## IareSouth Carolina offering walk-in & pointments for

CareSouth Carolina is offering appointments and taking walk-ins for the Moderna vaccine in several office locations.

For a complete list of sites offering COVID Vaccinations, please visit our website at www.caresouth-carolina.com

In addition, the MOBY units are providing COVID-19 vaccines at community locations. The schedule for these vaccine clinics can be found in our calendar section on our website. Walk-ins are welcome and you DO NOT need an





CareSouth Carolina, serving your local area since 1980.

**AUGUST 2021** 



CareSouth Carolina will be giving out free school supplies at its Back to School Drive-Thru Saturday, August 14 at the Dillon Wellness Center located at 1647 Commerce Drive, Dillon, SC, 29536.

In addition to the opportunity to get school supplies, attendees can receive the free COVID-19 Pfizer vaccine for ages 12 and up. Children ages 15 or under need parental or guardian consent to receive the vaccine.

The drive-thru event will begin at 10 a.m. with backpacks and school supplies limited to the first 300 participants. A parent or guardian must be present with the student to receive supplies. The COVID-19 vaccines will be available until 2 p.m.

"CareSouth Carolina appreciates Dillon Wellness Center's collaboration in providing a safe and convenient site to distribute school supplies to children during this pandemic as they prepare to go back to school," CareSouth Carolina Chief of Community Health Joe Bittle said. "This not only is a chance to get some free school supplies, but also to get the Pfizer vaccine for those ages 12 and up. We would like to encourage everyone to come out."

# AUG. 8-14, 2021

NATIONAL HEALTH CENTER WEEK



Slated to take place August 8-14, National Health Center Week is an annual celebration that brings awareness to the mission and accomplishments of America's health centers over the past five decades. Health centers serve 28 million patients a year and look to provide high-quality healthcare and education in the communities in which we serve.

Community Health Centers serve as the beacon of strength, service and care in their communities. In moments of pain and loss, they offer support and love. In moments of triumph, they offer hope and a vision for the future.

This National Health Center Week honors those front line providers, staff, and beloved patients who lost their lives during the (ongoing) COVID-19 pandemic. From the very beginning of the crisis, Community Health Centers began finding innovative ways to provide preventative and primary care to their patients and they have not stopped with their continued efforts to provide care to their patients.

#### **MEDICAL LOCATIONS:**

Hartsville • Society Hill • Bennettsville • Bishopville • Cheraw • Chesterfield • Dillon • Lake View • Latta • McColl PHARMACY LOCATIONS:

Hartsville • Society Hill • Bennettsville • Bishopville • Cheraw • Latta • McColl To make an appointment, please call 866.498.0399.

www.caresouth-carolina.com



### What to know about the COVID-19 Delta Variant

CareSouth Carolina is actively monitoring the spread of COVID-19, in particular the COVID-19 B.1.617.2 (Delta) variant that has become the most prominent strain of spread across the nation.

The Delta variant was first identified in India and carries a higher rate of transmission and a greater chance of severe disease than other COVID-19 variants.

As with other variants, complete vaccination is the number one way to stifle the impact of the Delta variant. The Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines are approximately 33 percent effective against the Delta variant if a person has only received one of the two doses of the shots but 88 percent effective if a person has received both doses of the vaccine.

#### Here are a few things to know about the Delta variant:

#### 1. Delta is more contagious than the other virus strains.

The first Delta case was identified in December 2020, and the strain spread rapidly, soon becoming the dominant strain of the virus in both India and then Great Britain. Toward the end of June, Delta had already made up more than 20% of cases in the U.S., according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates. By the end of July, Delta was the cause of more than 80% of new U.S. COVID-19 cases.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has called this version of the virus "the fastest and fittest."

### 2. Unvaccinated people are at risk.

People who have not been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are most at risk.

In the U.S., there is a disproportionate number of unvaccinated people in Southern and Appalachian states including Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi, Missouri, and West Virginia, where vaccination rates are low. Kids and young people are a concern as well.

#### 3. There is still more to learn about Delta.

One important question is whether the Delta strain will make you sicker than the original virus. Early information about the severity of Delta included a study from Scotland that showed the Delta variant was about twice as likely as Alpha to result in hospitalization in unvaccinated individuals, but other data has shown no significant difference. The information could change as experts learn more.

Another question focuses on how Delta affects the body. There have been reports of symptoms that are different than those associated with the original coronavirus strain.

#### 4. Vaccination is the best protection against Delta.

The most important thing you can do to protect yourself from Delta is to get fully vaccinated, the doctors say. That means if you get a two-dose vaccine like Pfizer or Moderna, for example, you must get both shots and then wait the recommended two-week period for those shots to take full effect. Whether or not you are vaccinated, it's also important to follow CDC prevention guidelines that are available for vaccinated and unvaccinated people.

### Monoclonal Antibody IV Therapy available at CSC Hartsville office

CareSouth Carolina is offering Monoclonal Antibody IV Therapy for qualifying patients at the CSC Hartsville office, located at 1268 S. Fourth Street.

Patients who started showing symptoms from COVID-19 within the last 10 days who are ages 12 or older, at least 88 pounds and have mild to moderate symptoms may qualify.

The goal of this therapy is to decrease hospitalizations & emergency room visits due to symptoms of COVID-19 and to prevent the patient from progressing to severe disease. This treatment is also used to prevent potential long-term damage from COVID-19.

CareSouth Carolina Hartsville Provider Jennifer Lynch, FNP-C, said the treatment can be a helpful tool in fighting the progression of mild to moderate symptoms that those with a positive COVID-19 test might experience.

"It's important to remember that this is a new virus," Lynch said. "If there's a way to help prevent you from hospitalization and potentially on a vent, there's no reason not to try. This gives us hope in the outpatient setting that we can treat the symptoms and prevent them from getting too far along."

The therapy is an hour-long IV infusion that has been developed for the treatment and prophylaxis of viral infections, like COVID-19.

### August is National Immunization Awareness Month

August is National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM). This annual observance highlights the importance of getting recommended vaccines throughout your life.

You have the power to protect yourself and your family against serious diseases like whooping cough, cancers caused by HPV and pneumonia with vaccines.

During NIAM, CareSouth Carolina encourages you talk to your primary care provider to ensure that your entire family is up-to-date on recommended vaccines and urges you to get your full COVID Vaccine if you have not done so already.