Vaccines.gov overview for NAIIS

April 13, 2023
Vaccines.gov Overview – 4/13/2023

- Background & Overview
- Reporting vaccine inventory (COVID-19)
- Website user activity
- Flu vaccine reporting
- General COVID-19 Vaccines today!
- Q&A
Background

- VaccineFinder is a web-based tool created in 2009 to help the public find influenza vaccines in the wake of the H1N1 epidemic.

- In the decade since, VaccineFinder has been maintained by Boston Children’s Hospital (BCH) to support outbreak response efforts as a mechanism to find nearby vaccination services.

- At the onset of the global COVID-19 pandemic, BCH, in collaboration with Apree Health (formerly known as Castlight Health) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) optimized VaccineFinder to provide critical information on locations offering COVID-19 vaccinations.
Vaccines.gov in COVID-19 Response

First COVID-19 vaccine distributed
Vaccine Priority - 65+ and essential workers

- Low availability
- High demand

VaccineFinder assists the public with locating limited supplies of vaccine

December 14, 2020

White House announces nationwide vaccine availability to anyone over 16 years of age
- Availability and demand increase.
- Vaccine access becomes a significant obstacle

Vaccines.gov* collects vaccine inventory data and presents it on a public website that connects people directly to the nearby vaccination locations.

*VaccineFinder transitions from .org to .gov on May 1, 2021.

March 2021 – June 2021

Vaccines.gov repeatedly updates vaccine information to reflect the multiple changes in vaccine products and presentations.

- March 13, 2023
  - 93,427 provider locations report COVID-19 inventory data to VaccineFinder
  - 35,056 are set to display to the public
- The average number of website visits is 100,000 per day
- 121 million visits between May 2021 and March 2023

July 2021 - Present

FOR OFFICIAL USE – NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION
Vaccines.gov User Activity

Visits since May 1, 2021: 121.5 Million

Visits since Jan 1, 2023: 6.2 Million
Vaccine inventory reporting

CDC Immunization Data Lake

- To participate, vaccine providers must be enrolled in the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program.
- Sends provider enrollment information (name, address, contact information, etc.) to VaccineFinder daily, automating the provider account registration process.

Provider Portal

- covid.locating.health
- Allows enrolled vaccine providers to report COVID-19 vaccine inventory information and update information displayed on the website (www.vaccines.gov).

Participating Vaccine Providers

- Large chain pharmacies, independently-owned pharmacies, clinics, healthcare offices, health departments, and tribal health centers across the US and territories.
- Required to report COVID-19 vaccine inventory weekly (daily during the height of the pandemic) for each location by the vaccine National Drug Code (NDC) for all federally authorized COVID-19 vaccines and boosters in the US.
Flu Vaccine Reporting

- **Current Season:**
  - Providers update flu vaccine stock status to ensure locations are searchable
  - Flu vaccine search page will be removed in late June

- **2023-24 Season:**
  - Will be reintroduced in mid August and include flu vaccine stock status for 2023-2024 flu season
  - Providers can begin including 2023-2024 flu season stock status in July
General COVID-19 Vaccine Operations Today

- Menu of authorized/available vaccines changing
- Vaccines.gov search page changes in near real time
- 6 month ‘streamlining’

- Expiry, Inventory, and bears ‘oh my!’
- Vaccine Finder helps manage dynamic inventory
- CDC and partners work hard on best practices
Summary

- Throughout the pandemic response, Vaccines.gov has been a useful tool for consumers to find COVID-19 vaccines near them.

- The tool has been promoted by the White House, CDC, scientists, public figures and many other national and local organizations on social media outlets, television commercials, and other markets.

- In addition to COVID-19, Vaccines.gov allows users to search for locations with flu vaccine in stock, improving the ability for the public to stay up to date on recommended vaccines.

- Vaccines.gov will continue to evolve as a support tool for ongoing pandemic response efforts.
Vaccines.gov Resources

- Program overview:
  - https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/reporting/vaccinefinder.html

- Training documentation and materials:
  - https://vaccine-resources.gitbook.io/vaccines.gov-provider-resources/

  - Available M-F, 8am – 8pm ET
  - Service Request Form: https://maximushelpdesk-cdc.secure.force.com/VF
  - CARS_HelpDesk@cdc.gov
  - 1-833-748-1979