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COVID-19 VACCINES TO BE ADMINISTERED TO THOSE 75 AND OLDER BY RENOWN HEALTH

RENO, Nev. (January 12, 2020) – Beginning Thursday, January 14, 2021, in order to quickly vaccinate additional residents of Washoe County age 75 and older, Renown Health is pleased to partner with the [Washoe County Health District](#) to help distribute the initially available, limited supplies of COVID-19 vaccines.

Those who are 75 years or older interested in joining the waiting list for an appointment at Renown’s Drive Thru COVID-19 vaccination clinic, will need to download [Renown MyChart](#), if they currently do not have an account. Residents do not need to have a Renown Health provider to enroll. Residents will be notified through their MyChart account when appointments are available. The vaccine clinic is operating by appointment only.

Due to limited resources and the limited vaccine available, initially the Renown COVID-19 Vaccination Program will concentrate on vaccinating those 75 and older at this time in Washoe County. Per [Governor Sisolak](#), and the state’s [vaccine rollout plan](#), once those 75 and older have the opportunity to receive the vaccine, the next general population priority group is those who are 70 and older.

In addition, [Renown Health patients](#) and members of [Senior Care Plus/Hometown Health](#) aged 75 and older are will be notified through their [Renown MyChart](#) accounts as appointments become available. Once an appointment is confirmed, instructions are given on how to obtain the vaccine.

“We remain steadfast in our determination to fight the good fight for our community. Being able to administer COVID-19 vaccines is incredibly gratifying. The tragedy of COVID-19 is that the mortality rates, or the risk of dying, is highest in this generation,” said [Tony Slonim, MD, DrPH](#), President & CEO of Renown Health. “We are pleased to be part of the solution, to bring hope and to make a genuine difference in the health and well-being of others.”

Age increases risk for severe illness & hospitalization

According to the [CDC](#), the risk for severe illness with COVID-19 increases with age, with older adults at highest risk. The greatest risk for severe illness from COVID-19 is among those aged 85 or older. Severe illness means that a person with COVID-19 may require hospitalization, intensive care, or a ventilator to help them breathe, or they may even die. In Washoe County alone, there are [29,034 people 75 years or older](#) and Renown is only receiving limited supplies of the vaccine.

Older adults are at greater risk of requiring hospitalization or dying if diagnosed with COVID-19. As you get older, your risk of being hospitalized for COVID-19 increases. For those aged 75 and older, the risk of hospitalization is eight to 13x higher, with deaths 220-630 percent higher than for younger adults.

Compared to younger adults, older adults are more likely to require hospitalization if they get COVID-19

	Hospitalization ¹	Death ²
18-29 years	Comparison Group	Comparison Group
30-39 years	2x higher	4x higher
40-49 years	3x higher	10x higher
50-64 years	4x higher	30x higher
65-74 years	5x higher	90x higher
75-84 years	8x higher	220x higher
85+ years	13x higher	630x higher

[https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/older-adults.html)

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Compounding the risk for COVID-19 for older adults is a weakened immune system. “Because the immune system generally weakens with age, it’s important that older adults get a vaccine to help their bodies form a defense against



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COVID-19" says [Derek Beenfeldt, MD](#), Chief Medical Officer for Hometown Health, the insurance division of Renown. "Please get vaccinated, unless you are sick or have significant allergic reactions to vaccines."

You are advised not to receive the vaccine if:

- You are ill at the time of vaccination (fever, shortness of breath, vomiting, diarrhea or acute illness).
- You have been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the previous 14 days.
- You have received any other vaccination in the last 14 days.
- You have a history of significant allergic reaction to this vaccine or any of its ingredients.

Due to unprecedented demand, Renown is coordinating with local and state agencies to ensure every person has an opportunity to receive the vaccine over time. Downloading MyChart is not a guarantee of an appointment.

Register for MyChart to be notified when you are eligible to make an appointment to receive the vaccine
Renown Health will contact residents when it is time for them to receive their vaccine. Please do not contact a Renown doctor/health care provider at this time to schedule a vaccine appointment. Instead, all are encouraged to register for a [Renown MyChart](#) account if you have not already.

The intricacies of vaccine administration

Renown Health has been able to distribute and administer the COVID-19 vaccine to a record number of people in the shortest possible time. Much of this success is due to the use of a convenient patient electronic medical record, called [EPIC MyChart](#), which allows people to be notified that the vaccine is available, schedule their appointments online, complete the consent form and have full documentation. In addition, the information automatically posts to [Web IZ Nevada's](#) Statewide Immunization Information System.

Stay Up-to-date on COVID-19

Renown Health is prepared to safely screen, diagnose and care for patients with respiratory illness, including COVID-19. To stay up-to-date on communications regarding Renown's distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine, FAQs and the scientific evidence behind the vaccine, visit <https://covid.renown.org/>

Join the Renown team

Renown Health remains committed to hiring key roles in our organization to support the health and well-being of our community. To join the Renown family to Fight the Good Fight, apply online at <https://careers.renown.org/>

Support the Renown team

Renown Health, a charitable, not-for-profit organization, is so grateful for our community's support during these unprecedented times. To donate to help Renown help our community, visit <https://www.renown.org/donations-covid-19/>. ###

About Renown Health

Renown Health is the region's largest, locally owned and governed, not-for-profit integrated healthcare network serving Nevada, Lake Tahoe and northeast California. With a diverse workforce of more than 7,000 employees, Renown has fostered a longstanding culture of excellence, determination and innovation. The organization comprises a trauma center, two acute care hospitals, a children's hospital, a rehabilitation hospital, a medical group and urgent care network, and the region's largest, locally owned not-for-profit insurance company, Hometown Health. Renown's institute model addresses social determinants of health and includes: Child Health, Behavioral Health & Addiction, Healthy Aging and Health Innovation. Clinical institutes include: Cancer, Heart and Vascular Health, Neurosciences and Robotic Surgery. Renown is currently enrolling participants in the world's largest community-based genetic population health study, the Healthy Nevada Project®. For more information, visit renown.org.