VA Manila Outpatient Clinic Updates - April 26, 2021

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| **VA Manila (RO&OPC) <VAManila@va.gov>** |

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**VA MANILA OUTPATIENT CLINIC**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMINDERS**

April 26, 2021

**1.    COVID-19 VACCINATIONS UPDATES:**

VA Manila provided our first Veterans in the Philippines with the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine last week. I am so thankful that VA Manila can offer the vaccine to our Veteran patients and was very moved by the comments and feedback my team and I received from our first cohort of vaccinated Veterans. Starting this week, the OPC will offer more COVID-19 vaccine appointments and will be conducting vaccine clinics on several upcoming Saturdays in May to increase the numbers of Veterans we can vaccinate. These extra hours will help us meet our goal of safely and quickly vaccinating as many Veterans as our initial supplies allow.

Currently, the Clinic is still prioritizing Veterans in group 1b for vaccination. We have had an opportunity to vaccinate some Veterans in group 1c and will continue to reach out to older Veterans in group 1c as our schedules and vaccine supplies allow. VA Manila needs to ensure that all of the Veterans in group 1b, our oldest Veterans who are 75 years of age and older and are at highest risk for COVID-19 complications, have been offered an opportunity to receive a vaccine before we expand to all Veterans in lower priority groups. I appreciate your understanding and patience as we strictly adhere to VA and CDC prioritization recommendations.

I have a few other announcements and updates to VA Manila’s COVID-19 vaccination plan to share this week – which is particularly important for Veterans who want to stay up to date on the latest COVID-19 information from VA Manila.

**How to Let VA Manila Know You Want a Vaccine?**

Starting today, VA Manila has put two new processes in place for Veterans to use to notify VA that they would like to receive a vaccine. These processes are different depending on your enrollment status with VA. Enrolled Veterans who have used VA Healthcare services in the past can register their intent to be vaccinated online by following the steps below in part A. Non-enrolled Veterans, Spouses, and Caregivers can register by sending an email as outlined below in part B.

**A. Enrolled Veterans in VA Healthcare Services**: You can register and let VA know you would like to get a vaccine from VA Manila online at [VA's COVID-19 Vaccination Website](https://www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine/) (<https://www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine/>). On this website, you will click on the “Sign Up Now” and “Sign Up” buttons. It will direct you to a registration form with the first question: