

January 11, 2021

Kelly Garcia, Interim Director
Dr. Caitlin Pedati, State Public Health Medical Director
Iowa Department of Public Health
Des Moines, IA

Re: Infectious Disease Advisory Council (IDAC)

Director Garcia & Dr. Pedati:

The Iowa Infectious Disease Advisory Council (IDAC) has reviewed the priority population recommendations of Phase 1b identified in the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) guidance issued December 20, 2020.

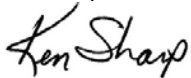
After extensive deliberation and consideration, IDAC has made a recommendation that includes the age-based population recommended by ACIP for individuals 75 years of age or older. However, IDAC expressed concern regarding several factors in considering frontline essential workforce. These factors include:

- Uncertainty in the timing of increased vaccine availability in Iowa.
- A vaccine shortage continues to challenge vaccination strategies.
- A large number of Iowans included in the ACIP recommendations, as drafted, that exceed current vaccine allocations.
- A desire to prioritize individuals that are vulnerable to high risk of exposure or severity of illness.

IDAC determined it was necessary to offer a more precise prioritization of essential workforce populations that Iowa should target as part of Phase 1b vaccination efforts.

The enclosed, final recommendations for Phase 1b were approved on a 17 to 1 vote in favor of the recommendations during today's meeting of the Council.

Sincerely,



Ken Sharp, Chair
Infectious Disease Advisory Council