

UNDERLYING MEDICAL CONDITIONS AS IDENTIFIED IN THE NEVADA VACCINE PLAYBOOK:

- **Cancer** – Anyone currently undergoing treatment for cancer is at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19. People with cancer who are treated with chemotherapy are at more risk because of their weakened immune system. An estimated 16,450 Nevadans were newly diagnosed with cancer in 2020 (American Cancer Society Facts and Figures, 2020).
- **Chronic Kidney Disease** – Anyone with Chronic Kidney Disease at any stage is at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19 because they have a weakened immune system.
- **COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease), Cystic Fibrosis, Pulmonary Fibrosis, and other chronic lung diseases** – Anyone with COPD or a related chronic lung disease at any stage is at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19 because they specifically have very weak lung health, and COVID-19 is a respiratory disease (i.e., a disease that targets the lungs).
- **Down Syndrome** - Revisions were made on December 23, 2020 to reflect recent data supporting increased risk of severe illness among persons with Down syndrome from the virus that causes COVID-19.
- **Heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary heart disease, or cardiomyopathies** – Anyone with any heart condition, including hypertension (high blood pressure) or stroke, could have an increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19 because they have weakened immune systems. In Nevada, cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of disease and death among adults.
- **Immunocompromised from solid organ transplant** – Anyone who has had a solid organ transplant is at risk of having a weakened immune system, because the body is relearning with the new organ, which increases their risk for severe illness from COVID19.
- **Obesity (Body Mass Index, BMI, of 30-39) and Severe Obesity (BMI of 40 or greater)** – Obesity and severe obesity are risk factors for many chronic conditions and increase a person’s risk of suffering severe illness from COVID-19. According to 2019 data from the Nevada COVID-19 Vaccination Playbook Version Behavioral Risk Factors Surveillance System (BRFSS), approximately 30% of Nevada adults are considered obese based on BMI.
- **Pregnancy** - Based on what we know at this time, pregnant people are at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19 compared to non-pregnant people. Additionally, there might be an increased risk of adverse pregnancy outcomes, such as preterm birth, among pregnant people with COVID-19.
- **Sickle Cell Disease** – Anyone who has been diagnosed with sickle cell disease is at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19 because they have a weakened immune system.
- **Type 2 Diabetes mellitus** – People who have a blood sugar level (A1C) between 5.7% and 6.4% are in the prediabetes stage and anyone with an A1C level higher than 6.5% is indicated to have diabetes. Having Type 2 diabetes, specifically, weakens the immune system and puts the person at increased risk of severe illness from COVID-19. Having Type 1 or gestational diabetes might increase the risk of severe illness. In 2019, approximately 11% of adults in Nevada reported being told by a health professional they have diabetes (excluding prediabetes and gestational

diabetes).

- **Smoking** – Smoking is a risk factor for many chronic conditions and can increase a person’s risk for severe illness from COVID-19. Smoking weakens lung health and COVID19 is a respiratory disease (i.e., a disease that targets the lungs). Both former (have smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetime) and current (smoke cigarettes every day or some days) smokers face heightened risk. From the most recent data available (2016 BRFSS), approximately 17% of adults in Nevada reported smoking.