lines since day one and interact with everyone. You ignore them for prisoners and mink farmers?

You ignore those over 65 with health conditions who have been productive society members for prisoners.

Prisoners can get the vaccine after all of the older population is vaccinated. We are at greater risk. We need to be out and about. Prisoners don't go anywhere. The majority of them are not 65 or older. Their chance for survival from this virus is better than mine at 69.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Rieber, Ryan](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccinations for Districts
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:22:16 PM

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Good Evening,

There are many rumors out there about other districts across the state being able to get the vaccinations for the 1B group prior to any formal announcement. I would strongly advocate that we allow our teachers across the state to begin getting vaccinated ASAP.

I would like to advocate that when vaccinations are opened for educators in group 1B that they allow for mass vaccination of a district on a certain day. If this can be arranged, this would allow for all district staff to be vaccinated in an organized process rather than scattering appointments across multiple days.

Thank you for your consideration and please call if you have any questions.

Ryan

--

Ryan G. Rieber
Superintendent
West Salem School District
608-786-0700

"Serve with Passion to Ignite Creativity, Innovation and Excellence"

rieber.ryan@wsalem.k12.wi.us

#WeAreWS!

Serving with Passion!

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From: [Russ Harding](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:13:15 PM

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Why are you vaccinations to prisoners and mink farmers. First of all what do mink farmers have to do with anything COVID related. Secondly why vaccinate prisoners, they've done wrong to the community at large and don't deserve special treatment. The ones you should be vaccinated are the one that go to the restaurants,bars,and stores so we can get this economy going again. Whoever brought up mink farmers should go to the very back of the line. What a bunch of morons.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Doris Cunningham](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:12:51 PM

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Hello
Police officers should get the vaccine before prisoners.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [melchers](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: covid recommendations
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:08:38 PM

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Prisoners really...absolutely not they made their choices. The guards definitely. We need to remember our essential employees like grocery store workers construction workers .

Sent from my U.S.Cellular© Smartphone

From: [Staci Chappell](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccination COVID-19
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:48:00 PM

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

I am beyond appalled by your grouping teachers with Prisoners to get vaccinated for the COVID-19 vaccination in the same group. There is absolutely no comparison and clearly there are much better more law abiding citizens that should be vaccinated before a prisoner. They should be the absolute last people whether they can social distance or not. Our teachers absolutely should be the priority since mmsd doesn't feel they can return to school without the teachers being vaccinated. Please make the teachers the priority and push the prisoners to the very bottom of the list. There are many others that serve our community that need these before them. Grocery store workers and essential workers should be right after the teachers.

Thank you
Staci Chappell
Dane county resident

Sent from my iPhone

From: [matchpoint](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid Vaccine rollout comment
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:33:54 PM

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

Covid Vaccine Roll out Request

Request 1B group include 65 years old and older along with those with other potential health conditions that may be at increased risk of coronavirus complications-cardio, asthma, pulmonary, cancer, disabled, etc... These are groups at increased risk for hospitalization and death and should be included in early vaccine usage.

Hopefully first responders, paramedics, dentists, dental assistants-those with frontline patient contact have been approved for vaccine as I know that these groups have been forgotten despite their extensive exposure to coronavirus. It seems as though the hospitals have vaccinated many non frontline workers, administrative and work at home staff which does not fit the criteria and has slowed vaccine to more high risk groups. This is of great concern. There has been little consideration to these groups that are not directly associated with a hospital. This should have been planned for in advance to care for these important frontline providers first and needs to be addressed immediately so that they have full access to vaccine.

Thanks for your consideration. Best wishes in this important endeavor.

From: [Shirley Stanczak](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee" and Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:33:42 PM

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Dear DHS:

Thank you for asking, please consider immune compromised people to be in the 1b vaccination group. I have RA and have to take medicine to suppress my immune system to keep the pain at bay. Unfortunately, our population, including other diseases, are at a higher risk of getting COVID. If you are truly trying to keep people alive, consider the majority of people who are more likely to die from COVID than those who will get it and recover. Many essential workers are young and not typically at a higher risk than those who have diseases, despite their high interactions with the public.

I also have to say that vaccinating people in prisons and jails early is an outrage. They are not going out into the world to be exposed. Vaccinate the guards, if you have to, but vaccinating criminals ahead of law abiding deserving citizens would cause a public outcry.

Thank you for reading,

Shirley Stanczak

From: [Lee Kingsbury](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Next level of covid-19 vaccine
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:23:15 PM

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This may sound cold and cruel but I don't think ANY prison inmate should receive the covid-19 vaccine before any and ALL law abiding citizen in the entire country.

It is not any one's fault except their own as to the living conditions they are in.

Wear a mask full time like the rest of the country is and once every last law abiding, tax paying citizen gets theirs, then they can get their own vaccine.

Thank you for listening.
Lee Kingsbury
Wisconsin citizen

From: [Jenna Ramaker](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee- Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 9:00:17 PM

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

I am writing to urge you to include those who are incarcerated in WI jails and prisons, as well as staff, to be included in Phase 1B of the COVID vaccination administration.

The conditions inside WI jails and prisons are a public health disaster- operating over capacity and without proper space or protocols to isolate known COVID cases or exposures. Over 10,000 inmates and at least 2000 staff have already been infected with COVID-19 since the pandemic began. At one point, more than 8% of WI inmates were estimated to be currently infected (vs 0.5% of the general population). The findings of Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recognize that risk is high in congregate living settings and vaccination feasibility is high, supporting inclusion of this group in Phase 1B.

Neither COVID-19 nor the vaccine are moral agents, and they should not be treated as such. Rather, a public health crisis deserves a public health response, one that considers risk to both the individuals and public. Imagine it is your family member trapped in a WI jail or prison. Do they deserve a death sentence? Please include those who are incarcerated in WI jails and prisons, as well as staff, to be included in Phase 1B of the COVID vaccination administration.

Jenna Ramaker

From: [Erin Miller](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public Comment Regarding COVID Vaccine
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:59:06 PM

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Dear Committee members,

Please make people in Family Care/IRIS all 1B status--even if we do not live in group/congregate situations. I'm glad our state is taking steps to care for its vulnerable citizens. Which is why it's important to note that many high-risk people are *living in the community*. As an autistic person who relies on Long-term Care services, I have people who come to my apartment every day to support me. My support workers support many people--so when their shift with me is over, they travel from home to home--which places us all at increased risk. In my studio apartment it is also harder to physical distance. Physical distancing while sweeping the floor is manageable. Helping me with the dishes is less so. And my friends who have mobility impairments can not physically distance at all--as they receive hands-on-cares--such as toileting, bathing, and dressing. Living in the community increases my odds of staying healthy--but Covid still presents some significant challenges.

If we made people in Family Care/IRIS higher priority/1B status, it would be impactful in slowing the spread.

Sincerely,

Erin Miller

[REDACTED]
St Francis, WI
[REDACTED]

From: [Carl Lundin](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid vaccine plans
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:58:33 PM

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The advisory that has been giving to the health department's from your committee has a lot to be questioned. 1. Prisoners will have a vaccine before the taxpayers whom are paying for there incarceration. 2. 30 to 65 age group is largest group that pays the most in taxes and in return the health department's budgets. 3. Just the lack of concerns to get people with pre-existing conditions vaccinated . It's not that hard to manage a situation and make common sense decisions and dose not appear that is being done. Below is a better roll out option.

1a first responders, hospital workers, Etc

1b assistant living, pre- existing conditions, teachers and 65 and above.

1c 45 to 64 year old and prisoners

1d 18 to 44 year old

If hospitals or care giver location are giving the vaccine you have two groups 1 gives all the initial doses and the 2 group gives the second dose and that's all they do and keeps the process moving.

CW Lundin

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Levi Moos](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccination priority for housing co-operatives
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:41:47 PM

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To whom it may concern:

I'm writing regarding priority vaccination status for eligible individuals in group 1b. Specifically, I am writing as a resident of a multi-generational, very low to moderate income housing cooperative with approximately 30 members. We are part of a larger organization called Madison Community Co-operative with 200 members who live in houses with between 8 and 35 members. You can learn more about our organization and mission at the website madisoncommunity.coop. I intend to submit further comment as the maintenance officer of the board of directors.

Our houses share many characteristics with the congregate settings described in appendix C of the public recommendations presented by your committee. We are unable to mitigate the risks of shared bathrooms and dining facilities using non-pharmacological interventions such as mask use and hand washing. Several houses within the organization have had outbreaks of COVID-19 infections even when using these measures, causing severe physical, emotional, and financial distress. Our organization serves marginalized members in need of affordable housing of all ages, many of whom hold higher-risk frontline positions, have pre-existing conditions, or may have limited access to healthcare.

The shared labor aspect of co-operative living keeps our housing affordable and also decreases our ability to take distancing measures within houses. Almost all high-contact service, care-giving and maintenance tasks are performed by members/residents ourselves. We all work to buy food, prepare meals, clean shared bathroom and dining facilities, and handle trash and waste removal for 30 people. Infectious outbreaks have significantly decreased the ability of some households to perform and serve basic functions.

MCC also maintains a small maintenance and administrative staff who have in-person contact responsibilities to all 11 houses in our organization. Their ability to perform essential functions at our houses has been significantly hindered, and their safety significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Staff and member safety of the many residents of housing co-operatives (MCC and independent cooperatives), as well as the safety of our surrounding community would be greatly improved by proactive priority vaccination opportunities. I believe that housing co-operatives resemble the congregate facilities currently planned to receive group 1b priority status.

Thank you,

Levi Moos



From: [Brenda Repp](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:41:41 PM

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All people that deal with the public should be included in the next phase for example: Bank employees, grocery stores, retail stores and also people at high risk especially if those people that are at high risk have to work with the public like diabetics, heart patients and people over 65.

Please include high risk people in the next phase. It's critical they get the vaccine before things get worse.

Thank you!

From: [Vicki Volp](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Comment on priorities for COVID vaccine group 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:41:31 PM

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I believe it is imperative to prioritize our oldest residents who are still living independently. Many of these individuals are at high risk but are still able to maintain an independent living situation.

After sheltering in place for 10 months - these individuals must go out in public for essential doctor and dentist appointments, repair needs for broken eyeglasses and hearing aids, buying new shoes, replacing broken household appliances etc. Many of these individuals live in small towns with limited delivery options for groceries and no close family for assistance. They may not be comfortable with online shopping and other options to limit exposure.

My parents are an example of this situation - my father is 91 and still in excellent health. He is the primary caretaker for my mother, age 89 who has dementia and severe asthma. They live independently in Jefferson, in the house my father built 65 years ago. A COVID infection for my mother would likely be deadly, and an infection for my father would imperil his ability to care for my mother.

Would their age prioritize them within the 1B group if there is a shortage of vaccine? Perhaps prioritizing residents age 80+ regardless of their living situation would be reasonable.

Vicki Volp
Waukesha, WI

From: [Marilyn Buss](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine for Caregiver
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:40:08 PM

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I'd like to know when caregivers like myself are eligible. Does anyone take into consideration for those of us that are caregivers for our loved ones at home. My husband had a stroke in 2007 in which they removed the left side of his brain. He cannot live alone with his disability if I were to get covid. I'm 65 with many underlying health issues. My husband is almost speechless, no reading skills, license due to his stroke ...When are we eligible???

From: [Susan Bietila](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: re: Public Input - Group 1B Covid-19 Vaccine
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:34:51 PM

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

Public Input on Group 1B Covid-19 Vaccine

I have been an RN for 49 years, a former Public Health Nurse in Ashland County and School Nurse at MPS, Milwaukee. When I am immunized, I will look for opportunities to help immunize others. I am among the retired RNs who renewed their licenses when asked by the State of Wisconsin, in order to help end the Pandemic.

So, at age 73.5 years, I hope that the age range for group 1b will be 70 and older, rather than 75. And I also hope that teachers and prison inmates are included in this next group. I'm glad to hear that vaccines will be given in a drive through facility. This is safer, than an indoor arena, with decreased exposure to large groups and decreased time standing during the wait.

Sincerely yours,

Susan E. Simensky Bietila RN, BSN, MA

[Redacted signature block]

From: [Maria Accuardi](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:32:25 PM

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

Hello,

I read the latest phase 1b plan in Wisconsin and am extremely disappointed Postal Workers were removed from that phase. People had the ability to quarantine and stay safe while they reported to work every day the last 10 months. They also deal with the general public and don't have the option to work from home. Wisconsin has been following the CDC's recommendations since March and we are now questioning the experts on how to slow the spread and who should be vaccinated next? Also, while I understand the reasoning behind vaccinating prisoners in a congregated living situation, I think it's completely unfair. The staff should definitely be up next, but we're now putting those incarcerated in front of the general population and those working outside they're home every day.

I understand you are tasked with a very difficult job right now. I just ask you listen to the CDC and include Postal Workers (and grocers as well) in the next phase.

Thank you,
Maria Accuardi

From: [susan van der velde](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:21:55 PM

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

Dear Committee,

I would like you to consider barber/cosmotologists for the next phase of vaccines. We work very closely with many clients per day and assume a risk of contracting/spreading the virus very easily.

Thank you,
Susan Van der Velde

From: [Pam Emard](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B covid vaccine suggestion
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:09:51 PM

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Hi,

I'm a licensed hairstylist. I think we should be included with phase 1B vaccine as well. We're up close and personal with our clients, inches away. Seeing close to 100 people per week, per stylist. That's a lot of contact. Please consider our profession in the next phase.

Thank you,
Pam Emard

From: [Donna](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee, phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:09:50 PM

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

Cosmetologists, barbers, nail technicians and others in the beauty industry in very close contact with customers.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Donna](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid 19 vaccinations
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:02:55 PM

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

Being a cosmetologist in a busy franchise salon and being in close contact with an average of 26 customers in my chair alone everyday, cosmetologists and barbers should be included in this phase ASAP. Even with strict protocol in place, it is still risky. Thank you, Donna Kleintank.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Margaret Murray](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public comment on Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:02:54 PM

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Hi-

I would like to provide comment on phase 1B rollout of the COVID 19 vaccine in Wisconsin. I reviewed the CDC website on phase 1B recommendations. At the top of their list is individuals 75 and older. I looked at the Wisconsin Department of Health recommendations. I see the elderly 75 or older, fire fighters, police, child care workers and milk farmers but I am unsure of the order of allocation. I truly understand the need for fire fighters and police to get the vaccine in this phase. My concern is who will follow them. I believe the elderly aged 75 or older should be respected to get the vaccine early in phase 1B rollout. The elderly have the highest risk of hospitalization, morbidity and probably death. The VA system has started to vaccinate their elderly patients. So if the VA system and CDC recommend early vaccination to the elderly aged 75 or older, I believe the state of Wisconsin should follow. Also, other states have started to vaccinate the elderly 75 and older for the same reason I have stated earlier. The science is clear the elderly hold the highest risk and stress on our healthcare system.

Thanks,
Margaret Murray

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Holly Helf](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:55:57 PM

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Please include seniors that are 94 and living alone as soon as possible in the vaccine availability. Children and grandchildren need to see my mom and their grandma. She NEEDS the first dose ASAP (like some other states)

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Rachel Sassella](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public comment: Housing co-ops as congregate housing
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:51:58 PM

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

Dear SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee,

Will housing cooperatives be given phase 1b vaccination priority as congregate housing?

I live in a 30-person cooperative house with shared bathrooms, kitchen, and dining facilities. We live in close contact with each other, including several essential workers. In spite of efforts to isolate and socially distance inside of houses, several housing co-ops had outbreaks of COVID-19 last year. There are 15+ housing coops in Madison alone, totalling more than 150 residents. Here is a link to the non-profit organization that my coop is a part of:
<https://www.madisoncommunity.coop/>

In your draft proposal for recipients of phase 1b COVID vaccinations, you include residents of congregate living facilities (including employer based congregate housing, transitional housing, shelters, etc) but do not explicitly mention housing cooperatives.

Do you intend to include housing cooperatives as part of congregate housing in phase 1b? If not, will housing cooperatives be given priority in a later group?

I really appreciate your work and consideration of this question.

All the best,
Rachel Sassella



From: [Rena Newman](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public Comment for SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee: Housing Co-operatives?
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:48:09 PM

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

To whom it may concern,

My name is Rena Yehuda Newman, a member of the Madison Community Cooperative (MCC), currently residing in a co-operative house in Madison, Wisconsin with 27 other housemates. Upon reviewing your criteria for the second round of COVID vaccination priorities, **I was wondering if cooperative houses might be considered congregate housing and may be specified for priority in your next draft of the document.**

Madison, Wisconsin has a small but significant number of co-operative houses, many of which have over 20 members under one roof -- and many of these members are often low-income, immunocompromised, and/or uninsured. MCC cooperatives prioritize low-income and otherwise marginalized people to live in our houses, which coincides with your specified priority demographics. The pandemic has been a time of strife for our community of cooperatives, with many members fearing for their health and safety because of the close quarters we live in. We share 3 bathrooms and a kitchen among 28 people of a wide age range. If the virus gets in, many of our members are already at high risk for long-term health damages, and COVID could cause lifelong medical debt for our un- or underinsured members. Though we're doing our best to keep each other safe with in-house precautions, many of our members work forward-facing service jobs, heightening our risk. Quarantining is incredibly difficult in our house, as it is for many other MCC houses.

When I saw that you'd drafted this document prioritizing congregate housing, I was excited. However, it seemed like co-ops were a significant omission that might belong on that list, or could be prioritized for future groups. I believe there is high feasibility to vaccinate co-operative house members, as MCC houses around 200 people. There are a handful of other co-operatives in the area as well that may qualify, bringing the number up to probably about 300 at-risk people who would fall into this category who are particularly vulnerable to COVID.

Will housing co-operatives be added as an explicit category to any priority lists? Has there been discussion among community members about co-operative houses as potentially prioritized populations?

Thank you so much for your work in these heavy times.

Best,

Rena Yehuda Newman (They/Them)

From: [Mike Effinger](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:45:08 PM

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

To Whom It May Concern,

Please consider including teachers, grocery workers, 65 and older adults, and adults with serious pre-existing conditions, which put them at increased risk in group 1B.

Thank you,

Michael Effinger


From: [Katherine Murray](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: "vaccine subcommittee" / "Phase 1B"
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:44:52 PM

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

Dear Vaccine Subcommittee:

I am a non-essential worker in healthcare and received the 1st dose of the vaccination. My husband is high risk and he has not. My adult son just graduated college and lives at home. Both my husband and son have been going to work during this pandemic and are unprotected. I think they should be able to get the vaccine because they have to go to work to do their job.

My 75 + year old parents live together and my father is a veteran. He doesn't qualify to receive because he is not part of the VA. I think everyone over the age of 70, regardless of where they are living, should receive the vaccine.

I think of everyone in the grocery stores who have been working endlessly to keep everyone fed, should be able to get the vaccine.

Thank you for your consideration.

--

Kat Murray


ask me about [doterra essential oils](#)

From: [Evonne Zalewski](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:44:17 PM

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I strongly recommend that you lower the age to 70 for Phase 1B. Although the CDC guidelines stated 75 as the cut off many states that have already rolled out their plan have lowered the age to 70. We are more at risk than people in their 60s. Please get this vaccine plan out soon. WI is so far behind other states.

Also why are vaccines being distributed by hospital organizations for hospital volunteers?

Thank you,

Evonne Zalewski

Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Valerie Rupprecht](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:44:05 PM

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Teachers
Daycare providers
Pregnant women

From: [Douglas Hoelz](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b recommendations.
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:36:00 PM

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

Complete phase 1a. Asap. We still have many direct contact providers who still have not been vaccinated.

Phase 1b. Prioritize by individuals who are most likely to come in contact with infected persons, then proceed to the most vulnerable, ie. 65+ and those over age 60 who have comorbid conditions that make them high risk. Then other first responders and support personnel as well as persons whose jobs put them at higher risk.

D Hoelz. Rph

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Barbara Clark](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Fw: Vaccine Comments - Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:32:23 PM

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Have one additional comment - age and medical conditions usually are a given (you can't change your age and some medical conditions just happen) BUT I don't see how a smoker would be a higher priority in getting the vaccine than someone who has cancer.

Thanks.

Barbara Clark

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Barbara Clark <luxurytravel@sbcglobal.net>
To: DHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov <dhssdmac@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Sunday, January 17, 2021, 06:37:56 PM CST
Subject: Vaccine Comments - Phase 1B

Although I know everyone is trying to become a part of 1B, per the CDC recommendation I would like to see those over age 65 and anybody with serious "qualifying" health conditions become part of 1B. These groups have documented higher rates of serious problems and death with COVID-19.

Thank you.

Barbara Clark



From: [Mary](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee phase1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:05:46 PM

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I have listened to scientist and doctors on TV that express the need to change vaccines from 70-75 age to 65 age and I feel that is appropriate. Also concerning medical conditions, smokers and obesity should move up for vaccines, these categories will need hospitalization and ICU if contact covid. It takes extra health care workers to care for obese people. Most smokers have lung issues which may need ventilators. It may decrease hospitalizations if immunized earlier. Mary Klemme

Sent from my iPad

From: [Carol Cook](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 6:58:58 PM

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

Dear subcommittee,

Please don't make the Phase 1B group so large that the people that need it the most can't get it. My 77 year old mother hasn't left her house or seen her grandchildren or anyone else since March. She is becoming depressed due to the isolation. Please don't put someone in their twenties with an excellent chance of survival before her. Phase 1B should include those most likely to die or be hospitalized from CoVID not just those who are most often exposed. The goal of the vaccine should be to save as many lives as possible!

Thank you,

Carol Cook

From: [Robert White](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee phase 1 b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 6:56:25 PM

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

Please allow the suggested plans to go ahead and get started as soon as possible to help as many people as you can.

RWW

Sent from my iPad

From: [Marlene Wegner](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine 1B recommendation
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 6:50:18 PM

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High Priority should be Elderly 70+ in the group 1B
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Elisabeth Lehman](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B-students in congregate settings
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 6:47:24 PM

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Hello,

I am disappointed that students in congregate setting/high density dorms aren't a priority. My son lives in Sellery Hall in Madison, which was riddled with Covid this Fall, prompting a shutdown that made the NY Times. We know people with mild symptoms can still suffer serious damage to their lungs-up to 80% of survivors. Yet, nobody seems to care about the high percentage of young people getting Covid (nor is anyone studying it), as long as they aren't admitted to a hospital. Please include these students in the 1B phase. They are our future and are suffering significantly in this pandemic. Mental illness has hit this population especially hard.

Thanks for your consideration.
Elisabeth Lehman

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Bette Frangesch](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b COVID 19 vaccine
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 6:40:30 PM

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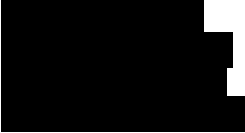
Hello,

The proposal looks to be well thought through and sensible and we approve. My husband and I have discussed the vaccine rollout at length with our extended family and friends. To a person, there is frustration, dismay and disappointment with the vaccine distribution to date. But, we're all hopeful there will be swift and significant improvement after the inauguration.

We're also very concerned that the longer the delay in moving toward 'herd immunity' the greater the likelihood the virus will mutate into a more virulent version not covered by the vaccine. Truly, we're racing the clock. It should be an all hands on deck effort. I'm a retired RN, and am still licensed. I'm ready, willing and able to jump on board in the vaccination effort!

Thank you for the opportunity to comment,

Bette & Richard Frangesch



Sent from my iPad

From: [Mary Lee Rieley](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Include age 70 and older.
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 6:37:33 PM

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

PLEASE include those age 70 and older

Mary Lee Rieley
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Carol Olson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COMMENT ON QUALIFICATIONS FOR VACCINE
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 6:35:41 PM

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I think you should consider vaccinating one person who has someone living in a nursing or long term care facility. So we may be finally able to visit. Saw other states were allowing one person for this. I hope you would consider this. Thank you.

Carol Olson

From: [Josh Melnick](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: 1B Vaccine group
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 6:32:19 PM

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I think correctional staff, law enforcement, and those 60 and over should be amongst the 1B vaccination group.

Thanks

Joshua Melnick

Sent from my iPhone

From: pattia48@charter.net
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid Vaccine Group B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 6:32:12 PM

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

I strongly believe that people over 70 be included in group B, if not in group A. They are highly vulnerable by their age alone, not to mention many have underlying illness. I certainly agree front line workers and first responders should get the vaccine first, but I feel those over 70 should be in the next group.

From: [Lauri A](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID vaccine
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 6:28:27 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 think it is very important to prioritize persons who are in Family Care/IRIS for the COVID vaccine. Our son has been so isolated since March of 2020 because of his lack of understanding that wearing the mask is of utmost importance in order to go places therefore he must stay at home. He only sees a very limited amount of people that we have allowed into our circle (his siblings and their spouses). Because of his age and not having an essential job, he would be one of the last people to have the opportunity for the vaccine. Please give your highest consideration to the group of persons and give them access to the vaccine as soon as possible.

Thank you for your time.

Lauri & Wayne Alderman

From: [Rosanne Anderson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 6:26:38 PM

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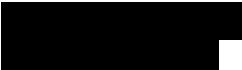
My name is Rosanne Anderson, I am the director of The Open Cupboard, the food shelf in Osceola WI.. We are a cadre of volunteers, providing an essential service to many families, every day in the community. Many small town food shelves do not have a large volunteer base, so if one person would get Covid and we had to quarantine, the food shelf would close and this would have a major impact on the community we serve. It would not only impact the families needing help, but the many seniors we serve and deliver to, because they do not want to leave their home. The grade children who receive a back pack of food each week would also be impacted.

Just as an example, in the month Dec., 2020, between the food shelf and the back pack program, we served 118 families, which consisted of 171 adults 256 children, and 19 seniors. Major impact if we had to close.

Please consider food shelf volunteers as part of the 1B phase.

Thank You,

Rosanne A. Anderson



From: [Alex Ebben](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 6:23:42 PM

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65 and older and childcare

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Brandon Mackesy](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee and Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 6:13:46 PM

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

Hello,

I am reaching out on behalf of American Heating and Air Conditioning Inc. to ask to be added to the 1b roll out as an essential business.

1) The impact the pandemic has had on the sector: Business in the construction industry has slowed down or dropped off significantly since the pandemic. Social distancing has become essential for slowing the spread and many HVAC companies have seen extremely low revenue and even seeing negative growth rates. Customers are trying to reduce the amount of people that are coming into their home to protect themselves from an accidental exposure. This has resulted in decreased business and having to lay people off.

(2) The specific impact the pandemic has had on businesses or personnel:

In response to how it has affected us, we have had to lay off employees from having not enough work. With being a small shop when someone tests positive we are required to shut down the shop resulting in loss of revenue. With the nature of our business we are unable to have employees work from home as we are a service industry. We are in and out peoples' homes each and every day. We find it essential for us to receive the vaccine not only for the safety of ourselves but for the safety of our customers.

(3) Any other staffing statistics related to the pandemic

We started the year with 14 employees and we are down 10 employees.

Thank you for consideration.

Brandon T. Mackesey, PE

American Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc.
6120 Cottonwood Dr
Fitchburg, WI 53719
608.444.9168
brandon@americanheatingfitchburg.com

From: globe2see@aol.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: "vaccine subcommittee" and "Phase 1B"
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 6:12:48 PM

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Mink farmers really? I think not. They're NOT essential workers! Give them masks and have them vaccinated like everyone else. Also, smokers should not get priority as that is a self-inflicted choice of harm they do to themselves and I am not going to have them elevated above me because I chose NOT to smoke.

Sent from my iPad

From: [bnkcieslak](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: "vaccine subcommittee" and "Phase 1B"
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 6:04:32 PM

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COVID Vaccine Subcommittee,

I don't understand how in the past health care workers were REQUIRED to get the FLU shot but now with deadly COVID 19 they have a choice. A bad YEAR of flu causes 65,000 people to die in the U.S., we had that number of deaths from COVID in just one month DECEMBER.

I don't have a choice of not going several times a month for tests and treatment at a very busy health care center with lots of patients, and health care workers. One half of the health care workers I have had contact with said they did not get the vaccine when it was offered.

That puts me, an immune compromised patient at high risk, especially with the super spreader variant in Wisconsin. If I get COVID the other treatment will stop and I will likely not survive from one or the other.

I called everywhere but can't get the vaccine for myself. Yet there are stores of vaccine sitting on shelves that may expire before they are used. What a waste!

Opening up to age groups causes long lines that I could not stand in for many hours like the healthy 65+ can, and would add a lot of additional exposure. Many healthy 65+ are able to avoid contact with people by staying at home and ordering items for pick up. They have a choice of no contact where I do not.

The most vulnerable are not only in nursing homes. Please devise a plan to get it to the ones who need it the most. Getting it into our clinics, and a directive for Doctors to vaccinate their patients at high risk.


Frustrated with the poor planning, and directives.

Karen Cieslak

From: [Schmidt, John A \(GE Healthcare\)](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 5:59:28 PM

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

Hello. I am an employee at GE Healthcare. My job is to teach hospital employees to support and operate Anesthesia systems. I teach at our training facility in Waukesha/Pewaukee. Each Monday I have a new class of students who come from all over the country, fly on a plane to get to our facility, and then come to my class for five 8 hour days (Mon-Friday). I'm probably not considered a "front line" health care worker, but would certainly like to be in Phase 1B (or sooner) along with my colleagues. Thank you very much for taking comments/suggestions.


John Schmidt


From: [Julie Wagner](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID vaccine sub groups
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 5:59:20 PM

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

Hello. My concern for the release of the group 1B vaccine list is such. I am a FedEx delivery driver who is a type 1 diabetic. I have risked my life throughout this pandemic by having no choice but to physically go to work. FedEx and UPS drivers a like have no choice but to come to work. We are a group who have been delivering this vaccine as well as medication and PPE for the population. We as drivers need the protection from this vaccine. We have a face to face customer interaction every day all day. WE are the definition of essential workers. If we can't work, the vaccine doesn't get delivered. From day 1 of this pandemic our population was told that if you have underlying health conditions it puts you at risk for severe complications from COVID. However you are putting prisoners ahead of this group of people. Furthermore just because you vaccinate teachers it does not mean virtual learning children will go back to the normal way of in person learning. If children have a compromised adult in the home they still will put them at risk by attending school. A healthy young teacher should not need a vaccine over a immune compromised adult. This release of the vaccine should be as such for the elderly and people who have compromised immune systems. Essential workers should be easy to figure out. If the country cannot operate without them they are essential.

Please feel free to contact me if further discussion is needed. I hope that you will take my suggestions under strong review. I thank you for your time.

Julie Wagner


From: [David Smith](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b vaccine subcommittee
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 5:54:14 PM

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Please keep the much higher risk of death for elderly people foremost in mind as you consider next steps.. Surely the preservation of life must take priority over the understandable demands of the many groups who want the vaccine. I feel that elderly people are being constantly pushed back in line as more and more groups demand priority. Of course people in contact with others are in greater danger of contracting Covid, but look at the vast difference in mortality rates. Give the elderly a clear sense of when they will be vaccinated!

Sent from my iPad

From: [Ruth Seider](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 5:50:44 PM

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I strongly believe people 70 plus need to be included in phase 1b due to their high chances of death if COVID-19 is contracted. And because the federal government is encouraging 65 and older

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Fran Luebke](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee: Phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 5:48:01 PM

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

It is time to think outside the box:

1. As a member of the 1b population why not allow a person in this group to organize and guarantee that 10 eligible people will come at a prearranged time and site to reduce the number of phone calls and individual contacts, The person who organizes the group will relay time, place and arrange a caravan to that site. This would eliminate 9 separate contacts and know that 10 doses would be administered without any waste.
2. Why has there been no public appeal to healthcare providers to man large venues. My husband practiced dentistry for 50 years and has given thousands of injections. To ramp up vaccinations the state should not just rely on pharmacies, National Guard, but also get retired medical and dental personnel, etc to relieve frontline medical care personnel who are already over their heads. Do not burden them more but throw the net wider to populate the venues and publicize the need. Have the local dental and medical societies do the recruiting.
3. UW-Milwaukee has a Supply Chain and Operations Management program in the Lubar School of Business with faculty with expertise and years of experience to help streamline operations and diagnose bottleneck areas in Wisconsin. Faculty and graduate students could lend enormous assistance to alleviate the burden on others.

Fran Luebke

Brookfield, WI

From: [Jo Rucker](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: 1b vaccinations
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 5:47:29 PM

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I think it is very important that inmates of jails and prisons be immunized as a priority group, in addition to those who work in those facilities.

Thank you for this opportunity.

Jo Ann Rucker,

Residing in Milwaukee and Durand WI.

From: [Diane Balsley](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Comment to Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 5:27:21 PM

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

WI Subcommittee Vaccine Distribution,

Hello. What you are doing is vitally important and I know it's a big decision as to who should get priority.

Since we seem to have a limited supply and people are desperate to live via getting the vaccine, it's only natural that people are fighting one another to be on the list. There has already been line jumping and mixed messages as to who is getting the vaccine at the expense of those who have to wait.

If I could urge you to keep politics out of this and think about who is most vulnerable, I beg you to choose those who are older, 65 and older, The frail, the sick, as well as those next in line (after medical personnel) who would be essential people who work with groups of people as part of their jobs. This would include all Educators and people who work with children's groups, government workers who deal with the general public such as DMV, police and fire, EMT's, etc. but prioritizing the older workers first if possible. I also would encourage you to revisit the idea of small clinics and neighborhood pharmacies rather than having people wait in long lines at massive spaces or big box pharmacies. Please treat people with dignity as you are treated.

Diane Balsley

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [John Durham](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: "vaccine subcommittee" and "Phase 1B"
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 5:14:11 PM

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I agree with the recommendations.

John Durham

From: [Bonnie Webber](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1 B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 4:54:30 PM

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Please consider an objective age-based approach to vaccination. Offer the vaccine to those 70 years and older, then 60, then 50 and so on. This approach acknowledges that risk of death increases with age. It does not discriminate by race. It does not allow for line jumping. It is simple to define. It does not require subjective value judgements that are open to arguments and misinterpretation. We are all at risk and we are all essential. There is no perfect plan. Please, let's just get people vaccinated quickly!

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: [Barb LeGreve](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee (Phase 1B)
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 4:53:38 PM

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

I think it should be open to 65 and older. I think it is inappropriate to put mink farmers before the 65 to 70 age group!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Brenda Grandahl](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee and phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 4:39:19 PM

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Truck drivers and people that are high risk with other health issues.

Thank you

Brenda

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [J. Paul Kelleher](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Temte Jonathan L](#); alewandowski@rwhc.com
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B -- public comment
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 4:17:55 PM

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

To the SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee:

I want to thank the Subcommittee for its work in developing its proposal for Phase 1b of Wisconsin's COVID-19 vaccine allocation plan. As a member of the erstwhile SDMAC Ethics subcommittee, I also want to thank you for your thoughtful attention to the ethical principles our subcommittee put forward. Overall, I believe your 1b proposal is a reasonable approach to implementing those principles in an environment where vaccine supply is limited, and where the mechanisms for providing actual vaccinations are still in their early stages.

I would like to offer the following brief comments on the substance of your 1b proposal:

- I agree that it is reasonable to lower ACIP's 1b age band to 70+, and I can understand the Vaccine Subcommittee's concerns about lowering that age to 65+, which was recently recommended by federal officials. Given that the infrastructure for actual vaccination is still nascent in Wisconsin, I share DHS officials' worries that a wider age band will lead to counterproductive frustrations and much wasted time by those who (quite understandably) are highly motivated to be vaccinated.
- I strongly agree with the Vaccine Subcommittee's proposal to include the staffs and residents of congregate living facilities in Phase 1b. I am especially pleased to see the proposal to include incarcerated individuals in Phase 1b. I would recommend that, in its Appendix C discussion of the rationale for this proposal, the Vaccine Subcommittee add that there are strong reasons of equity to prioritize this population. (This sort of qualification was made for the Family Care and IRIS-based proposal in Appendix B, but it is missing from the Appendix C discussion of the congregate living-based proposal.) Beyond the higher risks of COVID-19 transmission and severe illness upon infection, individuals residing in congregate settings are more likely to have experienced the relevant forms of social disadvantage that the Ethics Subcommittee highlighted in its principle of Equity.
- For reasons primarily to do with feasibility, I think the Vaccine Subcommittee's 1b recommendations concerning essential workers is reasonable. However, I would strongly encourage you to rewrite this recommendation to guard against the impression that the Vaccine Subcommittee thinks (for example) that grocery store workers and public transit workers are not "frontline/public-facing essential workers". For example, you could simply label the workers you *do* include in 1b as "1b Public-facing essential workers."

- Regarding the characteristics that you list on page 4 as “considerations if vaccine supply is constrained such that additional sub-prioritization is necessary,” I would encourage you to add that the characteristics are listed “in no particular order.” That will probably be how readers interpret the list of Medical Conditions on page 4, but if (as I suspect) it is also how you wish the list of Demographic features to be interpreted, I think you should say that explicitly.
- Finally, I would strongly encourage the Vaccine Subcommittee to consider including some statement about the importance of vaccinating entities’ having processes in place to ensure that no vaccine doses are wasted. If to avoid wasting doses a vaccinating entity must offer vaccination to individuals falling outside of DHS’s current phased allocation scheme, then that should be permitted. Vaccinating entities should be informed that vaccinating outside of the phased scheme is only a failsafe option, but this failsafe should be actively encouraged when the relevant circumstances arise. I believe this view is consonant with the ethical principles put forward by the Ethics Subcommittee, especially the principle of Promoting the Common Good.

Thank you again for your time and effort in this important endeavor.

Sincerely,

J. Paul Kelleher, Ph.D
Associate Professor, Bioethics and Philosophy
University of Wisconsin-Madison

From: [Sherry T](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Comments on 1b vaccines
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 4:13:30 PM

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

I do not think it is right to vaccinate people in jail before the rest of the population.

From: [pwilson21](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 4:08:06 PM

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To Whom It May Concern;

I am in favor of the committee's recommendations for Phase 1B with the exception of the following:

1) Do not include " incarcerated individuals, at this time. These groups should be included in a later phase rollout and more 60 & above individuals included to replace the numbers that incarcerated individuals would be.

Thank you in advance for consideration of my opinion.

Paula Wilson

Sent from my iPad

From: [Jackie Bayer](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee—phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 4:06:25 PM

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

I don't consider smoking to be a medical condition. It's a lifestyle choice and there is support available for making a different choice.

From: brault@att.net
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid -19
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 4:04:31 PM

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

I disagree with smokers , non- face to face teachers being before myself. I am 64 and an essential manufacturing worker, making supplies for the mask and medical supply industries. I have to go to work every day. The phases should be broken down by age groups. Once you open it up to anybody under 65 all the younger people that are much lower risk will swarm the distribution locations preventing older workers from getting the vaccine

Mike Brault

From: [Mary Fochs](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Most recent vaccination recommendations
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 4:01:16 PM

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

I strongly support the recommendation to place seniors over 70 in tier 1b as well as teachers and EMS personnel. I support workers in congregate living facilities being placed in 1b but not prisoners. Their primary infection source is the staff. Vaccinating staff should drastically reduce the number of residents that are infected. I'm not sure what the current visiting policy is in prisons but they should be subject to the same social limitations and isolation that I have endured for the last 10 months.

I have one other comment. Why is Wisconsin so extremely slow in vaccinating nursing home and assisted living staff and residents? Thank you for consideration of my comments. Mary Fochs

Sent from my iPad

From: [Ashley Hartman Annis](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public opinion on vaccine list
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 4:01:07 PM

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Hi there,

I think it's really important that teachers are included in the next round of vaccines. They are doing such important work in our community, are already under-valued & under-paid, and this would be a way of honoring their work and keeping them safe. Please also include service industry workers & grocery stores as well—these are front line workers who are not getting the credit they deserve for keeping people fed.

Sincerely,
Ashley

Ashley Hartman Annis
she / her / hers
ashleyhartmanannis.com

From: [T & N Holley](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [T & N Holley](#)
Subject: Public Comment to Vaccine Committee Regarding Phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 3:59:54 PM

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

Dear Committee:

No doubt you are receiving many opinions about the vaccine delivery prioritization. It appears that your Phase 1b priority may be intended to minimize serious consequences or death by including the elderly population. As a member of the retired 65+ crowd, I appreciate your consideration. However, the elderly have less contact with the public than some other groups. Even if it means postponing my own vaccination, I submit that vaccinating grocery workers, public transportation workers, drivers' license workers, and others who have a high degree of contact with the public is more urgent to suppress the pandemic as a whole. I note that you have prioritized teachers already which is consistent with my suggestion. Thank you.

No prioritization will satisfy everyone. However, emphasizing individuals who have a high degree of contact with the public should bring the infection rates down faster than other methods.

There is no need to waste time responding to notes such as mine. Thank you for your service.

Regards,

Thomas K. Holley
Port Washington



From: [dave tonnancour](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid Vaccine comment
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 3:38:16 PM

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

Expand availability for age 65 and over and school district employees. Utilize Satellite clinics, pharmacies, gyms, community centers etc. Open public access points for vaccines. Ask for volunteers to do vaccines. Sooner the better.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Melissa Farquhar](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 3:29:45 PM

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Dear Secretary-Designee Palm and Members of the SDMAC Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee:

My name is Melissa Farquhar and I am from Madison, Wisconsin. I am a Fourth Year (Clinical Year) Veterinary Medical Student. I am writing to ask you to include veterinarian health care professionals in Phase 1b of the Wisconsin COVID-19 vaccination plan.

I currently work in the UW-Madison Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital as a fourth year student. COVID-19 has greatly impacted my clinical year and rotations, which I am relying on to receive adequate education in order to practice as a competent veterinary medical professional beginning in May. Veterinarians and staff are unable to appropriately socially distance or work from home, as we must work directly with animals to provide care (and these animals are oftentimes not compliant and require restraint). Multiple specialties within the hospital have been forced to accommodate for staffing shortages due to COVID-19, which impacts the amount of patients we are able to see. I urge you to reconsider adding veterinary medical staff and students working in clinical care settings to phase 1b so we may continue providing high quality care to animals and their people during this unprecedented time.

Thank you for considering this request.

Melissa Farquhar
Veterinary Medical Student, class of 2021

From: [mjb](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid-19 group1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 3:28:58 PM

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I do not think the following should be included in group 1B
Prisoners – the guards should be
Smokers – they smoke by choice
Teachers that do not teach in person

From: [James Douglas](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 3:27:10 PM

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Healthy young people in jails should not be in 1b. The jailers should be included. Homeless people should not be ahead of tax paying public. People 55 years and up with conditions that put them at risk should be ahead of those two groups

From: [Mark or Margaret Temple](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Margaret Temple](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 3:25:30 PM

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Hello,

I would like to share my opinion regarding the recommendations for those included in Phase 1B.

I am a teacher at a school that offers in-person education, 5 days per week. I would agree that those educators who are working in schools **in-person**, should be prioritized.

If districts refuse to open to in-person education, that personnel should not be prioritized, as they do not have contact with large populations for extended periods of time with an inability to follow CDC guidelines for distancing. In addition, administrative staffing for schools, unless they regularly have extended contact with large groups, should not be prioritized. (ex. Principals and school secretaries should be prioritized, but superintendents, their secretaries, and district office support staff should not be prioritized in the same way).

I am also married to a plumber who works for Milwaukee County who has regular, extended contact with the county jail population. The type of emergency situational work he is often called upon to do puts him in significant danger of contracting the Covid-19 virus. When inmates intentionally cause plumbing emergencies (which is daily), he must enter the jail, including the isolation and quarantine areas, to make the situation safe. Although he wears PPE, he could easily contract Covid-19 and infect large amounts of people through his daily routines. I truly believe that people in this role should also be vaccinated in Phase 1B. I believe that his role really should be included in the frontline worker definition.

I ask you to consider the situations mentioned above when finalizing those included in Phase 1B. I don't envy the decisions you must make, but if we are truly creating a prioritized structure, not all are equal, even within education or county workers.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Respectfully,
Margaret Temple



From: msbrault@att.net
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID19 GROUP 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 3:20:53 PM

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I agree with most of the people prioritized to get the vaccine EXCEPT teachers who are not face to face with students and smokers. I am going to be 63 in March and have been following safety recommendation to a t. I am sick of it. A smoker who chooses a bad habit and chooses to be at higher risk is put ahead of me. This is a bad joke. I have been self-quarantined for ten months now. The person who puts themselves in a bad situation by smoking should quarantine and sit home.....not me!!!! They have that option.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

From: [Paul Alexy](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee, Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 3:19:42 PM
Attachments: PastedGraphic-1.tiff

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Ladies and Gentlemen:

I have reviewed the proposed recommendation and have the following comments for your consideration:

- While the inclusion of educators will please some members of the public, the reality is that the only protection will be for those individuals who are actually vaccinated. The indiscriminate opening schools, however, will result in the students and support staff continuing/increasing to be a source of circulation of the virus within the general population.
- Why is there no consideration for municipal officers and employees or court staff as essential services? Similarly, there should be recognition of the need to keep our State/country's infrastructure operational (e.g., water, electricity, communications, transportation, etc.).
- Unlike other categories, "smokers" is a self-imposed condition. It is also one of the most difficult to verify. Will a person be able to simply show up with a package of cigarettes (or other substance) and self-identify themselves as a "smoker" to obtain priority vaccination

Thank you for your consideration,

Regards,

Paul E. Alexy
Municipal Law & Litigation Group, S.C.

730 N. Grand Ave.

Waukesha, WI 53186-4821

(262) 548-1340 (Voice)

(262) 548-9211 (Fax)

palex@ammr.net



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From: [Barb Erlandson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Barb Erlandson](#)
Subject: Vaccination Comments
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 3:10:00 PM

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Those individuals that broke the law and are in prison should not be given the opportunity to be vaccinated ahead of law abiding citizens.

I also don't think grocery workers should be vaccinated in the 1b group. Most are young, healthy and are the ones hanging out in the restaurants and bars while so many of us that are older are a prisoner in our own homes. So many of the younger people selfishly act as though the pandemic doesn't effect them. So very frustrating while others like myself are staying home to save lives.

My husband passed away recently and I am 58 years old. I couldn't even have a funeral for him because I was fearful someone would get Covid.

In addition to grieving, I am terrified of getting Covid with no one left to take care of me. I don't go anywhere except for curbside groceries.

PLEASE, please consider vaccinating people who are battling depression - situational or otherwise to move further up the list or if that is not possible then vaccinate by age groups. I think their would be less suicides.

Thank you for your consideration.
Barb Erlandson

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Marcia Brown](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee / Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 3:02:11 PM

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in response to your request for comments regarding Phase 1B distribution of Wisconsin's coronavirus vaccines.

Those most vulnerable to Covid- 19 should be at the top of the list for getting vaccinated first. Therefore, I recommend the following individuals should be included in the Phase 1B distribution plan:

1. Those 65 or older (born 1956 or before) and;
2. Those 16 and older with underlying medical conditions; and
3. Essential workers (grocery store clerks and childcare workers)

*It is my understanding that many school districts are already vaccinating teachers.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration to this email.

Best Regards,

Marcia Brown
Greenfield, WI

From: [Melissa Lapin](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: 1B vaccine feedback
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 3:00:42 PM

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

I am writing to express my support to include both teachers/daycare providers and grocery store workers in the next phase of vaccines distribution. These workers should all be considered essential and frontline, and deserve to be included in the next phase of vaccinations. Please don't shortchange these workers who have been on the frontline since the beginning.

Thank you,

Melissa Lapin
Verona, WI

From: [Shirley Moe](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: 1b, whose is included
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 2:28:18 PM

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Stick to the original recommendations. Otherwise too much confusion. 70 and up , healthcare workers , etc. Nursinghomes. There will be much anger and confusion if more are added. Teachers are not teaching so they should be in another group later
[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Roger Diggle](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid-19 Vaccination for Prison Staff and Prisoners
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 2:25:03 PM

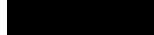
Caution: Message from external sender. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

To: DHSSDMAC

I am a tax-paying citizen of Wisconsin. I write with a plea on behalf of the Wisconsin prison staff, and the prisoners. Please consider moving the prison staff and prison population to an early position in the vaccination queue. Neglect of care in the prisons has led to more than 2,000 staff members and 10,000 inmates testing positive. I feel the State's neglect has caused unnecessary sickness and death for people who are in its direct care - staff and prisoners alike. I am trusting in you to make an appropriate decision today.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Roger Diggle



Madison, Wisconsin

From: [Sue](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 2:14:21 PM

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Having reviewed the recommendations, I disagree with two medical conditions to be considered if sub-prioritization is necessary.

Smoking and obesity, though known as very unhealthy conditions, are conditions brought on by individual choices.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Davenport

Sent from my iPad

From: [Agnes Kanikula](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 1:20:44 PM

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To whom it Most Concerns:

I support the inclusion of incarcerated individuals in the priority group 1B. It is ethical and moral to do so. It is also right thinking from a public health standpoint.

If you are vaccinating prison guards and prison workers, you must understand the logical extension to those whom are at even greater risk: the inmates themselves.

Inmates cannot distance themselves by leaving their tight quarters.

They do not go "home" at the end of the day.

They are serving their terms under the justice system.

You have the opportunity to provide life-saving care for this vulnerable population. Do not pass them by.

Agnes Kanikula, Physician Assistant, Family Medicine
Resident of Black Earth, Dane County, Wisconsin

From: [Kathy Hanley](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 1:01:54 PM

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To whom it may concern,
I strongly recommend that adults 65 and older and grocery store workers be included in phase 1 B!

From: [Mary Ann Berger](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Sub committee Phase 1 B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 12:47:13 PM

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RE: Phase 1B

I am in support of ALL people living in congregate settings to be included in the Phase 1B vaccine distribution. This would include people who are incarcerated as they and the workers in those facilities have little control of their lives to avoid infection.

As a 75 year old with compromising medical conditions, I am willing to have these individuals receive the vaccine before I do. I have a moral responsibility to control my exposure to the virus by following the CDC recommendations. In doing so, I am helping to keep others healthy.

Mary Ann Berger

From: [Mark Confidential](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 12:40:10 PM

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

As lifelong a taxpaying citizen of Wisconsin I urge you to stop debating who should get vaccinated, and simply open it up more broadly so that the hundreds of thousands of vaccines wasting away on the shelf can be put in to the arms of the citizens of Wisconsin. A vaccine not used is a useless vaccine.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Lori Cannon](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public comment on COVID vaccination
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 12:38:22 PM

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Good morning,

I am a RN working for a rural FQHC in Wisconsin (commenting from my personal opinion, not speaking for my employer). I would request that the state give serious consideration to deploying National Guard or similar resources to hold mass vaccination clinics as opposed to counting on private entities to deliver vaccines to the general public. If this process is done via clinics, pharmacies, and county health departments, we will be greatly slowed in our efforts. We have seen how slow the rollout has been for the IA group, it will be exponentially slower once we open availability to larger groups. Additionally, please don't forget your rural areas, especially in the northern part of the state! Thank you for your consideration.

Lori Cannon, MSN, RN

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Arthur Carter](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC; Arthur Carter](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee: Phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 12:29:16 PM

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

Dear Subcommittee:

Please include inmates and staff at Wisconsin prisons as part of Phase 1b in the vaccine for COVID 19 rollout. The inability to maintain social distancing and use masks all the time makes them more vulnerable than the general population. The inmates sentences were handed down without consideration of COVID 19. The prison guards and other workers' job descriptions were created before COVID 19. Consequently, they all need to be included in Phase 1b for reasons of humane and efficacious operation of the Wisconsin prisons.

Art Carter

From: [John Schuttenhelm](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 12:19:33 PM

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To the Committee:

I know there has been much criticism of the Phase 1b plan due to inclusion of the incarcerated population in this plan. I am in support of incarcerated persons to be given this priority, as they, too are in large, congregate living situations and at high risk for contracting the virus. They should not be excluded based on their past behaviors. A larger crime would be to withhold the vaccine from them. Let us remember that incarcerated persons are also our fellow citizens.

I do think that persons over 65 should be included as well in this 1b rollout as well. In many ways it seems like the State is deferring a lot of discretionary decisions to the vaccinators. I'd like to see the state take a stronger role in this.

Thanks for your work.

Susan K Schuttenhelm



From: [Julie Carter](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee 1B designation
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 12:15:31 PM

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

Please continue to support including incarcerated people and prison staff in category 1B. It is important for staff and prisoners to be vaccinated. Their risk is too great to ignore.

Sincerely,
Julie Carer



From: [Rebecca Silber](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public comment on vaccine distribution
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 12:13:47 PM

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

Good afternoon,

My public comment is that we need to set aside this need for vaccine groups and just start administering it to anyone who is willing!

Covid is mutating; this is taking way too long. Set up vaccine stations all over and just start giving the vaccines! None of us are better off until the majority of people have been vaccinated. On with it!

Thank you,
Rebecca Silber

From: tbaker46@aol.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee and phase 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 11:34:14 AM

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

Dear Vaccine Subcommittee,

There a couple of things that I find wrong with your "phase 1B" distribution. They are:

1. Prisoners **should not** be included in 1B.
2. Grocery store workers **should** be included in 1B.

Sincerely,
Terry Baker
Eagle River, Wisconsin

From: [Jim Cairns](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid-19 Vaccinations for Incarcerated People
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 11:08:51 AM

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

It is the responsibility of the State of Wisconsin to provide safety for all incarcerated people in its' custody. The numbers of deaths and those infected speak for themselves as to how this is not the case. I therefore demand that the State of Wisconsin perform its' duty and provide a Covid-19 vaccination to all people incarcerated and to those employees who come in contact with them. Lacking the will or the resources to provide such safety, I would then demand a rapid decarceration of Wisconsin prisons.

Sincerely,

James Cairns



From: [Kathy Lake](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 11:00:33 AM

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

I implore you to include grocery workers and teachers as soon as possible in groups eligible for the COVID vaccine. These two groups should definitely be in Phase 1B. Without grocery workers, how would any of us be able to eat? I do a grocery pick up each week and so appreciate the workers who take my online list, find the items, pack the food, and bring it out to the car. These workers are truly essential to our lives. Putting them at a lower priority makes no sense.

Teachers-if we want schools to operate safely in person, teachers need to be vaccinated as soon as possible. As an older adult, I would gladly give my vaccine spot to a teacher. This is a lost year for so many students. Any chance of recouping the learning that has been lost relies on teachers being able to be safely in the classroom.

I hope that you will consider these two groups and give them the highest priority.

Kathy Lake



From: [Helen Canellos](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1 COVID-19 Vaccine public comment
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:39:44 AM

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As a 68 year old recently retired teacher, I am grateful for the chance to voice my opinion regarding the Covid vaccine distribution.

Based on your very own data, spikes in Covid deaths occur in the 50+ range. So, why would you hesitate to vaccinate people who fall in that category?? Please lower the qualifying age to include people like us.

Thank you,
H. Canellos

From: [Debby Hansen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Steve](#)
Subject: Covid vaccine
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 10:29:51 AM

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

Good morning,

It's very disturbing that our state has had 10 months to plan for a vaccine, yet we appear to be unorganized/ floundering/ under-vaccinated/ too busy name calling. Rather than condemn other political people/ groups, stand out with truth/integrity and do what it takes to have a flourishing vaccine program for all in our state. Shine above the others! Delineate the groups. Open state fair park with 18 hour days of vaccinations; utilize other school auditoriums. We pay county health departments...should have been bustling. Do not let the vaccines expire... time is of the essence... protect us... vaccinate us... and lead us knowing all lives matter!

Thank you,
Debby and Steve Hansen

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Betsy Wilson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:53:20 AM

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Dear Subcommittee Members,

I would ask you **to NOT include** those who are incarcerated in phase 1B. As a public health educator, I understand the increased risk of being exposed to COVID in a congregate setting, but I feel that others at increased risk should receive access to the vaccine prior to those who are incarcerated. Those individuals made choices for themselves that put them in a situation that may increase their risk.

Some of us are at increased risk through no choice of our own and should have access to the vaccine prior to those individuals.

I would also recommend that school bus driver be considered for phase 1B.

-
Thank you for your consideration of these concerns and recommendations.

Elizabeth A Wilson

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Carol Poulakos](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 7:48:01 AM

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To Whom it May Concern,

We need to continue to follow the medicine and the science as you all continuously state. Our seniors need protection and those over the age of 70 need a voice.

I would love to be able to take my mom to see her other children and grandchildren and enjoy them during some of her final years. Please ensure this group of folks continues to get prioritized as it pertains to vaccination.

I would also suggest that those which live in dorms should not be prioritized above the following:

- EMS/front line emergency workers
- 70+ seniors
- folks 60+ with co-morbidities
- remaining front line workers (includes grocery store, teachers, etc.)

I believe the remaining front-line workers should be last in the above list based on the risk of dying from this virus. We need to care for those at greatest risk first which is aligned with the CDC recommendations.

I appreciate being able to provide input here, but would suggest that input from our seniors will be limited based on the fact that most do not have access to computers to provide this input. Very concerned that the input you receive will be someone biased.

Questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Carol Poulakos

From: [Marcia Schmidt](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid vaccine subcommittee for phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 7:14:35 PM

You should include age 65 and older as well as grocery workers to this phase. We need to vaccinate more elderly as they are more vulnerable so shouldn't wait. Grocery workers are more essential than many others because they are feeding everyone.

Respectfully,
Marcia Schmidt
Wittenberg, WI

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Bernie and Marcia Schmidt](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid vaccine subcommittee for phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 7:09:44 PM

This phase should include 65 and older because we need to get the most vulnerable covered first.

We also need to include grocery workers in this phase as they are more essential than most workers.

Respectfully,
Bernard Schmidt
Wittenberg, WI

Sent from my iPhone

From: [david dorsey](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: 1B vaccination groups,
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 6:58:52 PM

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I believe the next group to get the covid-19 vaccine should be the seniors over the age of 75 years as that is the next most vulnerable group . Criminals should not be vaccinated before veterans and teachers who refuse to teach in person should be moved to a later stage behind those who fearlessly teach in person. Thank you David Dorsey , Madison WI

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [gmknull](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: suggestions for 1b
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 6:49:08 PM

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

Take prisoners out, put in grocery store workers and 65 and up.
Why is it taking so long to decide in 1b. I am 69 with diabetes, COPD, heart problems . I
WILL REMEMBER THIS AT ELECTION TIME
Thank you
Gerald Krull

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From: [Olson, Lisa A - DHS](#)
To: [JChildress@foley.com](#); [alewandowski@rwhc.com](#); [DHS SDMAC](#); [AZITA HAMEDANI](#)
Subject: RE: Vaccine prioritization request
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 5:55:16 PM

Thanks, Jason. We've received and will consider the comments.

From: JChildress@foley.com <JChildress@foley.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 11:55 AM
To: alewandowski@rwhc.com; Olson, Lisa A - DHS <lisaa.olson@dhs.wisconsin.gov>; DHS SDMAC <DHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov>; AZITA HAMEDANI <agh@medicine.wisc.edu>
Subject: Vaccine prioritization request

I'm so sorry to bug you all as I know how incredibly busy you are. But client Sub Zero asked me to pass along the enclosed letter highlighting that they are workforce has been identified in federal guidelines as being a vaccine priority and asking that you consider them as you work on phase 1C.

In addition to the applicability of the federal guidelines, they specifically wanted to point out that:

- 1) They are working closely with their union and have an on-site medical clinic and believe they could get deep and quick penetration within their workforce once vaccine is available.
- 2) They have freezers capable of the temperatures needed to store vaccines, and once their workforce is vaccinated are happy to lend those out to other areas of need.

Thanks for your consideration.

Jason Childress
608-217-6109

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From: [elaine_reichardt](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1b
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 5:17:02 PM

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I suggest two groups for consideration in phase 1b. Salon workers are exposed to many people and need to work. They rarely have health insurance and can spread disease unknowingly. They work for small businesses or are self employed. Please consider this group for phase 1b. The second group is teachers and people who work in schools. They are exposed to youth that are likely to be asymptomatic and are not tested. They are at high risk and are critical to reopening our communities.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: [Lin and Harry Grieshaber](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Essential Workers
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 5:00:19 PM

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The CDC recommends Grocery/Food workers to be vaccinated. How on earth are mink farmers considered essential? The only answer possible: some big money lobbyist doesn't care! Nor do the people in charge!! NO one needs minks! As for prisoners, they made poor choices landing in prison. The prison staff need Covid vaccinations, plus people outside of prison need the Covid vaccine more! How about making good solid decisions instead of pandering to special interest groups contributing money to certain pockets. Grocery/food people need to be included in the 1b group. Thank you.

sincerely, Linda S Grieshaber, Retired RN, MSE-PC, Retired Licensed Professional Counselor

From: [Patricia Oblatz](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID-19 VACCINE DISTRIBUTION FOR INCARCERATED PEOPLE & STAFF
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 4:04:29 PM

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Dear Ms. McCamy:

One hopes you all are aware that prisoners are American citizens and most have committed non-violent crimes. No doubt you also know that prison staff bring in and take home COVID-19 and spread this dread plague in their homes and towns. Thus you MUST conclude that prisoners and prison staff ABSOLUTELY MUST GET THE COVID-19 vaccine! They are no less important than anyone else.

Do the SMART thing! Vaccinate prisoners and staff.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patricia Oblatz
Artist, Activist, Author, Editor
www.OilsByOblatz.com
<http://www.MilwaukeeRenaissance.com/PeaceOfMind/>

Conserative politicians opposed at their inception Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid, unemployment compensation, the right to form labor unions, government guaranteed student loans, child labor laws, the minimum wage, workplace safety regulations, guaranteed bank and savings deposits, oversight to insure the purity of our food and drugs, the environmental protection movement, the Equal Rights Amendment, and civil rights legislation....AND voter suppression and vote cancellation.

*Indeed, conservatives have opposed virtually every policy that might narrow the gap between rich and poor, particularly taxation of the wealthy.” **Professor of Christian Ethics, Obery Hendricks***

From: hdorrer@tds.net
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 2:42:15 PM

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For the 1B step of Covid 19 guidelines I want to urge you to include the prison population. They are the most defenseless victims of this virus. I am 86 and really hoping for my turn of the vaccine soon, but would gladly give up my front seat!.

Thank you for your attention

Hildegard Dorrer



From: [Vicki Berenson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 12:56:19 PM

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I strongly support including incarcerated individuals in phase 1B.

Not only are these people at high risk of exposure due to congregate living, so are the prison staff who come in contact with them regularly and are at risk of transmitting the COVID virus to incarcerated individuals, or contracting it from them and then exposing their families and adding to the community spread.

From: [Dean Grossmann](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 11:18:49 AM

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I have already sent one letter, but as I have a few additional comments, wanted to send one more.

As you can tell in my first note, I believe the micro segmentation plan you are proposing will NOT improve the speed of vaccinations and our utilization rate. I just read an article by Andy Dunn and others from Business Insider. I STRONGLY encourage you to read it. The US has one of the lowest vaccination rates in the world, and WI is in the lower half of all States.

Their point... "In order to fix the US vaccinations campaign, the priority tier system needs to go, some experts say". I could not agree more! The US rate is 12% that of Israel's. Which means WI is worse.

"A massive vaccination campaign won't work with our current fussy and intricate criteria for who gets a shot and when." Dr Peter Hotez, a molecular virologist at Baylor College of Medicine.

Please, please, please read this article. Your plan is only going to make things worse. No matter what you do a large part of the population will not be happy. Now is NOT the time to be politically correct. It is a time to get the utilization rate up to 60%...something you can control. Draw 3-4 lines through the States population based on age (a significant risk factor) and KEEP THINGS SIMPLE.

Your goal is to use the vaccine to save lives. No life can be saved if the vaccine is sitting on a shelf. The simpler you make the plan, the more likely the utilization rate can get to 60%. A 50% rate assures you will have a 2nd shot for everyone. I would bet as we go forward the amount of vaccines we get will increase and you will have enough to give everyone their 2nd shot if you can hit the 60% mark.

With your current proposal, you are doubling down on a failed strategy. Think about it...what is the definition of insanity...doing the same thing and expecting different results. If you think the people of WI are satisfied with the current state you are out of touch with the people. I would hope the you are not satisfied either

Strive for simplicity...make it as simple as possible.

Dean Grossmann

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [Brian Vetter](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: 1B testing group
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 10:54:55 AM
Importance: High

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To whom it may concern,

I noticed congregated settings to be included (NOT COLLEGE). Please allow the ONSITE staff on these congregated settings (Especially COLLEGE) to be included for all congregated settings as my staff has been serving on the frontlines since day one supplying foodservices, custodial services, security, and much more critical services that are put in harm ways and especially in college where there is even a higher increase of contamination as 20-year old's have the highest rates of positivity. Many of my staff suffer from increased risks and need to maintain employment to keep themselves afloat and operations afloat.

PLEASE add these grouping if they were not going to be added to the 1B group after the EMS/officers/firefighters.

They are just going to be coming back to school again and having staff vaccinated will save lives immediately.

Thanks for your time.

All the best,

Brian Vetter


From: rkrueger49@wi.rr.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: "rkrueger49@wi.rr.com"
Subject: vaccine subcommittee phase 1b
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 10:53:54 AM

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I would like to recommend seniors 70 years of age and older be in the phase 1b group.

From: [Carolyn Schneider](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Distribution
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 10:51:43 AM

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The Vaccine in 1B should definitely be for ages 70 and up in the beginning of 1B because 80% of the deaths are in that age group. I think your recommendations are in good order.

Carolyn Schneider

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Roxanne Murray](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: public comment vaccine priority
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 10:48:58 AM

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Hello-

My first comment is that the state governmental micro-management of the Covid-19 vaccine roll out is doomed to a slow response and most probably will be an epic failure. I support this premise based on the fact that the state had months to define the vaccine plan and still does not have it nailed down. I know everyone was waiting on CDC guidance (which is pretty much a moving target) but you know common sense also works in these cases. Most of the time common sense works better. Additionally, relying on state guidance that usually becomes extremely detailed/complex and hard to adhere to leads to bureaucratic decisions or non-decisions on when and who should get vaccinated. This methodology will only lead to a much longer roll out of vaccine distribution than is necessary.

We need to get the vaccine in as many arms as we can and as quickly as we can. Yes, there should be some generally applied logic to it but getting down into the weeds with granularity to define who falls in a certain set of demographics is not helpful to a efficient and timely process. It really is not rocket science.

I would recommend the following:

1. Eliminate the state control of vaccine distribution as soon as possible. (when the supply becomes plentiful)
2. Get as many people vaccinated as soon as possible w/o micro-management of the demographics.
3. Set up mass vaccine sites in various parts of the state.
4. Goup 1B. should include those 65 and older and those that have underlying health conditions you cited in your report.
5. Let private vaccinators that know how to administer vaccine quickly and efficiently like Wagreens & CVS do the job as soon as possible.
6. Look at other states and draw on what seems to be working in their vaccine distribution.

Thank you for the opportunity for public comment.

Kindest Regards,
Roxanne and Ted
Roxanne's Runway, LLC
920-336-0200

Please visit our website www.roxannesrunway.net
'Like' us on Facebook



From: [Dave Beebe](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Angie Purvis](#); [Brianna Mullins](#); [Bryan Windhorst](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 10:39:29 AM
Attachments: PastedGraphic-2.png

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To whom it may concern,

Madison-based Flambeau Diagnostics (FDx) has been contracted through the U.S. Federal Government (NIH-RADx program, see [here](#)) specifically for the development and implementation of a rapid SARS-CoV-2 test to overcome the current unmet testing needs within the U.S. Through R&D assay development and clinical patient sample collection/testing both FDx's, and it's mother company Salus Discovery's, <20 total employees are in regular contact with biohazardous samples collected from patients presumed to be COVID-19 positive.

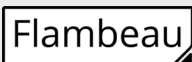
Should any or all of our employees contract COVID-19, it could be devastating to our efforts and would significantly delay implementation of our COVID testing platform within the community, in turn further burdening an already very fragile testing system.

Thus we ask you consider our biohealth workforce in Phase 1B of vaccine distribution. To receive the vaccine will ensure our health, enabling us to continue to serve Wisconsinites in the much needed effort to expand the capacity of testing for SARS-CoV-2.

Regards,

Dave Beebe
608-213-1432

Dave Beebe, CSO
Flambeau Diagnostics LLC



This communication and attached files may contain information that is considered to be confidential, privileged and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. This message is intended for Flambeau Diagnostics-affiliated use and intended recipient only.

From: [Susan O'Leary](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public comment on recommendations for Vaccine Priority Group 1b
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 10:35:38 AM

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To Whom It May Concern:

The State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee Recommendations for the Wisconsin Department of Health Services for COVID-19 Vaccine Priority Group 1b are particularly well thought out and substantiated. Thank you.

I am writing to say that I support the inclusion of all those 70 and over in Group 1b.

Thank you,
Susan O'Leary

From: [Frank Bontempo](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine sub committee phase 1b
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 8:55:02 AM

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I highly recommend that the top of the list for phase 1b should be people 70+ years of age. This age group is extremely vulnerable to the COVID 19 virus. They should be high priority on everyone's list. Thank you for your time.

Sent from my iPhone

From: judyjenkins@wi.rr.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: VACCINE SUBCOMMITTEE - PHASE 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 8:30:34 AM

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To whom it may concern:

After reading your document on recommendations for vaccinating an expanded Phase 1B group, I wanted to voice my approval of your proposed plan.

All groups mentioned would seem to be the most vulnerable, after the vaccination of Group 1A, and therefore would benefit from vaccination to lessen the risk of complications and/or death.

Thank you for including these groups in your proposal.

Judy Jenkins
Mequon, WI
Age 74

From: [Cheryl Zwaga](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID-19 Vaccines
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 8:16:39 AM

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Dear sirs:

In my opinion, the vaccines should be administered to:

- 1) the elderly in nursing homes and other persons with physical and mental disabilities out in the community regardless of their age,
- 2) health care workers,
- 3) persons over the age of 70 years.

Cordially,
Cheryl Zwaga



Sent from my iPhone

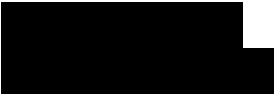
From: [David Caulkins](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Recommendations for people 70 years and above for 1b phase of Covid vaccinations
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 10:04:55 PM

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You have requested suggestions of interest in the various levels of vaccinations based upon age. I am 86 and request being in the 1b phase of vaccinations as soon as possible.

Thank you.

David R. Caulkins



--

Growing old is mandatory, growing up is optional.

From: barbaramwfb@gmail.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 10:03:58 PM

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Dear Vaccine Subcommittee,

I am writing to encourage you to approve the inclusion of groups of persons you have outlined in current your proposal for a group 1b COVID-19 vaccination plan.

I have reviewed the 17 page pdf including proposed groups and rationale, and find the logic to be sound.

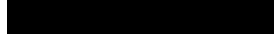
I especially am in favor of inclusion of IRIS and Family Care recipients due to the high mortality from COVID-19 in WI in these groups of persons.

Groups of persons in tight living conditions, eg mental institutions and prisons, are also particularly vulnerable to contagion, particularly as the new highly contagious strain of COVID-19 takes hold, as predicted by March.

In addition, it makes good sense for healthcare infrastructure to run smoothly with staff on the job, likewise police.

Thank you for your dedication to this difficult task.

Sincerely,
Barbara Moser,MD



Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Barb Singer Dawson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Please help
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 9:17:27 PM

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To: Members of the Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee

This message is to express support for prioritizing disabled individuals and their caregivers in the distribution of SARS-COV-2 vaccines in Wisconsin.

First, please explicitly 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.

Second, please explicitly include all participants in the IRIS, Family Care, CLTS, and Katie Beckett programs, along with yet-unvaccinated caregivers, in Phase 1B.

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

Your careful consideration of this request is appreciated.

Thank you
Barb Dawson

From: [Amy Friesner](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee" and "Phase 1B"
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 8:43:01 PM

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Hello,

Please follow the guidance and start **vaccinating people 65 and older and younger people with documented medical conditions.**

Thank you
Amy

From: [D.Mesoloras](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 8:18:18 PM

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Anyone 65 or older or who is disabled, receiving chemotherapy , has a long standing medical condition or is immunocompromised should be next to get covid vaccine. Let's get this show on the road and not wait for more mutations of this virus that may render the present vaccine useless.

From: [Robert Dalsbo](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Rep.Kurtz - LEGIS](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 7:00:44 PM

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I am writing to you at the urging of Representative Tony Kurtz.

I disagree with the stance the Representative has taken.

It is my belief that prisoners *should* be vaccinated against COVID-19. The reason being: The Constitution requires that prisoners be given medical care. They should be vaccinated, just like other preventative measures would be taken to protect the health of inmates and prison staff, such as delousing.

The representative is crazy to believe otherwise.

From: [Theresa Kivi](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Priority 1B
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 6:44:25 PM

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I Agree with the proposed 1b participants to receive the next round of vaccines.
Theresa Kivi

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [James Caulkins](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Recommendation for 1 B phase
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 6:30:25 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 am supportive and recommending 1 B phase - For people 70 years and older.

Thank you.

James Caulkins

From: [Amy Pearson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Recommendations for phase 1b
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 6:30:14 PM

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Hello,

I am writing to provide feedback on who I'd love to see included in phase 1b of COVID-19 vaccinations:

Adults 65+
Teachers
Day-care providers
Non-clinical healthcare workers
Grocery store workers

Thank you for considering,

Amy Pearson-Jensen

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Carolyn Glenz](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Recommendations for vaccine
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 6:05:41 PM

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I agree with recommendations for vaccine group 1B as written.

Martin Glenz



From: [Corky](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine recommendations
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 6:01:19 PM

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I agree with recommendations for Group 1B as written.

Carolyn Glenz



Sent from my iPhone

From: [Maureen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccines
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 4:58:10 PM

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Think that dropping the age for the vaccine to 65 is too low. People 75 and older NEED to be able to get it first. These people may have a MUCH more difficult time going on line or texting in order to make appointments. Plus SO MANY hospitalizations and deaths are in that age group. My husband is 78 and I am 72. I would love the vaccines to be for 70 and up, but will be willing to wait to make sure that the "Truly Elderly" get theirs ASAP. I also agree with the rest of the 1B group. But please don't let the Seniors be pushed aside JUST BECAUSE they are not TECH SAVVY!! Thank You,
Maureen Genett

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Gretchen Schuldt](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: WJI comments on vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B recommendations
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 4:49:07 PM
Attachments: 1B Letter.pdf

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Thank you for considering the attached comments.

And just an FYI – I was able to grab the comment instructions and email address earlier this week from DOA's public meetings website, but the meeting and that document are gone now – at least I can't find them. I really had to hunt to find the document on the Channel 8000 website.

Thought you would want to know.

Stay safe and sane in these crazy times.

Gretchen Schuldt

Gretchen Schuldt
Executive Director
Wisconsin Justice Initiative Inc.
P.O. Box 100705
Milwaukee, WI 53210

Phone: 414-331-0724
Email: gretchen@wjiinc.org

Support justice reform – [donate](#) to WJI!

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Wisconsin Justice Initiative



January 15, 2021

The Wisconsin Justice Initiative strongly supports the proposed 1B COVID-19 vaccine distribution designation for Wisconsin prison staff and incarcerated population.

Providing the vaccine to people held in settings conducive to the spread of illness is the ethical thing to do. Prison staff – the men and women responsible for maintaining the safety and security of those incarcerated and the institutions themselves – should also clearly be at the top of the list for vaccinations.

To ignore one or both of those populations, or to put them lower on the priority list, would do a disservice to them and the communities they serve. Prisons are not equipped to handle outbreaks, though they have been called upon to do just that. It is my understanding that exposed or sick incarcerated people have, in some instances, been quarantined or isolated in solitary confinement. This seems extremely cruel, even if prison administrators were left with little choice. The vaccine now provides a *good* choice – vaccinate inmates so there is no need to treat them so harshly for non-disciplinary reasons.

Incarcerated people are 5.5 times more likely to get COVID and three times more likely to die from it than the general population, according to a UCLA / Johns Hopkins study reported in [Forbes](#). That should be reason enough to vaccinate both inmates and staff as quickly as possible.

COVID thrives in prison, but it does not stay there. It travels with staff, suppliers, and contractors into neighboring communities. It rides in trucks and cars out of prisons and into towns and cities. The state has an obligation to reduce the disease to the extent possible in prisons to protect prison staff, inmates, and nearby populations.

On a very practical level, allowing COVID to rampage unchecked through correctional facilities will only worsen staff shortages, greatly harm recruitment efforts, and increase related security risks. Few people will vie to work at not-great-paying, difficult-by-nature jobs for an organization that is willing to regularly expose them to a potentially fatal disease, but that is unwilling to take available, affordable steps to protect them from that disease.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,



Gretchen Schuldt,
Executive Director
Wisconsin Justice Initiative
gretchen@wjiinc.org
(414)-331-0724

From: [Troy Norman](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public Comment
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 4:42:33 PM
Attachments: Public Comment - WI State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee 2021.pdf

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

Good Afternoon –

I am submitting the attached public comments for your consideration.

Thank you,

Troy Norman

TROY NORMAN | Workforce Development Strategist



Opportunities Inc.
Heart for PEOPLE | Mind for BUSINESS
1745 Executive Drive
Oconomowoc, WI 53066
P 1.262.569.8888 ext. 4044
E tnorman@oppinc.com

Hello members of the WI State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee,

Thank you so much for your work on ensuring the vaccine rollout is efficient and equitable. It is incredibly important and necessary that the Phase 1B recommendation for the COVID-19 vaccine include congregate living facilities for both staff and residents.

Prioritization for this critical population is imperative for the following reasons:

- People experiencing homelessness have a disproportionately high rate of chronic health conditions that put people at higher risk of severe COVID disease. This population frequently has little access to consistent quality health care which may result in being excluded unless specifically prioritized.
- People who have exhausted all other resources and are staying in a shelter do not have a way to mitigate their COVID risk. They cannot avoid the interaction with other people and reliance on the organization to help meet basic needs and provide a safe place to be. Emergency shelters, including domestic violence shelters, use shared living spaces and have limited opportunities to meet the social distancing requirements.
- The homeless population is disproportionately people of color, who we know are also at greater risk of severe COVID disease. In Wisconsin, it was estimated that 6.7% of Wisconsin's population was Black in 2009. In November 2020, 43% of the population experiencing homelessness was Black.
- Currently in the homeless service system, an enormous amount of funding, time, and resources have been focused directly on COVID-19 prevention, screening, education, and mitigating the spread of the disease. Once the shelter system and residents have access to the vaccine, staff time and resources can be redirected to obtaining and securing permanent housing.
- We are seeing and will continue to see an increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness in our State. Evictions and people no longer able to stay with friends and family, the increasing economic burden of the pandemic and the limited funding and availability for motel voucher alternatives, there has been a statewide increase in people experiencing unsheltered homelessness - sleeping outside and in other places not meant for human habitation (e.g. caves, abandoned buildings, storage units, vehicles, fishing shacks). With an increased need, the risk of COVID in congregate settings, capacity reduction because of social distancing guidelines, shelters are struggling to meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness. As a result, the unsheltered population continues to be at risk for COVID and should be included in our prioritization for the vaccine.

The current recommendations for DHS regarding COVID-19 Vaccine Priority Group 1b includes some concerns about feasibility in Appendix C. While feasibility is one domain of consideration, equity and justice should be additional considerations when working to ensure this vulnerable and at risk population is prioritized. Due to the reasons above, it is imperative that people accessing shelters are prioritized for the vaccine. Collaboration between public health, those administering the vaccine, shelter and outreach staff will be essential to address the rollout concerns, distribution, education, and adherence to appropriate protocols. There will be a need for guidance on timelines, the second vaccine, and accurate education to address myths and misunderstandings. Across Wisconsin, homeless services

providers have access to a shared database that can help us see what services people are accessing and possibly use to document vaccines. There are many options available to ensure success. Allowing unsheltered people experiencing homelessness to access the vaccine through the emergency shelter system should be encouraged and supported. While challenging, open communication and creative solutions will overcome those potential feasibility issues and enhance trust between the homeless population, staff, and public health. We cannot wait for a single dose vaccine to ensure that this vulnerable population and the staff that are working so hard to keep them safe are vaccinated.

Transitional housing settings often have shared living spaces as well. It is important that residents and staff of these facilities are considered in Phase 1B rollout. Again, this could be a challenging population to reach, but with clear communication and creative strategies, this can be successful. The efficacy of only prioritizing staff for the vaccine and not including the residents is a missing opportunity to develop partnership, trust, and demonstrate what we know to be true - COVID does not discriminate. Residents and staff are equally at risk.

The COVID-19 vaccine is a critical step toward ensuring the safety and the health of this vulnerable population and will provide much needed support to those facilities and staff struggling to provide these important services.

Thank you for your work in rolling out the vaccine and advocating for all Wisconsinites.

Sincerely,



Troy C. Norman
Workforce Development Strategist
Opportunities, Inc.
Heart for PEOPLE | Mind for BUSINESS
1745 Executive Drive
Oconomowoc, WI 53066
P 1.262.569.8888 ext. 4044
E tnorman@oppinc.com

From: [Sarah Graff](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Pharmacist requesting less bureaucracy
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 4:33:35 PM

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

Hello,

Wisconsin is behind other states in offering the vaccine to residents >65 years old. The Wisconsin Pharmacy Association has called on the Department of Health to move to offering the vaccine to more individuals. Please allow the distribution and timely administration of the vaccines to more of our vulnerable citizens. If you roll things out in a piecemeal fashion it becomes too cumbersome and vaccine doses will go to waste. Please don't waste time in meetings splicing and dicing the population into phases. Hospitals and clinicians know how to administer the vaccine in an equitable manner. Please get the vaccine to the pharmacies, clinics & hospitals immediately and worry less about the bureaucracy of distinct phases. Even a fair number of healthcare workers have vaccine hesitancy, so please don't wait too long to move to the next phase and don't make the phases too narrow as to handicap the front line workers to get the vaccine in arms and have zero wastage. Finally, the drug companies are ramping up to meet the demand. There's no need to delay.

Thank you,
Sarah Graff, PharmD

From: [Bruemmer, Heather - BOALTC](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 4:22:01 PM
Attachments: Vaccine Request Ombudsman Program Jan 2021 (002).pdf

To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you for allowing us to provide public comment.

Respectfully,
Heather

Heather A. Bruemmer, Executive Director/State Ombudsman
Board on Aging and Long Term Care
1402 Pankratz Street, Suite 111
Madison, Wisconsin 53704
Phone: 608-246-7014 (Direct)
1-800-815-0015
Website: longtermcare.wi.gov

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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BOARD ON AGING AND LONG TERM CARE

OFFICE OF THE
STATE LONG TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN

1402 Pankratz Street, Suite 111
Madison, WI 53704-4001
Ombudsman Program (800) 815-0015 [State-wide : Toll Free]
Fax (608) 246-7001
<http://longtermcare.wi.gov>

MEMBERS of the BOARD
Barbara M. Bechtel
Michael Brooks
Tanya L. Meyer
Dr. Valerie A. Palarski
James Surprise
Dr. Dale B. Taylor

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
And
STATE LONG TERM
CARE OMBUDSMAN
Heather A. Bruemmer

Request for Consideration of Inclusion in Vaccine Priority Group 1b

What is the Long Term Care Ombudsman Program?

Federal law¹ requires each state to establish a Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program headed by a State Long-Term Care Ombudsman. The State of Wisconsin Board on Aging and Long Term Care Ombudsman Program provides trained professional advocates to represent the interests of and advocate for residents of long-term care facilities and consumers of long-term care services.

Duties and services under federal law include:

- Seeking resolution of problems and advocating for the rights of clients with the goal of enhancing quality of life and quality of care.
- Providing services to protect the health, safety, welfare and rights of long-term care residents.
- Investigating complaints that relate to actions or inactions that may adversely affect the health, safety, welfare or rights of long-term care residents.
- Representing interests before government agencies and assure that residents have access to pursue administrative, legal or other remedies to protect health, safety, welfare and rights.

Who do Ombudsmen serve?

Ombudsmen provide advocacy services on behalf of persons age 60 and older who receive their long-term care services as residents or tenants of a licensed or certified long-term care setting such as a nursing home, community-based residential facility (CBRF), adult family home (AFH), or residential care apartment complex (RCAC) and persons who receive home and community-based services through one of the state's managed long-term care or self-directed supports programs, (Family Care, Family Care Partnership, PACE or IRIS).

What is the rationale for including the Ombudsman Program in Phase 1b?

In Wisconsin, Ombudsmen serve approximately 121,000 consumers of long-term care services, their families and other stakeholders such as facility staff and policymakers. The total number of public-facing ombudsmen is 25 statewide.

An ombudsman may serve as many as 400 long-term care settings, namely nursing homes and assisted living communities. On a typical day pre-pandemic, an ombudsman would visit multiple facilities and numerous residents within each facility. We feel it would be of great benefit to the long-term care consumers of our state that the ombudsman be considered for vaccination to have face to face access to our clients.

Thank you for your consideration of our important work with our consumers in the State of Wisconsin.

¹ 42 USC § 3058g, 45 CFR 1324

From: pfluthpastor@trivest.net
To: DHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov
Subject: Phase 1B COVID Vaccine
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 4:20:58 PM

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To whom it may concern:

Please add clergy to the next round of COVID-19 vaccines. Thank you so much for all your work in getting out the vaccine as expeditiously as you can. You are all appreciated! --Pastor Mary Ann Bowman

From: [DHS SDMAC](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: FW: Message from Unknown sender (4143577488)
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 4:02:59 PM
Attachments: VoiceMessage.wav
image001.png
image003.png

Rob Gilbert via voice mail

Advocating for pollworkers.

Martha McCamy
Project Manager - Synergy
Project Management Office
Division of Enterprise Services
State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS)
Phone: 608-267-6783
Location B157.04
(e-mail) martha.mccamy@dhs.wisconsin.gov

-
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From: Mumaw, Dawn M - DHS <DawnM.Mumaw@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 15, 2021 11:37 AM
To: DHS SDMAC <DHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Message from Unknown sender (4143577488)

Sharing the attached as feedback from the public on vaccine priority groups

Dawn M. Mumaw LCSW, SAC
Wisconsin Department of Health Services
Community Testing Strategy & Support Team Liaison
COVID-19 Response Team
Southeastern Regional Director
Division of Public Health / Office of Policy and Practice Alignment
Ph: 414-227-4926 C: 414-522-0241 | DawnM.Mumaw@dhs.wisconsin.gov
Southeastern Regional Office - 819 N 6th St, Room 609A Milwaukee, WI 53203-1604



From: Cisco Unity Connection Messaging System <unityconnection@att-wt-unity-sow-2>

Sent: Friday, January 15, 2021 10:36 AM

To: 4142274926@att-wt-unity-sow-2

Subject: Message from Unknown sender (4143577488)

From: [Erik Martin](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee - phase 1b
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 3:56:27 PM
Importance: High

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

Dear Members of the SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee,

I'm writing today on behalf of Pantheon Industries to ask you to please ensure that all HCBS service providers (staff and participants) are included in Phase 1b for the vaccination distribution process.

Pantheon Industries is a 501©3 nonprofit agency that provides pre-vocational services, long term employment services and community employment services to over 500 individuals with disabilities per year. Most of our funding and clients come through the Family Care, IRIS or DVR channels.

The Pandemic has had a catastrophic impact on our services, and continues to present challenges for staffing levels and employee / client safety. We have seen a nearly 50% reduction in revenue. We have enacted strict protocols for contact tracing and prevention of transmission throughout our programming, but this also results in significant staffing challenges as one potential exposure may require us to quarantine multiple staff. Almost all of our direct care staff have utilized the majority of their FFRCA act leave.

Hundreds of families, clients and businesses rely on the services Pantheon Industries provides. The sooner we can vaccinate a significant portion of our staff and direct service staff, the sooner we can begin to return to sustainable levels of operation.

As a member of DSPN (Disability Service Provider Network), I know almost all of our member agencies are facing similar challenges. Overall, there are thousands of clients and families who rely on the infrastructure and support we provide. Please help ensure this structure remains in place for the entire spectrum of clients and staff in the HCBS service provider category by including them in the vaccination program.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Sincerely,

Erik Martin

Erik Martin

Executive Director | Pantheon Industries

W332 N6786 Cty Rd C | Nashotah | WI | 53058

P: (262) 567-2133 | Ext. 2404 | F: (262) 569-3173

emartin@pantheonindustries.org

www.pantheonindustries.org



"CREATING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES SINCE 1988"

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From: [Keith Hurlbert](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Request for change to 1b
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 3:56:02 PM

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Good Afternoon,

I am advocating on behalf of the members of the Wisconsin Emergency Management Association. We ask that Emergency Managers be included in the Phase 1b of the State vaccination plan. I want to point out that many County, Tribal and Municipal EMs are not just planning the test site and vaccination site logistics, but they are also working the logistics of those sites. Please consider making this change to the Phase 1b list of eligible recipients.

Keith Hurlbert,
Director, Iowa County Emergency Management
President, Wisconsin Emergency Management Association
President, Iowa County Emergency Services Association
Office: 608.935.0329
Mobile: 608.553.1481
Fax: 608.935.0321

From: [Allison Sorg](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 3:47:25 PM

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


Hello,

Thank you for prioritizing our educators and school staff to receive this vaccine in the next phase of tier 1. The availability of a vaccine is paramount to getting our kids back to school safely. Combined with social distancing, cleaning, wearing masks, staying home while sick, and cleaning hands, offering this vaccine to school and daycare staff will reduce the number of infections and deaths in our state and surrounding area.

It is important for the committee to note that since this is not FDA approved, but instead, under an EUA, we cannot require staff to receive the vaccine. We can certainly encourage them to do so. Additionally, it is imperative that we allow staff a sick day without penalty after receiving the two doses. Most of us who have received both doses had symptoms of illness the day after the second dose and some after the first dose.

Thank you for ensuring our students, staff, and communities can stay safe while we try to reopen our schools and come back to some kind of a normal life. Prioritizing our educators is an important step to ensure this can happen.

Sincerely,

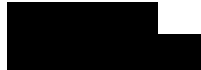
Allison Sorg


From: [Joseph Nicks](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine guidelines
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 3:37:16 PM

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I have reviewed the latest COVID vaccine recommendations and agree with them, especially placing people 70 and over in group 1b. I also strongly recommend that you authorize vaccines for group 1b as soon as possible - within a few days if possible.

Joe Nicks



Sent from my iPhone

From: [burtch99](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: John Cooley-request
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 3:33:43 PM

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Please allow 70 year olds to receive the vaccine and provide enough vaccine and vendors to administer.

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

From: [Beth Zopfi-Selig](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Prioritize individuals in LTC programs
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 3:28:55 PM

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

It's important to prioritize vaccine's for folks in LTC programs whether in care facilities or living in the community. I am the parent of an adult receiving LTC services as well as an employee of a LTC program. Many of the services that these folks receive are from outside of their homes which leaves them vulnerable. My adult child as well as people that I serve with developmental disabilities lack the skills and awareness that keep them safe without constant oversight. The thing that keeps me up at night though is a fear that my kind, loving vulnerable child will need to be hospitalized for COVID or something else and in the state of Wisconsin they will not be allowed to have a supporter with them. Please include people receiving LTC services in the 1B status. Also, please allow people with developmental disabilities supporters if they are hospitalized like other states do.

Thank you for your time,
Beth Zopfi-Selig


From: [Welter](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee: Public commentary on Phase 1B
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 3:21:03 PM

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I realize that no vaccination plan will be perfect or agreeable to all. However, there are two items that concern me.

Change in Federal Recommendations

I don't see any acknowledgement of the change in Federal recommendations that I believe include the immediate vaccination of anyone over 65 and those with specific medical conditions. When we consider what is currently happening in LA, we need to target those groups that are likely to need the most medical intervention first. With the new variant being so transmissible protecting our healthcare workers and our hospital census should be one of the highest priorities. While everyone wants our teachers and child-care workers to be protected, they are not necessarily at greater risk of hospitalization or death. I'm not necessarily saying they should be moved down the list – just that we should be sure our prioritization is based on saving lives.

Mink Farms

Priority vaccination for mink workers (putting them ahead of people who have essential jobs or have pre-existing conditions) is the wrong way to go. The vaccine is not 100% effective and you won't be requiring every employee to get the vaccine so the risk these farms pose will not go away. Instead we need to be done with mink farming in this state. We have already had outbreaks on these farms in Wisconsin – outbreaks that come with the risk of new variants of COVID that the vaccine may not even protect us from. As distasteful as it is, the animals should be culled and the farms closed. Wisconsin can provide economic support to these farms as they have done for other industries affected by COVID. This is just another disaster waiting to happen. If you aren't aware of the dangers being posed by these farms, a quick google search will convince you. Denmark has already culled 17 million animals.

Sincerely,

Pam Welter

Lake Delton/Wisconsin Dells

From: [Janet Caulkins](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Janet Caulkins](#); [David Caulkins](#); [Dia Caulkins](#)
Subject: Recommendations for people 70 years and above for 1 B phase of Covid vaccinations
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 3:18:59 PM

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

Recommendation for 1 B phase

For people 70 years and older

Thank you.

Janet Caulkins


The Mobile Vaccination Program will send out nine teams to help scale up vaccinations of people in Phase 1A, Phase 1B and beyond. The state has not yet decided on who will be vaccinated in the 1B phase. They're currently taking public comments on their [recommendations](#). Public comments need to be emailed to DHSSDMAC@dhs.wisconsin.gov by 4 p.m. Monday, January 18.

From: [Steve Brooks](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 3:11:55 PM

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

Members of the SDMAC Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee:

We urgently request that the essential workers of Wisconsin's drinking water industry be re-prioritized from Phase 1C to 1B for vaccine distribution. We recognize the incredible task you have had to take on in deciding which industries are most in need of the vaccine; however, we believe the critical work of the water industry has been overlooked amid this pandemic. It would be nothing short of disastrous to risk the health of people who supply such a fundamental necessity.

The workers of Waupun Utilities never stopped working, despite the pandemic. The water industry requires professionals to be experts in their own systems, due to the many variables that make up a water system, and are therefore highly specialized and impossible to replace without substantial notice. Metering experts specific to each municipal water system have to go into homes and businesses every time water is turned on or off so that we can flush their system and ensure the water is going to be safe. This frequent contact with the public is dangerous, but impossible to avoid. Additionally, despite efforts to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 among our workers, the nature of our work requires our workers to be in close proximity to each other. The water supplied by water utilities is vital to public health for virtually everyone: hospital workers, police officers and especially the firefighters, who have no means of fighting a fire if the water has been shut off.

The foundation of public health is clean water. All living things depend on it to survive and no one can wash their hands without it. The Department of Homeland Security has specifically recognized water workers as essential critical infrastructure workers, and EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler specifically included water workers as essential in writing to the Nation's Governors about the spread of the COVID-19. Recently, the CDC published a recommendation to vaccinate based on three criteria, the second of which is to "preserve the functioning of society." It is hard to imagine anything more important to a functioning society than clean water. It is a testament to our workers and industry that people rarely think about what it takes to deliver water to their homes—until the water is disrupted. However, we respectfully request that you consider our workers today.

Waupun Utilities and all of Wisconsin's municipal water utilities are committed to serving our communities. Please consider immediately including the frontline workers of water utilities in Phase 1B in order for them to continue delivering the critical services our customers and society rely on. Thank you for considering our input.

Sincerely,

Steve Brooks

General Manager



From: [Steve Brooks](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 3:10:51 PM

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

Members of the SDMAC Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee:

We urgently request that the essential workers of Wisconsin’s drinking water industry be re-prioritized from Phase 1C to 1B for vaccine distribution. We recognize the incredible task you have had to take on in deciding which industries are most in need of the vaccine; however, we believe the critical work of the water industry has been overlooked amid this pandemic. It would be nothing short of disastrous to risk the health of people who supply such a fundamental necessity.

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Waupun Utilities and all of Wisconsin’s municipal water utilities are committed to serving our communities. Please consider immediately including the frontline workers of water utilities in Phase 1B in order for them to continue delivering the critical services our customers and society rely on. Thank you for considering our input.

Sincerely,

Steve Brooks
General Manager



From: [John](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee. phase 1b
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 3:09:17 PM

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

I support giving the COVID vaccine to people in Family Care and IRIS. My son is power wheelchair dependent, heart and lung compromised, and lives in a college dormitory with significant covid exposure. He qualifies for nursing home care but chose Iris to live independently with lower costs to the state. He is in poorer health than many over the age of 75.

John Gorton

From: [Carol Ulrich](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b plan approval comment
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 2:56:44 PM

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

Please approve the Phase 1b plan to start covid vaccinations for the following starting next week. I am in the group 70 and strongly request your approval this plan. Thank you, Carol Ulrich, Pittsville, Wisconsin

The first part of phase 1b — first responders, or police officers and non-paramedic firefighters (medics are in 1a) — starts on Jan.

18. Local health departments, such as **Public Health Madison and Dane County**, are expected to provide most of these injections.

Other groups in phase 1b are people 70 and older, teachers, child care workers, prisoners and others who live in congregate settings such as group homes and mental health institutes, along with mink farmers, according to a **plan by a state committee released this week for public comment**. The plan is subject to approval by the **State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee**, which advises the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

From: [Allman, Jan](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Skorik, Bethany](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee-Phase 1B Fincantieri Marinette Marine request
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 2:52:41 PM
Attachments: FincantieriMarinetteMarinevaccinesubcomrequest.pdf

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

To SDMAC Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee,

On behalf of Fincantieri Marinette Marine, please see the attached

- 1) Request that FMM be included in Phase 1B for distribution of the Covid-19 vaccine
- 2) Letter from Assistant Secretary of the Navy James Geurts confirming FMM as critical infrastructure

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request, and please do not hesitate to contact me directly for any reason.

Sincerely,
Jan



Jan Allman

Chief Executive Officer

MARINETTE MARINE CORPORATION

1600 Ely Street
Marinette, WI 54143
715-735-8704
715 587-7202 Cell



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January 15, 2021

SUBJECT: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B

Dear SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee,

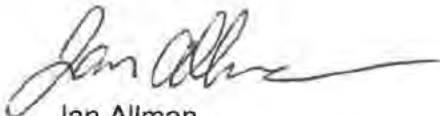
Fincantieri Marinette Marine (FMM) has been officially classified as Critical Infrastructure (please see attached letter from Assistant Secretary of the Navy Geurts) by the U.S. Department of Defense due to our essential role within the Defense Industrial Base as defined by the CDC. This designation came with the responsibility and expectation from the federal government that for national security reasons, FMM should remain open and operational throughout the pandemic in order to maintain the production schedule of the U.S. Navy's mission critical ships being built at our Marinette-based shipyard. FMM is the largest company in the region with over 2500 individuals entering our site daily, including full-time employees and hundreds of suppliers, U.S. Navy personnel, and contractors accessing the shipyard daily. We have taken our responsibility to our workforce, community and U.S. Navy seriously, and have instituted millions of dollars in COVID-19 health precautions to mitigate the spread of the virus to protect our employees. FMM has also donated hand sanitizer, ozone machines, and over 70,000 masks to area hospitals, schools, and first responders to promote community safety.

Due to our official designation as Critical Infrastructure by the U.S. government and our significant impact as the largest employer in the northeast region, **I am requesting that SDMAC recommend that Fincantieri Marinette Marine and its workforce be included in Phase 1B, or subsequently, in the first rollout of Phase 1C for priority distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine.** We feel strongly that vaccinating onsite FMM would effectively and efficiently mitigate the spread of COVID-19 throughout northeast Wisconsin, as well as preserve workforce stability of our nation's defense industrial base.

Additionally, in order to help alleviate some of the burden put on our local hospital systems, FMM would be willing to partner with the state and offer our location as a designated vaccination hub, not only for our workforce, but for additional essential workers throughout the local community. We understand this pandemic presents very extreme challenges to Wisconsin's workforce and health care system and are appreciative of the committee's consideration and expertise in this matter.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions on my cell phone at **715-587-7202** or email **jan.allman@us.fincantieri.com**.

Sincerely,



Jan Allman
Chief Executive Officer



THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
(RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND ACQUISITION)
1000 NAVY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON DC 20350-1000

March 19, 2020

Ms. Jan Allman
CEO
Marinette Marine Corporation
1600 Ely Street
Marinette, WI 54143

Dear Ms. Allman,

During this time of national response to the COVID-19 pandemic, I would like to emphasize the importance of employee health and safety as well reemphasize the importance of the ship construction and repair efforts you and your suppliers perform to the national defense. Delivering or redelivering our ships to the fleet is a national need that is unwavering and crucial to our national security.

Given the mission essential functions you perform, while ensuring the safety and well-being of the workforce, I cannot stress enough the importance of accomplishing this mission, and notifying the Government of any impediments that are considered likely to interfere with timely accomplishment of this mission. This is in accordance with the President's Coronavirus Guidelines and the Presidential Policy Directive/PPD-21 "Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience," which defines critical infrastructure industry to include the Defense Industrial Base.

Secretary Modly, Chief of Naval Operations (CNO), Commandant of the Marine Corps (CMC), and I understand that this national emergency presents a challenge and we are dedicated to working closely with you to ensure the safety of the workforce and the national security mission.

Sincerely,


James F. Geurts

From: [pzoelle](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccines
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 2:51:25 PM

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

Those 75 and over should be receiving the vaccine right now.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [robert.schneider](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: phase 1B thoughts
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 2:36:00 PM

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

i believe based on info that I have seen that the best age based covid VAC should be 70 plus .

From: [Amy Rogge](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Recommendations for who qualifies for the next phase of COVID-19 vaccinations
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 2:35:57 PM

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

Next up for vaccinations in order:
Police, EMT, and all other health care
All education employees including childcare
Corrections Employees

Prisoners and all others Should be put in the end of the list!

Amy

From: cashm613@aol.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 2:27:42 PM

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People 75 and older need to be in the 1B category.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kay Gloudemans](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID vaccine
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 2:21:15 PM

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My Dad is 91. He moved out of his assistant living because he was in quarantine for many months. It was to difficult mentally for my Dad. He now lives in his own apartment. I think he should be next in line. Please make that happen. Thank you.

Kay Gloudemans

Sent from my iPad

From: [John Rademan](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public Comment on Phase 1b Vaccine Rollout
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 2:12:43 PM

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Hello, I have read the proposal for changes to the Phase 1b COVID vaccine rollouts, and agree with it entirely. I think education and childcare are critical to be vaccinated, especially considering that in-person learning is ramping back up. I encourage the Wisconsin DHS to approve these changes as soon as possible.

Thanks!
John Rademan
Sparta, WI

From: [WildRiverSport](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: covid 19 vaccine
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 2:10:12 PM

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Since the elderly are dying from this disease I think they should be the ones getting vaccinated first. Their immune systems are not as good as younger ones. I favor the 75 & older 1st then the 65 and older. That way the system won't be so overwhelmed.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Christine Weseloh](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: opening covid vaccinations to 70+ individuals
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 1:59:25 PM

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Please approve of opening group 1B covid vaccinations to individuals 70+ asap.

Let's get the vaccinations into as many arms as possible per CDC guidelines and also Vice President Pence and President-elect Biden's recommendations.

From: [Tara Treglowne](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Kevin Fech](#); [Joe Arzbecker](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 1:58:43 PM
Attachments: SDMAC_LSS Public Comment.pdf

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Hello,

Please find attached LSS/Connections input as related to public comment for the Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee's (SDMAC) activities on COVID-19 vaccine distribution.

Thank you for allowing an avenue for input and feedback.

Regards,

TARA M. TREGLOWNE
VICE PRESIDENT of CONNECTIONS

Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin & Upper Michigan, Inc.
6737 W Washington Street Suite 2275
West Allis, WI 53214

Toll-free: 844.520.1712 | Direct: 715.456.5675 | Fax: 844.638.7723 | ✉: tara.treglowne@lsswis.org
LSS Mission: Act compassionately. Serve humbly. Lead courageously.

"Connection is the energy that is created between people when they feel seen, heard and valued- when they can give and receive without judgement."



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Date: 1/15/21

Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC)

Public Comment

We applaud the efforts of keeping the high risk population enrolled in IRIS and Family Care programs near the top of the COVID-19 vaccination list. This vulnerable population is often overlooked. The vaccine may help provide many individuals peace of mind while living and participating in their community.

- Specific to Milwaukee County, as a county there is not a public health department that handles the vaccine, those will be distributed by local municipalities. Is information in this regard being clearly provided?

Appendix B

Paid and unpaid workers of IRIS participants technically fall into Phase 1a.

- In working with families, workers have not been notified that they qualify as Phase 1a. This creates a level of risk for participants as well as IRIS Consultants whom have resumed face to face contacts, even with following safety precautions outlined via CDC guidelines.
- What efforts are being made to educate paid and unpaid workers that they qualify for the vaccine as Phase 1a?
- Are public health departments aware of this population of workers that have direct contact with IRIS participants, who are at a higher risk because of age and health conditions?

IRIS participants will fall into Phase 1b and we want to ensure the success of the vaccine.

- What is the monitoring system to ensure IRIS participants come back for the second shot, with clarity around the second shot timeframe? It is our understanding that the Moderna vaccine is 28 – 30 days and Pfizer is 21 days between shots.
- If a participant moves between counties after the first shot, how will the shot schedule be tracked and will the new county have availability to meet the needs?
- Many individuals rely on MTM Transportation for non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT). Is MTM aware of the importance of meeting specific appointment times and do they have the capacity to meet the needs of individuals?

Appendix F

We thank the committee for recognizing the importance of non-frontline health care workers and the important functions they perform in keeping both clients and staff safe. We support their inclusion in the Phase 1b.

From: [Chris Witt](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Committee Phase 1b
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 1:52:50 PM

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To the SDMAC,

I am writing to support including all LTC receipts, in IRIS and Managed Care, in the next 1b round of vaccinations. These individuals are at high risk due to their reliance on others from outside of their homes to care for them and in many cases their shared living homes. Many of these individuals have community jobs that they can't go back to without feeling safer from the vaccination. My agency pre Covid supported 185 individuals in their jobs. Many of them are afraid to return to work and their work is not open yet. But, with the vaccine many employers are looking at when they will open sooner now and many individuals are much more open to returning. Putting them into Tier 1b would help get them back to work sooner.

Many of these individuals have guardians that will need to consent to the vaccine. Forms for this consent would need to be sent to guardians to sign as soon as possible, so they can be sent with their son, daughter, ward when they go to be vaccinated. The sooner this process can start is in everyone's best interest.

Thank you for your efforts.

Christine M.W. Witt
Executive Director
Advanced Employment, Inc
608-833-7170
608-833-7120 FAX

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From: [Alex](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccination Phase 1b Suggestion
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 1:43:09 PM

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Hello,

My suggestion for Phase 1b is IT professionals. IT professionals have been essential workers, having to go into offices and into the public, since the beginning of Covid. This includes constant interaction with others and handling of equipment that requires sanitization. Therefore I believe this profession belongs in this group as IT will always be there to help others, we just need some in return.

Thank you for your time.

Best,
Alex

From: [Phillip Lehl](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID-19 Vaccine Roll Out
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 1:43:00 PM

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My wife and I request that people age 70 and over be included in the Group 1B to be vaccinated. We are not in the best of health and are concerned that we are being pushed aside. Please help.

Phillip and Donna Lehl



From: [Melissa Siems](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee: Phase 1B
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 1:40:04 PM

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I am in full support of Phase 1B including ages 70+.

Given the distribution of population in Wisconsin, the high propensity of 70+ to contract serious cases of COVID, and the reporting of COVID cases in Wisconsin broken down by age-decades, this makes the most sense.

I am also in full support of Phase 1B including teachers and educators.

Schools need to fully reopen for the well being of children and teachers need to be protected. Also in areas where schools are currently in-person, the mental toll on whether or not they will contract COVID for those teachers who are teaching in-person is significant. Let's relieve these front line workers of the mental anxiety.

From: [Virginia Jorstad](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine administration
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 1:39:20 PM

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Hi,

The following is my public comment and suggestion as to individuals who should be included in the 1B phase.

I am suggesting that individuals 65 and older be included in this category.

Rationale:

1). Individuals in this age group are in the top four categories of death from COVID (<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/deaths.htm>).

2). From the June 25, 2020 press release of the US census bureau, "The U.S. Census Bureau today released estimates showing the nation's 65-and-older population has grown rapidly since 2010, driven by the aging of Baby Boomers born between 1946 and 1964. The 65-and-older population grew by over a third (34.2% or 13,787,044) during the past decade, and by 3.2% (1,688,924) from 2018 to 2019. The first Baby Boomers reached 65 years old in 2011," said Dr. Luke Rogers, chief of the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Branch. "Since then, there's been a rapid increase in the size of the 65-and-older population, which grew by over a third since 2010. No other age group saw such a fast increase."

3). Other states are including this age group in the next wave of vaccinations. This creates a similar vaccination schedule across the US.

Sincerely,

Virginia Jorstad

From: [Sandy Hall](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine 1 b prioritys
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 1:23:04 PM

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Hello members of the sub committee; I appreciate all the hard work you are doing in these complicated times. I agree with the groups you have prioritized in 1b—especially since I turn 71 at the end of this month. However did you really need this long of a comment period? I say go for it! Time is of the essence and assuming Wisconsin has vaccine in hand (and it sounds like it is in freezers here in the state) get it out there! And needless to say and hindsight in 20/20 but these decisions could have been sent out last month! Hang in there!

Sandy Hall



From: [Melissa Ludy](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Comment on Vaccine Priority Group 1b - from a public facing Financial Industry Professional
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 1:08:08 PM

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Dear WI State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee -

Thank you for accepting public comments on the priority of group 1b. I am a very public facing employee who works in the financial (investment) industry. I work the front desk, answer phones, greet clients, meet with clients, work with delivery and all arriving maintenance personnel. My position does not allow me to work from home and I have been working at the office every single business day since the pandemic began. I also have a family I wish to protect. It is beyond infuriating to me that as a law abiding, essential worker, I am in line behind incarcerated individuals to obtain the vaccine. It is beyond infuriating to me that I would be in a better position to achieve protection from a vaccine if I break the law and become incarcerated than to continue working in a gainfully employed, professional position.

I beg and implore the committee to consider people in the financial industry as being at least included in the same category, if not above, those individuals who are incarcerated.

I appreciate your consideration of this feedback. Melissa Ludy (age 47, Chippewa Falls, WI)

From: [Sarah Johnson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b recommendation
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 12:53:42 PM

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Good Afternoon,

As the office manager of a Real Estate Agency, I ask that you consider adding Realtors and staff to the list of those eligible for a vaccine as soon as possible. Among other risks, we work face to face with customers and we are in and out of many houses daily.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sarah Johnson

Sarah Johnson
Office Manager
Briggs Realty Group
2522 E. Milwaukee St
Janesville, WI 53545
phone: 608-755-5400
fax: 608-755-5401
Sarah@TheBriggsRealtyGroup.com

From: [Andrew Stephenson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 12:52:01 PM

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Good Morning,

*LZ Management is a full-service Management company that is locally privately owned and operated. LZ Management team consists of 16 employees that specialize in Property Management, Maintenance, Accounting, and Housekeeping. We manage two large campus housing projects located in the Heart of the University of Wisconsin Madison Campus called Grand Central and X01. In total, we have approximately **800 +/- University of Wisconsin Madison residents living in our 2 buildings**. In addition, we manage a market rent apartment facility called The Deco located on Madison's far west side and The Foundry, located in Middleton, WI. Between the Deco and the Foundry we have **approximately 300 +/- residents**.*

LZ Management has been extremely fortunate to be able to safely continue taking care of our residents thru the Covid-19 pandemic. To this day, the potential exposure to the Covid-19 virus for the LZ Management staff is extremely high due to the daily interaction with the residents. The LZ Management team members made a commitment in March 2020 to do everything we can to assist in protecting our residents and our employees from spreading Covid-19 virus and to maintain our facilities to the highest standard. We purchased Electrostatic sanitization equipment, UV / Plasma equipment for HVAC in the buildings, PPE, signage, and implemented enhanced cleaning & sanitation standards. From the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, the entire LZ team was considered essential workers and they have maintained all of our resident's apartments thru the pandemic to ensure there was never a doubt or lack in service. With a majority of our residents continuing to work from home and having our Campus Housing Residents stay in their unit for classes, this has increased the amount of maintenance work orders from our residents and has significantly increased the LZ team's potential exposure to Covid-19. The exposure risk to the virus continues to grow everyday with the management team by entering the facilities and resident units to perform maintenance or housekeeping service requests.

I am respectfully requesting that all Residential Property Management Staff be included in the Vaccine Priority Group 1B under the Congregate Living definition due to the everyday potential exposure in the day to day management of our University of Wisconsin Campus Housing and our Market Rent Apartment portfolio.

Thank you for your consideration.

*Andrew Stephenson
Chief Operating Officer / Partner*

*LZ Management
8301 Machine Drive, Suite 102
Madison, WI 53717*

*(608)-827-7001 Direct
astephenson@lz-management.com*

From: [Tom Nennig](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B vaccinations
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 12:39:00 PM

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Members of the SDMAC Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee:

We urgently request that the essential workers of Wisconsin’s drinking water industry be re-prioritized from Phase 1C to 1B for vaccine distribution. We recognize the incredible task you have had to take on in deciding which industries are most in need of the vaccine; however, we believe the critical work of the water industry has been overlooked amid this pandemic. It would be nothing short of disastrous to risk the health of people who supply such a fundamental necessity.

The workers of the Brown Deer Water Utility never stopped working, despite the pandemic. The water industry requires professionals to be experts in their own systems, due to the many variables that make up a water system and are therefore highly specialized and impossible to replace without substantial notice. Metering experts specific to each municipal water system must go into homes and businesses every time water is turned on or off so that we can flush their system and ensure the water is going to be safe. This frequent contact with the public is dangerous, but impossible to avoid. Additionally, despite efforts to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 among our workers, the nature of our work requires our workers to be in close proximity to each other. The water supplied by water utilities is vital to public health for virtually everyone: hospital workers, police officers and especially the firefighters, who have no means of fighting a fire if the water has been shut off.

The foundation of public health is clean water. All living things depend on it to survive and no one can wash their hands without it. The Department of Homeland Security has specifically recognized water workers as essential critical infrastructure workers, and EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler specifically included water workers as essential in writing to the Nation’s Governors about the spread of the COVID-19. Recently, the CDC published a recommendation to vaccinate based on three criteria, the second of which is to “preserve the functioning of society.” It is hard to imagine anything more important to a functioning society than clean water. It is a testament to our workers and industry that people rarely think about what it takes to deliver water to their homes—until the water is disrupted. However, we respectfully request that you consider our workers today.

The Brown Deer Water Utility and all of Wisconsin’s municipal water utilities are committed to serving our communities. Please consider immediately including the frontline workers of water utilities in Phase 1B in order for them to continue delivering the critical services our customers and society rely on. Thank you for considering our input.

Sincerely,

Thomas Nennig, P.E.
Superintendent
Brown Deer Water Utility

From: [nancy.nelson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Agree with Covid Vaccination
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 12:38:18 PM

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We do agree with the Covid list of recommended recipients. As our whole family is involved with the IRIS program and seen as how a few of us have had the virus already and one of our workers has passed away from Covid and the related complications. As of this point in time we aren't sure if all of our special need clients have had it, and we believe it will be incredibly difficult if they ever contract it.

Nancy Nelson

From: [Denise Monroe](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 12:28:25 PM

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To Whom it May Concern,

As Program Manager for my agency's IRIS program, 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.

Denise Monroe | IRIS Program Manager

Consumer Direct Care Network

744 Ryan Drive Suite 201

Hudson, WI 54016-7984

(715) 220-4413 www.consumerdirectWI.com

Fax 877-785-9992

EVERY LIFE. EVERY MOMENT. EVERY DAY.

Please note, due to concerns of COVID-19 transmission our office is temporarily closed to the public. We are continuing to process all paperwork that is submitted via email, mail, or fax. If you have any questions please contact us via email infoCDWI@consumerdirectcare.com or phone 877-785-9991.

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From: [Ann Lewandowski](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public Comment
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 12:19:38 PM

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Please see the public comment below

Ann Lewandowski
SWIC/RWHC
608-643-1057

Dear Ms. Lewandowski-

I read the article in today's Milwaukee Journal Sentinel about Wisconsin's phases for immunization delivery and wanted to share the opinion of a 70+ woman. I strongly believe that people who are incarcerated or work in prisons or jails be immunized as soon as possible. In my view, the conditions in which they live and work are every bit, if not more, close-quartered than those in assisted living or nursing homes. As an independent senior, I can control where I go. I can have my groceries delivered. Those in prisons and jails cannot. Any decisions made should be based on facts and health-related needs and risk. Please do not defer this decision making to politicians. They won't get it right. The decision making belongs with the committee on which you serve as co-chair. Make the decisions. Do the right thing. Wisconsin is already behind many other states. Don't drag this out.

Sincerely

Patricia Luebke

Date: January 15, 2021

Time: 5:25 pm

Page URL: <https://immunizewisconsin.com/contact/>

User Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (iPad; CPU OS 14_3 like Mac OS X) AppleWebKit/605.1.15 (KHTML, like Gecko) Version/14.0.2 Mobile/15E148 Safari/604.1

Remote IP: 75.86.184.67

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From: [Nick Todd](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 12:14:19 PM

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Members of the SDMAC Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee:

We urgently request that the essential workers of Wisconsin’s drinking water industry be re-prioritized from Phase 1C to 1B for vaccine distribution. We recognize the incredible task you have had to take on in deciding which industries are most in need of the vaccine; however, we believe the critical work of the water industry has been overlooked amid this pandemic. It would be nothing short of disastrous to risk the health of people who supply such a fundamental necessity.

The workers of Orfordville Water Utility never stopped working, despite the pandemic. The water industry requires professionals to be experts in their own systems, due to the many variables that make up a water system, and are therefore highly specialized and impossible to replace without substantial notice. Metering experts specific to each municipal water system have to go into homes and businesses every time water is turned on or off so that we can flush their system and ensure the water is going to be safe. This frequent contact with the public is dangerous, but impossible to avoid. Additionally, despite efforts to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 among our workers, the nature of our work requires our workers to be in close proximity to each other. The water supplied by water utilities is vital to public health for virtually everyone: hospital workers, police officers and especially the firefighters, who have no means of fighting a fire if the water has been shut off.

The foundation of public health is clean water. All living things depend on it to survive and no one can wash their hands without it. The Department of Homeland Security has specifically recognized water workers as essential critical infrastructure workers, and EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler specifically included water workers as essential in writing to the Nation’s Governors about the spread of the COVID-19. Recently, the CDC published a recommendation to vaccinate based on three criteria, the second of which is to “preserve the functioning of society.” It is hard to imagine anything more important to a functioning society than clean water. It is a testament to our workers and industry that people rarely think about what it takes to deliver water to their homes—until the water is disrupted. However, we respectfully request that you consider our workers today.

Orfordville Water Utility and all of Wisconsin’s municipal water utilities are committed to serving our communities. Please consider immediately including the frontline workers of water utilities in Phase 1B in order for them to continue delivering the critical services our customers and society rely on. Thank you for considering our input.

Sincerely,

Nicholas E. Todd
Director of Public Works

Orfordville Water Utility

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From: chriswasik@ymail.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccination Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 12:12:03 PM

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As the grandparents of an adult with cognitive disabilities, I am writing in support of vaccinations all Family Care and IRIS, along with individuals with disabilities and their families. My grandson is cared for in his own home by his 70 year old parents for months without any outside support.

Virginia Wasik



From: chriswasik@ymail.com
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccination subcommittee - Phase 1b
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 12:10:34 PM

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

I am writing in support of the vaccination of all Family Care and IRIS workers, along with all adults with disabilities across Wisconsin.

Our families are caring for their adult children with cognitive disabilities without any support for months and most of those parents are senior citizens.

Please vaccinate all Family Care, IRIS, families and adults with disabilities as quickly as possible.

Chris Harvey


From: [Windows live Team](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Re: response to arrival on who should be on the 1b rollout of shots
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 12:06:30 PM

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I am wondering where if at all, the American Red Cross volunteers will be. Most of us are shelter works , so we are right out there. For the most part we are considered front line workers, or emergency responders.

Thank you for your time .

Laurel Cooper



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From: [Richard Wasik](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccination Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 12:01:32 PM

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Committee:

I am writing in support of vaccinations for all Family Care and IRIS members. I am the father of a 42 year old with cognitive disabilities. I have been providing care of him since February 2020; without the support of his respite workers. They would love to be back working, earning money and getting him into the community - but due to Covid, they are not able to safely do so. I am 70 years old and 24 hours each day, seven days a week we provide entertainment, bathing, shaving, grooming, and daily care our selves.

Please consider vaccinating all members of this group so that we, as well as our son are able to gt back to life in his community.

Sincerely,

Richard Wasik


Delavan, WI

From: [Mairead Rauch](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public comment - vaccine subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 11:51:14 AM

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Good afternoon,

I'm writing to ask that people held in Wisconsin prisons be added to Phase 1B of the COVID vaccination campaign.

The congregational settings of prisons do not allow for social distancing as a protective measure. As documented by the Department of Corrections, over 10,000 incarcerated persons in Wisconsin have contracted COVID. Given the rural setting of many Wisconsin prisons, outbreaks in prisons can easily spill over into surrounding communities, fueling spikes in cases in regions with inadequate medical resources.

For the sake of our brothers and sisters behind bars and for the sake of those working with them, please include prisoners in Phase 1B.

Thank you for your time,
Mairead

--

Mairead Rauch, OFS

Staff Engineer

The Sigma Group

Marquette University 2017

mairead.rauch@gmail.com

Work (414) 643-4122 **Cell** (315) 663-1672

From: [Jan Kelley](#) on behalf of [USC WUM Leadership SharedMailbox](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Steve Merritt](#); [Rachel Fjellman](#)
Subject: Prioritization of Salvation Army Essential Workers for the COVID 19 Vaccine
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 11:50:37 AM
Attachments: The Salvation Army.Vaccine Prioritization.docx

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[From the Office of Major Steven J. Merritt, Divisional Commander](#)

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

His Herald,

Steven J. Merritt, Major
DIVISIONAL COMMANDER
The Salvation Army | Wisconsin & Upper Michigan Division
11315 W. Watertown Plank Road | P.O. Box 26019
Wauwatosa, WI 53226
(414) 302-4300
www.salvationarmywi.org