

GLENVILLE MEDICAL Concierge Care

COVID-19 Vaccine Update 12.23.20

Dear Patients:

We are all excited and encouraged about the two new COVID-19 vaccines, one from Pfizer, the other from Moderna. Both utilize viral genetic material in the form of mRNA to elicit in us a robust immune response, which has allowed for the vaccines to be supremely effective (>94%). In fact, vaccination has resulted in higher antibody levels than natural infection. Additionally, thus far the vaccines appear to be safe. Indeed, we advise all of our patients to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, just as all four physicians at Glenville Medical will do.



However, the vaccines are being administered in phases: phase 1a includes health care workers and nursing home residents and staff. Phase 1b is to include “essential workers” as well as any individual older than 75. The next phase, 1c, will include those aged 65-75, those from ages 16-64 with immune compromising medical conditions, and “other essential workers.” Finally, the vaccine will be available to the general public.

Unfortunately we are in the dark about the how and where, as are all local physician offices. Despite the fact that we enrolled early on to administer vaccine, we have not yet received any word on this. Be assured though that we will inform you as soon as we hear anything concrete. It ultimately may be the case that vaccination will occur only at pharmacies and/or hospital health care systems.

In the interim, please continue to limit travel and large gatherings, in addition to maintaining the practices of social distancing, hand sanitizing, and the use of masks outside of the home.

Stay safe and well this holiday season,

Steven Mickley, MD Judith Shea, MD Jeffrey Puglisi, MD Ralph Cipriani, MD

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