COVID-19 Pandemic Vaccine Provider Updates

- Governor DeWine addressed the state on Friday, Dec. 4, in a press conference, sharing information about vaccine distribution in Ohio. Click here to view the press conference or to read a recap.

- Moderna applied for its EUA on Nov. 30, and depending upon the approval timeline, their vaccine could be shipped directly to providers as soon as Dec. 22. It will not be shipped or repackaged through the ODH RSS.

- Ultracold storage is not a prerequisite to register to become a vaccine provider for the Pfizer vaccine. Redistributed Pfizer vaccine from the RSS warehouse will be packaged with dry ice and will arrive at its destination within six hours of being packed. It will remain stable if sealed in the original shipping container with dry ice for up to five days.

- Initially, there will be a limited number of vaccines available, and Ohio is committed to making it widely available for those who want to receive it as quickly as possible as shipments arrive. In conjunction with the recommendations of medical experts from ACIP and NAESM, Ohio has identified who will be among the first to receive those very early shipments in Phase 1A, should they choose to be vaccinated:
  - Healthcare providers and personnel who are routinely involved with the care of COVID-19 patients.
  - Residents and staff at nursing facilities.
  - Residents and staff at assisted living facilities.
  - Patients and staff at psychiatric hospitals.
  - People with intellectual disabilities and those with mental illness who in group homes or centers and staff at those locations.
  - Residents and staff of Ohio’s veterans homes.
  - EMS responders.

The full provider update can be found here and can also be accessed from the Board's guidance document page under "CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) RESOURCES" header: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/Pubs/Special.aspx. The title of the document is "Ohio Pandemic Vaccine Provider Update."