CoatesvilleVAMC Welcomes the arrival of the COVID-19 Vaccine

COVID-19 vaccination is expected to protect you and those around you and once the vaccine is taken by a large percentage of the population, it will be the best tool we'll have to curb the pandemic.

Bob Jackson, resident at our Community Living Center and U.S. Navy Veteran receiving the first of two COVID-19 vaccine doses.

The first vaccines available have been approved by the FDA under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) after having been tested in tens of thousands of individuals. The two vaccines under consideration for EUA have been reported to be over 95% effective in preventing COVID-19 infection and to be safe with no serious side effects.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is working with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to implement a phased plan to maximize the benefits of any authorized COVID-19 vaccine. We will follow CDC and VA guidance in allocating the initial limited supply of COVID-19 vaccine. Based on CDC and VHA criteria, the vaccine will first be offered to health care personnel and to at-risk Veterans, such as those residing in our Community Living Centers and other congregate living settings. As increased vaccine supply becomes available in 2021, the goal will be to offer vaccination to all Veterans and employees who want to be vaccinated.

Shenita Clark, Unit Manager for 138A of our Community Living Center was the first of our frontline health care workers to receive the vaccine.

Vaccinating health care personnel has several benefits, including:

- Decrease transmission to patients and other employees

- Promoting and maintaining a healthier, stronger workforce to care for our veterans

We highly encourage Veterans to take advantage of this important vaccine. As vaccines become available for more groups of Veterans, VA care teams will reach out to eligible Veterans to schedule vaccinations. There is no need to preregister or come to a facility to sign up.

To find out more about COVID-19 vaccination at our facility contact our Public Affairs Office at 610-384-7711, ext. 4348 or 2230. For information and frequently asked questions visit: www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine
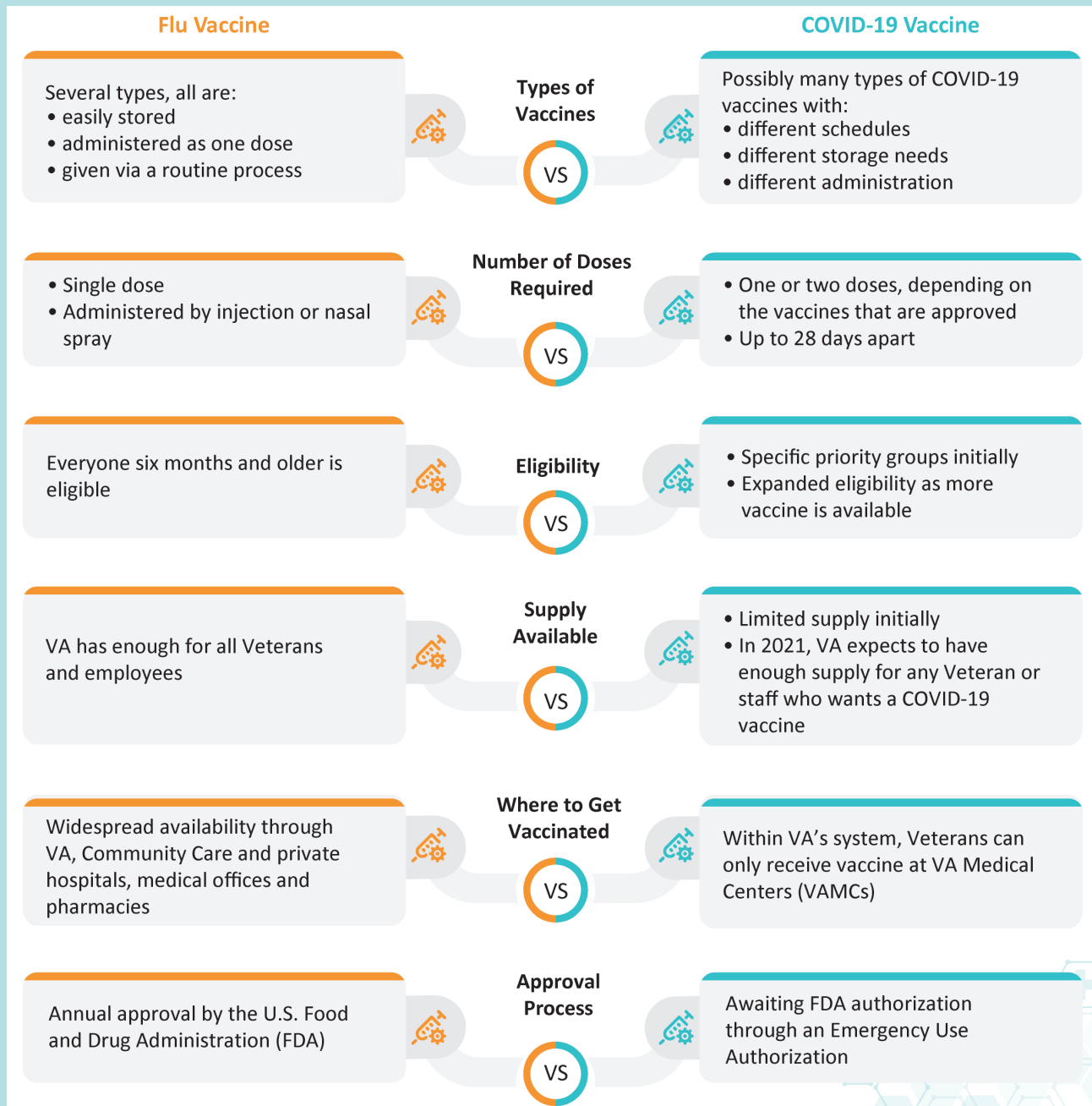
COVID-19 vaccination reduces your risk of:
- **Getting infected with the coronavirus**
- **Becoming seriously ill or hospitalized, or possibly dying**
- **Spreading the infection to others**

Please remember that even after getting the vaccine, you will still need to protect yourself and others against infection from the virus by:
- **Wearing a face covering when you are in public**
- **Continuing to practice physical distancing**
- **Washing your hands frequently**
- **Avoiding large gatherings**

Knowing the Difference Between
Flu and COVID-19 Vaccines

Flu Vaccine		COVID-19 Vaccine
Several types, all are: • easily stored • administered as one dose • given via a routine process	**Types of Vaccines** VS	Possibly many types of COVID-19 vaccines with: • different schedules • different storage needs • different administration
• Single dose • Administered by injection or nasal spray	**Number of Doses Required** VS	• One or two doses, depending on the vaccines that are approved • Up to 28 days apart
Everyone six months and older is eligible	**Eligibility** VS	• Specific priority groups initially • Expanded eligibility as more vaccine is available
VA has enough for all Veterans and employees	**Supply Available** VS	• Limited supply initially • In 2021, VA expects to have enough supply for any Veteran or staff who wants a COVID-19 vaccine
Widespread availability through VA, Community Care and private hospitals, medical offices and pharmacies	**Where to Get Vaccinated** VS	Within VA's system, Veterans can only receive vaccine at VA Medical Centers (VAMCs)
Annual approval by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)	**Approval Process** VS	Awaiting FDA authorization through an Emergency Use Authorization

Flu shots are available and FREE to all enrolled Veterans at the Drive-Through Flu Vaccine area in front of Building 2, parking lot B on the Coatesville VA Medical Center campus. The Flu shot is available Monday thru Friday, 8:30 am – 4:00 pm, by appointment. The community outpatient clinics offer flu shots as well. For an appointment please call (610) 383-0239. Veterans have the **option** to go to an **in-network retail pharmacy** or **urgent care location**, by presenting a valid Veterans Health ID Card or DoD ID Card to receive their flu shot at no-cost. Eligible Veterans do not require a VA referral. **To find the nearest retail pharmacy/Urgent care location, go to** https://www.va.gov/find-locations enter your Zip code and choose what your are looking for in the drop-down window.

Protect Yourself from Flu

Eligibility for a free flu shot at:

- Retail pharmacies: Veterans must be enrolled in the VA health care system

- Urgent care locations: Veterans must be enrolled in the VA health care system and have received care from a VA or in-network community provider in the past 24 months

Coatesville VAMC Welcomes New Director

The Department of Veterans Affairs announced on October 2, 2020, the appointment of Jeffrey A. Beiler II as the new director of the Coatesville VA Medical Center. "We are very excited to bring Mr. Beiler on board as the new director of our VA in Coatesville," said Timothy W. Liezert, Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) 4 director. "I am certain that Mr. Beiler's experience in VA and the private sector will be an asset to the Coatesville VA Medical Center.

Jeffrey A. Beiler II

As the medical center director, Mr. Beiler will direct a staff of approximately 1,175 employees and oversees all aspects of health care operations of a complexity level three, specialty referral medical center. In addition to the main campus in Coatesville, Community Based Outpatient Clinics are operated in Newtown Square and Spring City, PA. Mr. Beiler served as the Associate Director of Lebanon VA Medical Center from 2017-2020, overseeing engineering, health administration, resource management, contracting, environmental management, human resources, logistics, procurement, privacy, group practice management, safety and occupational health. Mr. Beiler returned to the VA in 2017 from Horsham Clinic - Universal Health Services, Inc., where he was Chief Financial Officer for a 206-bed acute inpatient behavioral healthcare facility. He has significant and progressive experience within the VA which includes leadership positions at multiple medical centers and in the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Central Office. From 2015-2016, he served as the Chief Financial Officer in VHA's Chief Business Office for Purchased Care where he was responsible for a $19 billion annual operating budget. He was also Associate Director at Philadelphia VA Medical Center from 2011-2015 and at Clarksburg VA Medical Center in West Virginia from 2009-2011.

Medical Center Director's PRIORITIES

Patient Care Satisfaction:
Our top priority is to provide high quality care to our Veterans, who we are privileged to serve. We want to ensure that our Veterans satisfaction and trust scores remain high.

Employee Satisfaction:
To ensure that our employees have the tools and resources they need to do their job well and to remain highly engaged and satisfied.

Capturing Workload:
Our budget is based on capturing our workload correctly. We will focus on capturing our workload efficiently, expanding our services and to increase the number of Veterans we serve.

Enhancing our Facility:
Develop a master space plan to enhance the infrastructure of our campus and to provide a modern welcoming environment for our Veterans and employees.

Coatesville Primary Care Clinic
24 Hour Call Line 610-384-7711
Enter the below numbers at any time during the call
- **Press #1 - Refill Medications**
- **Press #2 - Schedule or Cancel an appointment**
- **Press #3 - Speak to Registered Nurse for health related concerns**

Veterans Crisis Line
1-800-273-8255 PRESS ❶
Confidential chat at
VeteransCrisisLine.net
or text to **838255**

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Access Extended

Tired, stressed, overworked, or in pain? Yoga and meditation are proven to reduce stress, improve sleep, reduce pain, and enhance mental clarity and well-being. The key is to practice yoga regularly.

That's why we are teamed up with Ompractice to offer free, unlimited live yoga and wellness classes that can be taken right from your home. All classes are taught via two-way video so you are seen and supported by a great teacher. All you need is a mat and the camera on your laptop, tablet or smartphone.

Whether you are a complete beginner or proficient in yoga, these classes are meant for you.

Sign up for a FREE membership at **ompractice.com/veteransaffairs** and then choose any class you like from the schedule!

To sign up call:
610-384-7711, ext. 2835

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Live Online Wellness Classes From Home!

Now open to all Veterans and staff in VISN 4!

All Levels Welcome! Classes include:

Tai-Chi	Ashtanga Yoga	Yin Yoga	
Qigong	Forrest Yoga	Pre-Natal Yoga	Pilates
iRest Meditation	Power Yoga	Post-Natal Yoga	and more!
Vinyasa Yoga	Restorative Yoga	Chair Yoga	

Connect with us at
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For updates about our medical center operations, please view the **"Alert" & "Local Alerts"** section on our website **www.coatesville.va.gov.**