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A COVID-19 vaccine is approved. Now what?

The FDA recently granted emergency approval of Pfizer + BioNTech's COVID-19 vaccine. This is good news and a positive step forward in fighting the Coronavirus pandemic.

There's a lot of information out there on this new vaccine. That's why we're breaking down the top 4 things you need to know.

1) Each state is determining its own specific COVID-19 vaccine rollout plan.

Initially, there will be limited quantities of the vaccine available. Most people will not be eligible on day one.

2) However, in most states, the rollout plans will go something like this:

First it will go to health care workers and those in long-term care facilities, then to essential workers and people who are "high risk," and lastly, to the general public. We'll alert you as we learn more. Regardless of when you receive it, the cost of the vaccine will be covered.

3) When it's your turn to receive the vaccine, it's important that you consider getting it.

The COVID-19 vaccine has gone through rigorous testing, received FDA approval, and has been approved by several other countries worldwide. It meets the highest safety standards of the FDA and can help protect you and your community from Coronavirus.

4) Continue to follow safety best practices.

Initially, only a small percentage of the population will have the COVID-19 vaccine. It is vital that you continue following safety guidelines: wear your face mask, social distance, and wash your hands frequently.

As we learn more about this new vaccine and the others awaiting FDA approval, we'll alert you as quickly as we can.

Until then, visit [HighmarkAnswers.com](https://www.highmarkanswers.com) for vaccine FAQs and other Coronavirus-related information.

Be calm. Be safe. Highmark is here to help.

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