I. Policy

This policy goes into effect for Rush University Medical Center personnel October 1, 2021, and for Rush University August 1, 2021.

Rush University policy can be found on the university intranet site or by clicking here.

The purpose of this policy is to provide protection from SARS-CoV2 (COVID-19) through immunization of all Rush Personnel.

All managers, supervisors, medical staff leadership and deans are to ensure that Rush Personnel are compliant with the COVID-19 immunization program as defined by the Rush Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) department.

Rush policy on wearing masks, social distancing, travel, and visitor restrictions will continue regardless of vaccination status and until guidance from the CDPH/IDPH and RUSH IPC determines otherwise. Refer to policy Employee and Campus Safety during Public Health Emergency.

COVID-19 Immunization

All Rush Personnel are to be immunized against COVID-19 as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/ Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (CDC/ACIP) and approved by Rush IPC unless an exemption has been granted.

The COVID-19 vaccine is available free of charge to all Rush Personnel. The vaccination program is coordinated through Employee and Corporate Health (ECHS). Rush Personnel who are vaccinated through services other than ECHS or outside the Rush system (i.e., private physician office, public clinics) are to provide proof of immunization to ECHS.
Exemption Requests

Any request for an exemption from COVID-19 immunization on the basis of medical or religious beliefs is reviewed by a committee and must be submitted to ECHS. See https://rush.edu/exemption

For Rush University students please follow the university process on exemption.

Rush Personnel who are approved to be exempt from the COVID-19 immunization may be required to abide by additional safety measures per infection control.

Non-Compliance

Rush Personnel determined not in compliance with this policy will be suspended until compliance is achieved. Employees who fail to comply with this policy within seven days of suspension will be subject to progressive discipline including termination.

II. Definitions

RUSH Personnel: All Rush University Medical Center, Rush Oak Park Hospital, and Rush Copley Medical Center employees, medical staff, Rush University faculty and students, contracted staff, and volunteers.

III. Procedure

See FAQs on the intranet sites for RUMC and RU.

IV. Attachments (see upper right corner)

None

V. Related Policies

Rush Personnel Influenza Immunization Plan

Reference Number: 1655
VI. References and Regulatory Standards

https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/vacc-specific/covid-19.html