

Russell Medical is following the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) guidelines which has outlined and prioritized risk groups. The following is an excerpt from the ADPH website which outlines the methodology of Phase I vaccinations.

Healthcare workers in Phase 1a include, but are not limited to, emergency medical service personnel, nurses, nursing assistants, home healthcare personnel, physicians, technicians, therapists, phlebotomists, pharmacists, students and trainees, contractual staff not employed by the healthcare facility, medical supply delivery, mortuary services, and persons not directly involved in patient care, but who could be exposed to infectious agents that can be transmitted in the healthcare setting (e.g., clerical, dietary, environmental services, laundry, security, engineering and facilities management, administrative, billing, and volunteer personnel).

Phase 1b includes persons age 75 years and older; frontline essential workers; persons working or living in congregate settings including but not limited to homeless shelters and group homes; first responders including firefighters and law enforcement.

Some counties have been able to intermittently vaccinate persons age 75 years and older once the uptake of vaccine for Phase 1a has been satisfied for a daily clinic. ADPH will continue to work with community partners to vaccinate persons in Phase 1a and, as supply allows, persons 75 years and above.

Once persons in Phase 1b have been administered or offered the vaccine, Alabama will move into Phase 1c. ADPH does not have a timeline on this as ability to move to the next phase is dependent on vaccine supply.

Phase 1c includes persons not identified in Phase 1a or Phase 1b, and includes persons 65-74 years of age, persons 16-64 years of age with high risk medical conditions (including cancer; chronic kidney disease; COPD; heart conditions such as heart failure, coronary artery disease or cardiomyopathies; immunocompromised state; solid organ transplant; obesity BMI >30 kg/m²; sickle cell disease; smoking; type 2 diabetes; and pregnancy), and additional essential workers not identified in previous phases.

Russell Medical has met all of the requirements and moved through Phase 1a. We have offered remaining vaccine to citizens aged 75+ and no longer have appointments available for COVID 19 vaccinations at this time. We have scheduled as many citizens as possible for the number of doses we currently have on hand. We have requested additional doses, and once we receive them we will make them available to the public. We do not know when these additional doses will arrive, but please note that we will post to social media and reach out to our media partners to share the message when that time comes. We are not making a wait list at this time. Again, thank you for your patience and understanding. We want to vaccinate our community as quickly as we can. Thank you for your patience and understanding, and for trusting us for your healthcare needs.