



# DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT NO. 2

Alcona County

311 Lake St. P.O. Box 218

Harrisville, MI 48740

Tel: 989-724-6757

Iosco County

420 W. Lake Street

Tawas City, MI 48764

Tel: 989-362-6183

Ogemaw County

630 Progress St.

West Branch, MI 48661

Tel: 989-345-5020

Oscoda County

393 S. Mt. Tom Road

Mio, MI 48647

Tel: 989-826-3970

## MEDIA RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Media Contact: Scott Izzo

Phone: 989-343-1808

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### District Health Department No. 2 COVID-19 Updates

District Health Department No. 2 (DHD2), serving Alcona, Iosco, Ogemaw and Oscoda counties, would like to take this opportunity to update area residents on the status of COVID-19 vaccinations, as well as other important COVID-19 topics. As of April 9, 2021, 7,907 first doses as well as 5,678 second doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been given by DHD2 in the jurisdiction. In addition, DHD2 has distributed 6,438 doses to community partners.

#### Contact Tracing:

With the increase in COVID-19 cases, DHD2 and MDHHS case investigators are again having difficulty reaching everyone who has tested positive as well as their close contacts. DHD2 asks that those who test positive isolate themselves for 10 days since the beginning of symptoms or from the date the COVID test was conducted if they do not have symptoms. If residents find themselves a close contact of a case, we ask that they quarantine themselves for 14 days from the date of last contact with the positive case. People who are 14 days past their final vaccination dose or those who were tested COVID-19 positive within the last 90 days do not have to quarantine but should monitor for symptoms and quarantine/seek testing if they experience any new symptoms.

#### Quarantine and Isolation Reminders:

If residents find themselves a close contact of a positive individual, DHD2 asks them to quarantine themselves for 14 days from the date of last contact with the positive individual. People who are 14 days past their final vaccination dose or those who have tested COVID-19 positive within the last 90 days do not have to quarantine, however, should monitor for symptoms and quarantine/seek testing if any new symptoms are experienced.

#### Johnson and Johnson Vaccine:

Out of an abundance of caution, CDC and MDHHS have called for an immediate pause regarding the use of Johnson & Johnson vaccine after the report of six individuals in the United States who experienced a rare blood issue disorder after receiving a dose. All six individuals were women between the ages of 18 and 48, and symptoms began 6 to 13 days after vaccination. These adverse reactions appear to be extremely rare. Scientists

at the CDC and MDHHS will begin on April 14, 2021 to determine if use of this vaccine should be resumed. Those who have recently received a Johnson & Johnson vaccine are directed to monitor for symptoms and contact their healthcare provider if they experience severe headache, abdominal pain, leg pain, or shortness of breath within three weeks of receiving the vaccination.

DHD2 will follow this guidance and cease administration of the Johnson & Johnson COVID vaccination until more information is available. At this point we do not have any Johnson & Johnson appointments scheduled so this would not affect anyone who is currently scheduled to receive a shot from DHD2 in the near future. For those that have already received a Johnson & Johnson shot, the health department recommends that they monitor for side effect symptoms (as mentioned above) and reach out to their healthcare provider if there are any concerns.

On-Line Appointment Scheduling:

Individuals ages 18 and older can visit the DHD2 COVID Vaccination page at [www.dhd2.org/vaccine-information](http://www.dhd2.org/vaccine-information) and click the link to schedule their COVID-19 Moderna vaccination appointment. Appointments are currently available for clinics on April 14, 2021, April 20, 2021 and April 27, 2021.

Scheduling of Appointments for Individuals 16 and 17 years old:

For individuals ages 16 and 17 who are wanting to receive the vaccination, please visit the same website and fill out the pre-registration form. This will let us know to reach out to each minor and their guardian to be scheduled for a Pfizer mass vaccination clinic.