



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
MONROE CORRECTIONAL COMPLEX
P.O. Box 777 • Monroe, Washington 98272-0777
Phone (360) 794-2600 • Fax (360) 794-2680

February 5, 2021

TO: All MCC Staff
FROM: Michele Wood, Incident Commander
SUBJECT: MCC Weekly COVID-19 Update

What is a cohort? Why is cohorting important?

- **Cohort:** Grouping patients infected with or exposed to the same agent together. Isolated and quarantined patients should NOT cohort together.
- The purpose of a cohort is to minimize the risk spreading COVID-19. Smaller cohorts also minimize the amount of contact tracing that needs to be done when there is a potential exposure.

As of January 24th, the state moved to Phase 1B Tier 1 for COVID-19 vaccine prioritization which includes people 65 years and older.

The ability to provide vaccine doses is based on the supply available to the state. The Department expects this vaccination phase to take several weeks, based on the current limited availability of vaccine doses. Monroe will begin providing vaccine doses to Phase 1B1 eligible incarcerated individuals when there is enough vaccine supply to do so and will continue to keep you updated.

We are not sure when we will get our first round of doses for the incarcerated individuals. We will only get a few at a time, and therefore have to prioritize higher risk first, which is similar to how it is prioritized in the community. As we complete vaccinations for those in this category and we receive more doses, we will expand vaccinations to other incarcerated individuals meeting the next high risk levels.

Some incarcerated individuals that have tested positive for COVID-19 and are symptomatic have been housed in the Rapid Deployment Care Facility (RDCF) at the Twin Rivers Unit (TRU). Incarcerated individuals that are COVID-19 positive and are not symptomatic have been housed in the Washington State Reformatory Unit gym.