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State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
California Department of Public Health



GAVIN NEWSOM  
Governor

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Dear California COVID-19 Vaccination Providers:

In anticipation of updated guidance regarding COVID-19 vaccine boosters and likely expansion to include 5-to-11-year-olds, CDPH, healthcare providers, and public health departments need to prepare for the increased demand of eligible patients.

**Compared to the volume of doses currently administered in California, we forecast the need to increase California's vaccination capacity from 80,000 doses per day to 370,000 doses per day, four to five times our current rate.** This is based on projections assuming boosters will soon be recommended 8 months after full vaccination and as 5-to-11-year-olds become eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccines this Fall. Increased demand may start as soon as October and continue through early 2022 (see figure on the next page).

Over the course of this year, where Californians go to get vaccinated has evolved. In April 2021, our peak administration month, three primary health care sectors shared this responsibility, with:

- 28 percent of COVID-19 doses administered by pharmacies
- 24 percent by public health providers
- 27 percent by medical practices
- 21 percent by other initiatives, such as the FEMA mass vaccination clinics

By comparison, in August 2021:

- 63 percent of COVID-19 doses administered by pharmacies
- 8 percent by public health providers
- 17 percent by medical practices
- 12 percent by other initiatives, such as mobile clinics

To address these changes CDPH is surveying providers and local health departments to estimate the State's capability in administering COVID-19 vaccines and to identify the barriers to increasing that capacity. **Please complete the capacity survey as soon as possible after you receive it from [COVIDCallCenter@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:COVIDCallCenter@cdph.ca.gov).**



I thank you for helping us all to prepare for this increase in demand for vaccines by providing your input in our capacity survey, explore ways to ramp up vaccination efforts, and for partnering with CDPH as we continue in our efforts to protect Californians from COVID-19 disease.

Sincerely,

Tomás J. Aragón, MD, DrPH  
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