



Update on state COVID-19 vaccination requirement

A message to all team members from CMH Interim President and CEO Steve Littleson, DBA, FACHE

Thank you for your questions and patience over the past week as we work through the implementation of the state mandate on healthcare worker vaccination for COVID-19. I wanted to provide you with an update of where things stand.

We recognize how difficult this decision is for some team members and we are committed to providing you with as much time as possible to make it. We are also committed to complying with the governor's executive order.

As of Oct. 1, any team member who has not been fully vaccinated or has not obtained a medical exemption will not be allowed to report to work in any of our physical facilities. Our intent is to continue to provide education and resources so that team members who are not fully vaccinated can return to work. Between Oct. 1 and Nov. 1, 2021, team members will be provided the option to go on choice time or, if no choice time is available, unpaid leave until they are fully vaccinated or obtain a medical exemption. If a team member elects not to be fully vaccinated or has not obtained a medical exemption by Nov. 1, we will consider their status to be a voluntary resignation.

In light of new information we received from the state Department of Health and Human Services, we will continue to assess and advise on vaccination requirements for remote team members who have no reason or obligation to be physically present in any of our facilities.

We will have additional details next week.

Meanwhile, we continue to provide education, resources and convenient access to vaccination. The vaccination rate of team members has been steadily rising in recent weeks with these efforts.

We have many resources available to team members who are working through this decision. Please continue to check the team member portal, *OnPoint* and other communications sent by email. (Attached you'll find the **medical exemption form** and the **latest schedule for team member vaccination clinics**)

Central Maine Healthcare does not plan to make the decision for team members weighing the choice between working in one of our facilities or getting vaccinated. This is a deeply personal decision and we respect that it may take time for our team members to make it.

Let's remember to be kind to one another and follow our Service Standards:

#1: I am creating a welcoming, caring and nonjudgmental environment.

#4: I am respectful, treating all individuals with dignity and empathy.

#7: I am resilient and adapt to change in positive ways.

We remain a team as we navigate through this.

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