

Transition Plan to a State-Led Direct Allocation Process to Accelerate Vaccine Distribution and Administration

04/12/2021

Source: TPA Supply Chain and Allocation workstreams

Provide context and overview

Review the TPA-Direct Allocation process

Review weekly milestones and cadence

Context

California will build a **Statewide vaccine network** to ensure the **equitable delivery of current and anticipated supply** to Californians.

The State will allocate vaccines directly to Providers (a “push” model of allocation) to maximize distribution efficiency, have real-time transparency into where the vaccines are and to whom they’ve been administered, and ensure they are **distributed to communities disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.**

The State has entered into a **cost-basis contract with Blue Shield of California to serve as the third party administrator (TPA)** for the Statewide vaccine network. This network will include Providers who meet program requirements, such as data integration, equity, and volume capacity. The Provider types will include health systems, hospitals, clinics, pharmacies, mass vaccination sites and mobile clinics.

This document describes the direct allocation model and how the TPA will work with Providers to allocate in the new model.

Throughout March and April the State will transition to allocate vaccines directly to Providers and their vaccination site(s). Direct allocation supports three primary goals for all Californians:

Promote Equity

- Promote the State's vaccine equity goals by consistently targeting the State's hardest hit communities. The State is setting aside at least 40 percent of vaccine doses for most impacted communities; seeks to reach 2 million vaccine doses in those communities to move counties through tiers and open more activities safely.

Provide a Consistent Experience for Eligibility and Appointments

- A single platform, MyTurn, that allows Californians to learn when they are eligible to be vaccinated and a place to make an appointment when eligible. The State will incorporate MyTurn data into the direct allocation methodology to ensure demand meets supply.

Monitor Provider Performance

- The State and TPA will use consistent key performance metrics for all Providers to maximize efficiency in the delivery of vaccine (no doses sitting in freezers).

Individual Providers and sites will **no longer request an order through their LHJ**; the State will conduct direct site-level allocation, based on site-level information submitted

Each Provider site is required to **submit site level¹ information on a weekly basis through myCAvax**, which will be used to ensure an appropriate allocation for that week and projections for future allocations

As an input to the State's direct allocation, **LHJs will provide feedback on Providers' site(s) in their area**

Providers will report administration metrics to help improve future allocations

¹ Sites must be in myCAvax and have capacity data provided in order to receive an allocation

Source: TPA supply chain and communications workstreams

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During the transition process doses will be allocated through both the TPA-Direct allocation and LHJ-Direct allocation processes

- 1) TPA-Direct allocation:** While working with the LHJs, the TPA will be recommending to the State how to allocate doses directly to sites within each LHJ. During the transition period, this model will only apply to sites that are a) contracted with the TPA contract by the cutoff date for the cycle and b) received doses at any site in the State of California within the past four weeks.
- 2) LHJ-Direct allocation:** A portion of the total number of doses going to each LHJ will continue to be directly allocated by the LHJ during the transition period. The LHJ will be able to allocate these doses to any site on myCAvax that is not part of the TPA-Direct allocation model, per the current process followed by the LHJ.

LHJ-Direct allocation process

CDPH gives an allocation of vaccine doses to LHJs based on CA State-wide allocation

Providers request orders of vaccine for individual sites

LHJ review order requests and allocates to sites, based on total allocation and capacity

CDPH compiles LHJ site level allocations and submits orders to manufacturers

Manufacturers ship vaccine to Providers



TPA-Direct allocation process for 1st doses

- A Providers complete capacity and inventory report in myCAvax:** Providers submit site-level capacity, scheduled 2nd dose appointments and inventory each week in myCAvax
- B 1st dose allocation recommendation is created:** TPA runs site-level allocation process, based on previous LHJ-inputs and State guidance
- C LHJ feedback is collected:** LHJs give feedback on 1st dose allocation recommendation
- D Final allocation is created:** TPA recommends, and State approves allocation
- E Final allocation is uploaded to myCAvax and 1st dose ordered**
- F Vaccine shipments are received**

Source: TPA supply chain and allocation workstreams



Vaccinate ALL 58
Together we can end the pandemic.

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TPA-Direct process: Providers complete capacity and inventory report in myCAvax

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TPA Providers are required to submit information through myCAvax every week by end of day on Monday (Steady State)¹

On the Provider portal go to “more” and then to the “vaccine capacity” tab and select “new”

- Information must be provided per site (you will be able to see the for which sites which you have permission to submit information)
- Training will be provided on how to update the myCAvax capacity report
- Ensure you have selected who will update this information every week – information must be entered for each administration site

Information to be collected

- **Vaccination capacity:** enter the maximum number of vaccines you could administer at the site-level, not the number of appointments you currently have
- **Currently scheduled 2nd dose appointments:** enter your scheduled 2nd dose appointments to inform 2nd dose requirements
- **Inventory:** enter the current inventory on-hand for each vaccine type

Information will be entered for the upcoming 2-weeks, for the upcoming week this should just be an update of the information entered the previous week²

¹ Providers not in the TPA network are required to complete a weekly survey.

² In the future, 3-weeks of information may be collected and this process will replace existing surveys collecting similar information

Source: TPA supply chain and allocation workstreams

How many total second dose appointments do you have scheduled for the next two weeks, by vaccine type?

Vaccine 1

Week 1 Dose 2 Appointments Scheduled - 1 ?

Week 2 Dose 2 Appointments Scheduled - 1 ?

Vaccine 2

Week 1 Dose 2 Appointments Scheduled - 2 ?

Week 2 Dose 2 Appointments Scheduled - 2 ?

What is your on-hand inventory to be administered at your location?

Reminder: Pfizer vials are now 6 doses per vial.

Reminder: Pfizer vials are now 6 doses per vial.

*Vaccine - 1

*Expiration Date - 1

Vaccine - 2

Expiration Date - 2

Vaccine - 3

Expiration Date - 3

*Lot Number - 1

*On-hand inventory - 1

Lot Number - 2

On-hand inventory - 2

Lot Number - 3

On-hand inventory - 3

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4 Step TPA approach

- 1 Assess the total doses available for allocation**
 - Begin with the total first doses allocated by the Federal government to CA
 - Adjust for allocations reserved to State bodies (e.g., DSH, CDCR) and other urgent issues (e.g., unmet second dose needs)
- 2 Apply a geographical weighting**
 - For 80% of the remaining vaccine, calculate the share of vaccine each zip code should receive based on eligible population in the zip code
 - Currently, eligible population is weighted by age (16 and older)
 - Before week of 03/22, eligible population was weighted as 70/30 by age (65+) and sector (first responders, food/agriculture sector, education & childcare) respectively
- 3 Perform an equity weighting to reflect the State's equity priorities**
 - To double weight to those areas of highest need, allocate remaining 20% of vaccine to lowest quartile HPI zips only, based on share of eligible population
- 4 Allocate vaccines to network sites based on their geographical service and their performance**
 - TPA considers input from LHJs and MCEs plus other factors such as zip codes served, performance including success in vaccinating target populations, inventory-on hand, compliance to network requirements to recommend final allocation by Provider to be approved by the State.

Source: TPA Allocation Workstream

LHJs will receive an Excel each Wednesday at noon which shows a proposed allocation for:

- The LHJ overall, by brand, including overall allocation for LHJ-Direct and TPA-Direct
- Each site in the TPA Network

LHJs are asked to review the allocation and offer feedback, if needed. The overall number of doses by manufacturer brand for the LHJ geography area is fixed. Feedback is requested with respect to:

- The overall split of doses, by brand between TPA-Direct and LHJ-Direct sites, e.g., move Pfizer doses from LHJ-Direct to a TPA-Direct site
- The site-level allocation of doses, by brand for TPA-Direct sites, e.g., move Janssen doses from TPA-Direct Site A to TPA-Direct Site B

The TPA will organize meetings (if needed) to discuss with LHJs and host explanatory office hours. Feedback is requested by 5pm on Wednesday and should be returned to tpa_allocations@blueshieldca.com, cc'ing their account manager

Sample portion of template

LHJ	Total geographic area (preliminary)	LHJ direct (preliminary)	TPA (see TPA preliminary site level)	Optum	Kaiser incl. Mass Vaccination	Adventist Health	AHMC	Dignity Health	Providence	Sutter Health
Total										
Special requests										
State Departments/FEMA										
Alameda										

Source: TPA supply chain and allocation workstreams

- D Final allocation created and confirmed (Thursday morning)**
 - TPA recommends and State approves allocation

- E Final allocation published in myCAvax and 1st dose ordered (Thursday)**
 - LHJ-Direct allocations loaded into myCAvax following the approval of the final allocation – LHJs make order requests through myCAvax, as per current process
 - CDPH makes order in VtrckS for LHJ-Direct and TPA-Direct sites
 - 1st dose orders will be viewable in myCAvax by Friday AM

- F Vaccine shipments are received**
 - Orders are shipped to sites
 - First doses shipped Monday/Tuesday
 - Any shipping incidents should be logged in myCAvax – CDPH will continue to assist in resolving shipping incidents

Source: TPA supply chain and allocation workstreams

- All Providers who have contracted to the TPA Network by Thursday of previous week will be included in TPA-Direct allocation for the following Thursday's 1st dose orders

Thursday	Friday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Cut-off for sites to be contracted for upcoming allocation	By end of day, LHJ is notified of sites moving to TPA direct for upcoming week	Providers must update capacity, inventory and 2 nd dose appointment information. Ensure site information (freezer, fridge, ultra-freezer, shipping info) is correct	Final LHJ-Direct order for sites moving to TPA-Direct. 2 nd dose orders to be completed by 4pm Sites are moved in myCAVax to reflect TPA Direct	LHJ gives feedback on TPA-Direct site-level allocation. Sites moving to TPA-Direct for first time will be indicated in the TPA-Direct site-level allocation	First TPA-Direct order for these sites is placed by CDPH based on State approved final TPA-Direct Allocation Cut-off for sites to be contracted for following week's TPA-Direct Allocation

Source: TPA supply chain and allocation workstreams

DRAFT - AS OF APRIL 08, 2021

1st dose process for TPA-Direct sites

- Providers will no longer make order requests, instead you will update your capacity report in myCAvax each week on a Monday
- The TPA will use Provider data on capacity and inventory from myCAvax to support the 1st dose allocation recommendation, which will be released on Wednesday
- LHJs will review the site-level recommendation on a Wednesday, prior to ordering on a Thursday, and notify the TPA of any changes they recommend
- Doses will be ordered on a Thursday by CDPH, following the current process
- By Friday morning, orders will be uploaded in myCAvax, for Providers to view
- Orders will be shipped on Monday/Tuesday, as per current process

2nd dose process for TPA-Direct sites

- 2nd dose ordering will follow a “mirrored process” – doses will be allocated based on Pfizer 1st dose orders three weeks prior, and Moderna 1st dose orders four weeks prior
- During the first four weeks that a site is on TPA-Direct allocation, the LHJ will continue to give input into 2nd dose orders, as the allocation being mirrored was previously done by the TPA
 - LHJs will be asked on a Wednesday to indicate the site-level 2nd dose needs for TPA-Direct sites and return this information on a Thursday
- The TPA will complete ordering 2nd doses for TPA-Direct sites by Tuesday of each week

Source: TPA supply chain and allocation workstreams

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- | | |
|------------------|--|
| Tuesday | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDC releases actual 1st dose allocation. TPA uses this information to create recommended 1st dose site-level allocation for Thursday's orders • LHJs confirm by 4pm with account managers that they have completed 2nd dose ordering for sites transitioning to TPA-Direct for the upcoming 1st dose allocation (ordered on Thursday) • CDPH orders previous week 2nd doses for LHJ-Direct and TPA Direct (No later than Tuesday) |
| Wednesday | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd dose orders for previous week are available to view in myCAVax for LHJs and Providers (No later than Wednesday) • TPA recommendation for 1st dose allocation shared with LHJs for feedback by 5pm on the same day • TPA requests input on 2nd dose needs for TPA-Direct sites from LHJs, to be returned by noon the next day |
| Thursday | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TPA incorporates LHJ feedback and State approves final 1st dose allocation • LHJ 2nd dose input due back to TPA by noon • LHJ-Direct 1st dose allocation available to view and place order requests on myCAVax (per current process) • CDPH places 1st dose orders by end of day for both TPA-Direct and LHJ-Direct sites |
| Friday | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st dose orders all sites available to view in myCAVax for LHJs and Providers |
| Sunday | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDC releases 2nd doses allocation to be ordered on Monday |
| Monday | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LHJ-Direct 2nd dose allocation available to view in myCAVax for LHJs to place order requests on myCAVax (per current process) • Providers update capacity form in myCAVax (MOST IMPORTANT STEP FOR PROVIDERS) • TPA communicates sites moving to TPA-Direct allocation for following Thursday 1st dose allocation |
| Tuesday | <i>Cycle repeats....</i> |

Source: TPA Allocation and Supply Chain Workstreams



Weekly cadence for 1st and 2nd doses allocation and ordering process (2/2)

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XX 1st dose
XX 2nd dose

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
CDC allocation releases	CDC releases 1 st doses					CDC releases 2 nd doses	
TPA Allocation process for LHJ-Direct and TPA-Direct		TPA runs 1 st dose allocation process, to determine allocation recommendation New TPA-Direct sites switched to TPA-Direct in system	TPA incorporates feedback and State approves 1 st dose for LHJ-Direct totals and TPA-Direct site-level allocation				State approves 2 nd dose allocation for LHJ-Direct totals and TPA-Direct site-level allocation
CDPH ordering	2 nd doses ordered		1 st doses ordered by end of day				
TPA Direct		TPA shares 1 st dose recommendation with LHJs for feedback by 5pm TPA requests LHJ input on 2 nd dose allocation for TPA-Direct sites, due by noon on Thursday					Providers' updates due in myCAVax e.g., site info, network status, capacity TPA communicates to LHJs sites moving to TPA-Direct allocation for next 1 st dose order
LHJ-Direct	LHJs requests 2 nd doses for LHJ-Direct sites LHJs confirm to their AM that final 2 nd dose ordering is complete for sites moving to TPA-Direct	2 nd dose orders for TPA-Direct and LHJ-Direct sites available to view in myCAVax for LHJs and Providers	CDPH uploads 1 st dose allocation to myCAVax for LHJ-Direct order requests LHJs requests 1 st doses for LHJ-Direct sites	1 st dose orders for TPA-Direct and LHJ-Direct sites available to view in myCAVax for LHJs and Providers		CDPH uploads 2 nd dose allocation to myCAVax for LHJ-Direct order requests	

Source: TPA supply chain and allocation workstreams