



# Newport Hospital and Health Services

714 W. Pine Street, Newport, WA 99156 • (509) 447-2441

[www.NewportHospitalAndHealth.org](http://www.NewportHospitalAndHealth.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **NHHS Releases COVID-19 Vaccination Statement**

**(by Tom Wilbur, CEO; Dr. Aaron Reinke, Chief of Staff; Dr. Geoff Jones, COVID-19 Medical Director)**

Newport Hospital and Health Services has placed a temporary hold on COVID-19 vaccine appointments. We are incredibly disappointed that due to situations beyond our control, industry-wide vaccine production and state allocation protocol changes, we are unable to follow through on our developed schedule.

With adequate supply, we have the capacity to deliver at least 200 weekly vaccinations. We had planned to increase that number each week as we gained process efficiencies and requested 1200 vaccine doses over the last three weeks; however, we have been allocated only 100 first doses during that time period. Our ability to schedule appointments is dependent upon receiving vaccine dose allocations.

Newport Hospital and Health Services in conjunction with the Northeast Tri County Health District has been actively vested in delivering vaccines to our community. To date, we have received 129 multi-dose vials of vaccines and provided 571 first doses and 246 second doses. We look forward to continuing to work in collaboration with all Washingtonians with the shared goal of stopping the pandemic.

Vaccinating Washington's entire population will require building upon the successful efforts already underway and will take many organizations. We welcome the state's efforts to bring in partners to stand up additional mass vaccination clinics and are committed to support the state's effort to get as many vaccinated as quickly and as safely as possible. However, NHHS has invested critical resources to



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develop these efforts in our community and believe local clinics offering scheduled appointments is the safest option for elderly and medically fragile community – to ensure people can access vaccine close to home from their trusted providers.

We understand and feel the frustration, but our vaccine clinics will remain dependent upon supply and distribution that remains out of our control. We will continue to order doses through the established supply lines and look forward to serving you as we receive allotted vaccine. As of now, however, we are unable to offer any further vaccine appointments.

Please continue to visit [www.NewportHospitalAndHealth.org](http://www.NewportHospitalAndHealth.org) and check our vaccination hotline (509) 447-6332 for updated information on vaccine availability and scheduling. We are currently developing an online vaccination registration tool and expect to release it in the coming week.

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