



**COUNTY OF POLK**  
**Health Department**  
www.polkcountyiowa.gov/health

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**Polk County Health Department Media Release**

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**Health Department and Partners Expand COVID-19 Vaccination to Healthcare Workers in Phase 1A to Additional Groups**

(Des Moines, IA) – The Polk County Health Department will begin offering COVID-19 vaccinations to all healthcare workers eligible for vaccination in Phase 1A, beginning Monday, January 11, 2021. The vaccinations will be offered at the Polk County Health Department and select community pharmacies by appointment only.

“Community pharmacies are an important partner in our campaign to provide the COVID-19 vaccine to healthcare workers,” said Helen Eddy, RPh, Polk County Health Department Director. “Initial pharmacy locations are limited due to vaccine supply but we will expand the available locations as supply of the vaccine improves.”

The initial pharmacy partners include Hy-Vee, Medicap, and Drake University College of Pharmacy. Locations include:

<b>Hy-Vee Pharmacy</b> 4605 Fleur Drive Des Moines, IA 50321 515-285-1733	<b>Hy-Vee Pharmacy</b> 108 8 <sup>th</sup> Street SW Altoona, IA 50009 515-967-3765	<b>Hy-Vee Pharmacy</b> 1025 SW State Street Ankeny, IA 50023 515-964-0656
<b>Hy-Vee Pharmacy</b> 555 South 51 <sup>st</sup> Street West Des Moines, IA 50265 515-221-2751	<b>Drake University Harkin Center</b> 2800 University Avenue Des Moines, IA 50311 Please enter from 29 <sup>th</sup> Street	<b>Polk County Health Department</b> 1907 Carpenter Avenue Des Moines, IA 50314 515-286-6155
<b>Medicap Pharmacy</b> 250 SE Gateway Drive Grimes, IA 50111 515-986-0101	<b>Medicap Pharmacy</b> 2527 Easton Blvd. Des Moines, IA 50317 515-266-2694	<b>Medicap Pharmacy</b> 8170 Douglas Avenue Urbandale, IA 50322 515-276-3471

“Hy-Vee looks forward to offering these COVID-19 vaccinations at our pharmacies and in partnership with the Drake University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences,” said Aaron Wiese, Hy-Vee’s executive vice president of business innovation and chief health officer. “Our pharmacies have extensive experience providing vaccinations to our patients and serve as a convenient location for the public to receive immunizations. Our team of pharmacists and technicians are highly trained and ready to assist with this county effort.”

“Our college is pleased to partner with Hy-Vee and be one of the sites selected to offer the COVID-19 vaccine. Our Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) students entered the pharmacy profession to make a difference and, with their intensive and comprehensive vaccine training, are well prepared to administer this life-saving vaccine for COVID. I am proud that the pharmacy profession and our college are able to be part of the solution to this pandemic,” said Renae Chesnut, EdD, MBA, RPh, Drake University, Dean & Professor - College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences.

“As a state legislator and a community pharmacist, I’m pleased to be part of the effort to immunize our front line healthcare workers. And I look forward to the day, hopefully soon, when the vaccine will be widely available to the general public,” said John Forbes, RPh, owner of Urbandale Medicap and legislator representing the Iowa House of Representatives, District 40.

“We at Medicap Pharmacy including the Grimes and Easton Boulevard pharmacy location in Des Moines, are pleased and excited to work with Polk County Public Health to administer the Moderna COVID vaccine to front line workers right now, and all healthcare workers, essential workers and the general public eventually,” said Greg Johansen, R.Ph., F.A.C.A., president of GRX Holdings, LLC. “This public health pandemic suppression project is our civic duty to be involved with as pharmacy professionals and we look upon the challenge humbly in service to our communities.”

Appointments will be available to all healthcare workers on a first come, first served basis. The number of appointments and locations are based upon current vaccine supply.

“The Polk County Health Department is committed to equitably and effectively allocating and administering COVID-19 pandemic vaccines to our community,” said Eddy. “Community pharmacies are invaluable partners in achieving that goal.”

Please visit <https://www.polkcountyiowa.gov/health-department/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19/covid-19-vaccine-information-for-the-public/> for the most current vaccine information.

*(Attention Media: please insert appointment registration information included in the attached document.)*

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### **About the Polk County Health Department**

The Polk County Health Department strives to create the conditions for all people to live healthy lives by engaging residents, reducing health disparities and attending to the needs of our most vulnerable families. Follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). For more information about the Polk County Health Department, please visit <https://www.polkcountyiowa.gov/health/>.

### **About Hy-Vee, Inc.**

Hy-Vee, Inc. is an employee-owned corporation operating more than 275 retail stores across eight Midwestern states with sales of \$11 billion annually. The supermarket chain is synonymous with quality, variety, convenience, healthy lifestyles, culinary expertise and superior customer service. Hy-Vee ranks in the Top 10 Most Trusted Brands and has been named one of America’s Top 5 favorite grocery stores. The

company's more than 88,000 employees provide "A Helpful Smile in Every Aisle" to customers every day. For additional information, visit [www.hy-vee.com](http://www.hy-vee.com).

**About GRX Holdings, LLC**

GRX Holdings, LLC operates 22 pharmacies in central Iowa, including Medicap Pharmacy in Grimes, and Easton Boulevard in Des Moines. 20 pharmacies are retail Medicap Pharmacy stores, one long-term care pharmacy, and one Compounding pharmacy named Midwest Compounding.