



Andrea Palm
Secretary-Designee, Department of Health Services
1 West Wilson Street
Madison, WI 53703

Secretary-Designee Palm:

With this letter, the Pharmacy Society of Wisconsin is calling for the immediate activation of Phase 1b SARS-CoV-2 vaccination in Wisconsin and for the rapid expansion of pharmacies receiving vaccine.

On behalf of our organization, we want to thank the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) for your ongoing work in coordinating the complicated allocation of the SARS-CoV-2 vaccine. Our members have been at the front lines of these vaccination efforts and will continue to play a crucial role as we progress through the Phases.

Our health system providers at the front lines of the fight against COVID-19 are serving as hubs, coordinating vaccinations as part of Phase 1a, and continuing to treat patients with COVID-19. Pharmacies serve as a crucial asset and partner in the fight against COVID-19 and providing more flexibility to pharmacies to provide vaccinations is a necessary next step to have a more efficient dissemination of the vaccine. Some pharmacies are already involved, but enlisting all of our willing, ready, and able pharmacy providers will exponentially increase the opportunities for vaccination.

We are requesting that Wisconsin follow in the steps of states like Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Michigan, New Jersey, and North Carolina in activating Phase 1b immediately. Our members are ready and able to provide rapid vaccination to this priority group, greatly increasing both the overall population vaccination coverage and coverage for high-risk individuals. By deploying vaccine broadly to Wisconsin pharmacies, including pharmacies in rural and underserved areas, and by activating an additional group of recipients, the State's communities will be empowered to exponentially increase their vaccination efforts. The State should be focused on decreasing barriers and pain points and the engagement of an "all hands on deck" approach.

We know that vaccination is our way out of this pandemic and pharmacies are here and ready to help. We look forward to partnering with DHS for the efficient, safe, effective, and equitable distribution of the SARS-CoV-2 vaccine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dmwomack".

Danielle Womack, MPH
Vice President, Public Affairs
Pharmacy Society of Wisconsin