



AT YOUR SERVICE

NEWS FROM THE BERRIEN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Thank you for all your hard work during the COVID pandemic! My number one priority through the years has been providing loving service while meeting the needs of my patients and families.

Not far behind, has been the goal to vaccinate them. So, I ask you to support in any way that you can immunization against CVOD-19 in our community.

Providers who decide to get vaccinated have a powerful influence on their patients, staff, families and neighbors. I received mine!

6 ways you can build vaccine confidence:

- Make the decision to get vaccinated visible and celebrate it!
- Encourage your senior leaders to be vaccine champions
- Host frequent discussions where personnel at different levels can provide input and ask questions
- Share key messages with staff through emails, breakroom posters, and other channels
- Educate healthcare teams about the COVID-19 vaccine and how they are developed and monitored for safety
- Educate non-medical staff about the importance of getting vaccinated

Find more information about building vaccine confidence, [here](#).

Visit MDHHS's COVID page [here](#).

When physician and dental practices can expect to get the vaccine and how:

BCHD has engaged directly with facilities that employ persons in these priority groups to coordinate vaccination for their employees. However, if there are facilities or persons who fall into priority group 1A, which includes medical and dental practice personnel, who have not yet heard directly from the Berrien County Health Department or their employer, they are encouraged to contact the health department for further information on upcoming clinic times and appointment instructions. Those in Phase 1A can call

1-800-815-5485 or fill out an online form located on the health department's website to indicate their interest in receiving the vaccine. Employees are encouraged to bring their occupation or work identification badge for verification upon arrival for the vaccination appointment.

MRNA Vaccines:

COVID-19 mRNA vaccines were tested rigorously for safety and effectiveness before being authorized for use. It's also important to note that mRNA technology is new but not unknown – it has been studied for decades. Having been involved in several stage 3 trials, I am convinced that shortcuts were not taken in any of the trials.

MRNA technology is new but not unknown. mRNA vaccines do not contain any live virus and carry no risk of causing disease in the vaccinated person. It never affects or interacts with a person's DNA. These vaccines take advantage of the process cells use to make proteins to trigger an immune response and build immunity to SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.

To learn more about the specifics of the mRNA vaccines, click [here](#).

Talking to patients about COVID-19 vaccines:

To learn more about how you can make a strong recommendation, click [here](#).

Sign up for our newsletter [here](#).



@berriencountyhealthdepartment



@bchdmi

How to Reach Us:

Berrien County Health Department:

Phone: (269) 926-7121

Fax: (269) 926-8129

Address: 2149 E. Napier

P.O. Box 706

Benton Harbor, MI. 49023

Medical Director:

Rick Johansen, M.D., M.P.H.

(269) 927-5604

rjohansen@bchdmi.org

Health Officer:

Nicole Britten, M.P.H.

(269) 927-5600

nbritten@bchdmi.org

Deputy Health Officer:

Courtney Davis, M.P.H.

(269) 927-5607

cdavis@bchdmi.org

Communications Manager:

Gillian Conrad, M.P.H.

(269) 927-5624

gconrad@bchdmi.org

Epidemiologist:

Guy Miller, M.P.H.

(269) 927-5639

[gmiller@bchdmi.org](mailto:gmillier@bchdmi.org)