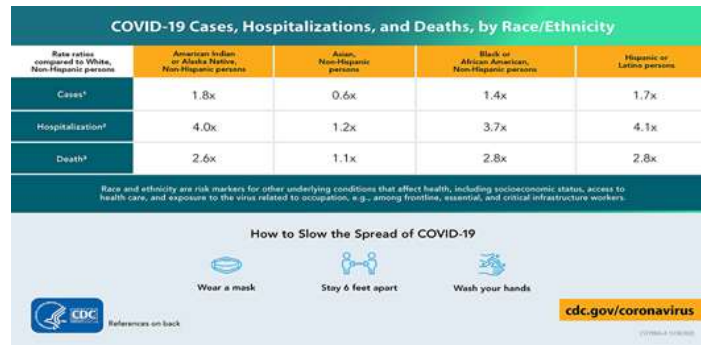


Hispanic Dental Association Position on COVID-19 Vaccination



Aligned with our mission, as the leading voice for Hispanic Oral Health, to provide Service, Education, Advocacy, and Leadership for the promotion of Overall Health of Hispanic and other under-served communities, the HDA hereby communicates its official position regarding COVID-19 vaccination.

The rates of COVID-19 hospitalizations and mortality for Hispanics or Latinos is higher than white or non-Hispanic populations¹, in the United States See summary rates by race from the CDC as follows:



First, the Hispanic Dental Association is in favor of widespread COVID-19 vaccination, with the exception of patients with any known contraindications or deemed not to be fit candidates by a licensed healthcare provider or other health authority. COVID-19 vaccines should be administered in accordance with HHS, FDA, CDC, NIH and any state and local health authorities. This includes, but is not limited to administering the vaccines first, to health care providers (including Oral Health professionals and all other first responders), all other hospital staff (especially maintenance and janitorial services personnel), and the most vulnerable members of our communities (those with health vulnerability and, those 60 years of age and older).

Second, vaccination priority protocols should be established for Hispanic or Latino populations based on an increased rate of infection, hospitalization and death, as reported by the CDC in its latest report on November 30, 2020.

Third, as health care providers and in alignment with our mission, at HDA we stand committed to educating the people and patients we serve, with the latest information based on the most current scientific data, and the guidelines established by the health authorities previously listed.

COVID-19 vaccination recommendations to date were published on December 1st and December 13, 2020², by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), and once the Pfizer-BioNtech's COVID-19 vaccine for the Prevention of COVID-19, was approved. ACIP will meet again after FDA authorizes or approves other COVID-19 vaccines and will make recommendations for the use of individual vaccines at that time. For the purposes of the vaccination priority the ACIP stated that Healthcare personnel are defined as paid and unpaid people serving in health care settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients or infectious materials. Long-term care facility residents are defined as adults who reside in facilities that provide a variety of services, including medical and personal care, to persons who are unable to live independently.

HDA is committed to the overall health and well being of the people we serve, in the communities we live and work in. We will update our position as it becomes necessary or if the health authorities' guidelines change.

¹ Infographic: COVID-19 Cases, Hospitalization, and Death by Race/Ethnicity, November 30, 2020, link: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/health-equity/racial-ethnic-disparities/infographic-cases-hospitalization-death.html>

² CDC COVID-19 Vaccine Priority Recommendations, published on December 13, 2020, link: [How CDC Is Making COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations | CDC](#)