

A Message from **Curt Gingrich, MD**

#雅 OhioHealth

PRESIDENT OF OHIOHEALTH MARION GENERAL HOSPITAL

I'd like to provide an update on COVID vaccines. I'm excited to share that Marion General Hospital was chosen as the first regional OhioHealth site to launch a public vaccination clinic. The past couple of weeks have been very productive and emotional as we've hosted four clinics to vaccinate around 500 of our 75+ population. I hope you saw the story in last week's *Marion Star* about it. Everything is running smoothly and they are so grateful to be receiving it. It's been a heartwarming experience for our teams.

The tiered system for the 1b group is as follows:

- The week of January 19: Ohioans 80 years of age and older
- The week of January 25: Ohioans 75 years of age and older
- The week of February 1: Ohioans 70 years of age and older
- The week of February 8: Ohioans 65 years of age and older

OhioHealth Marion General Hospital will contact these patient groups each week inviting them to schedule their vaccine through their OhioHealth My Chart account, as vaccines are available.

There are a number of community resources available for COVID vaccines as follows:

- Email Marion Public Health at appointments@marionpublichealth.org
- Visit Kroger.com or call (866) 211.5320
- Visit Meijer.com or call (740) 389.5402
- **OhioHealth** is distributing COVID-19 vaccines to eligible members of the public by appointment only. Schedule through OhioHealth MyChart, or by calling the OhioHealth COVID-19 Vaccine Hotline at (614) 533.6999 weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For the very latest, <u>go here</u>

Please know that the federal government and state of Ohio determine how many vaccines OhioHealth receives each week, and <u>who is eligible to schedule</u>. Appointment availability is limited by the number of doses we receive. If no appointments are available when you try to schedule, check back often. We will continue to add new openings as we get more vaccines.

We just ask that if you make multiple appointments with different organizations that you immediately cancel those appointments that you don't need so others can use them.

We are so honored to be able to protect our communities with this critical vaccine and look forward to the weeks to come as we continue to maximize our community vaccines based on availability of supply.

I'll be sure to keep you posted as this work progresses. Thank you and be safe!